



**Women's Ministries** 

"(W)HEN YOU GIVE TO THE NEEDY, DO NOT LET YOUR LEFT HAND KNOW WHAT YOUR RIGHT HAND Is doing, so that your giving may be in secret." Matthew 6:3 "(W)HEN YOU PRAY, GO INTO Your Room, close the door and pray to your father, who is unseen." Matthew 6:6





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F(I) 20 17



"Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be.""

- Romans 4:18

Against all hope, you in hope believed... Is this your story?

Father, help us to be hopeful in the face of unimaginable desolation, lack of understanding and pain. Heal us of our misery and unbelief. "We have faith... increase our faith!".

Hope + belief = results. The kingdom of God is made tangible when we hope, our faith is strong and we persevere. Pray for yourself and your church that you will have a *dauntless spirit of resolution*.



"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

- Jeremiah 33:3

Sit in a still place and consider the things you "call" out to God. What does that make you feel?

Write down the last time you remember a revelation – word from God – being given to you. Have you been living in that, or is it lost and forgotten, dusty and used somewhere?

Do you struggle with thinking you know it all or thinking you could never be used by God? Both are sides of the same coin of prideful self – God WORKS in our weakness and infirmity. Turn from that now in prayer.



"But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, Jacob, and formed you, Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name: you are mine."

- Isaiah 43:1

What are three statements that you can make if you take the statements of this verse to be true?

Write these three statements down somewhere you can see them, as a foundation established going forwards.

Pray these over yourself each morning, and thank God for them each night over the next 37 days.





"For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

## - Hebrews 4:12

Are you spending time with the word of God daily? Pray right now for conviction in your spirit to separate from the flesh and live according to the Holy Spirit's desires.

What are attitudes of your heart at the moment? Is there unforgiveness? Fear? Hurt? Unbelief? Pray that God would reveal where your responsibility lies and for the revelation of His grace covering you.

Holy Spirit, breathe life into the Word as I read it, and me.

FIIL 20 17



"Do not deprive the foreigner or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge."

- Deuteronomy 24:17

Do you live a life that is "just"? Our God wants us to be bringers of hope to those who have none... is that your calling card or are you barely getting by?

Where do your "pressure points" lie when it comes to feeding the hungry or clothing the poor? Do you have standards that must be met when you give charity?

Holy Father, you place the lonely in families. Let me be an instrument of your righteousness. Remove from me prejudice and miserliness.



"If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." – Isaiah 58:9–10

Think back over your conversations in real life and on private social media – are you a "malicious" talker?

Words have the power of life and death – and our actions have similar effect. How are your actions denying or bringing life to those around you in poverty?

Ask the Lord that you might be a change-maker in your city.



""Abba, Father," He said, "all things are possible for You. Take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what You will."" – Mark 14:36

Consider the words of Jesus, and repeat them softly to yourself now. "Abba, Father". Try them at varying tones and loudness. He hears you.

Repeat the words "all things are possible for You. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.". Try to imagine being with Christ in the Garden as He spoke these words to the God.

Christ's submission was perfect. Father, let me – a sinful, haughty creature – be humbled by your Son's love.



"During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission."

Hebrews 5:17

Think about the term reverence. Pray over it now and ask God to reveal whether you are reverent towards Him, and ways He would like you to respond to His holiness.

This is a very intimate revelation of Christ's character and life on earth. He also petitions before the throne of the Father. Can you comprehend that love for you?

Submission is something we can often avoid with God. Lord, teach us to revere you as Saviour and LORD of all, too.





"And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground." - Luke 22:44

A great hymn says "He had no tears for His own griefs..."

- and yet Christ suffered more in his death we could understand. He was fully aware and fully willing in what He was about to undertake. Consider the tears of the Almighty if you can, as He considered the trial ahead.

You and I and the members of the Church – the lost, the broken – the neglected, disgusting creatures of this world – are the object of the Lord's sincerest affection. Have you grieved for your brothers and sisters who know not Christ? Pray for them by name, now.



"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ." – Romans 10:17

The Good News. The Gospel. The Word of God – a staple of a Christian's life. And yet, how often do we HEAR the word of God? Consider ways you have HEARD the word of God this week.

Is there a lacking of spiritual 'food' in your life? If woman and man do not 'live by bread alone, but by every word that God speaks' – how are you surviving lately? Does this bring you sorrow, or ambivalence?

Father, I REPENT. Forgive me for the times I ignore You. Restore me. Let me hunger and thirst for righteousness.





""Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not just seven times, but seventy-seven times!"" - Matthew 18:22

God takes forgiveness and unforgiveness INCREDIBLY seriously. He sent His only son to exact our forgiveness. He says that if we do not forgive, we will not be forgiven. Read this chapter of Matthew in your Bible.

Who is someone/what is something you have found "unforgivable"? This is not an optional matter – Jesus calls you now as you read this to REPENT – to TURN from this unforgiveness, and allow Him to work. Your only role is to be obedient.



"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold."

- Ephesians 4:25-27

How have you allowed the Devil to get a foothold in your life recently?

Do you believe that this statement is even possible?

Assuredly, Satan is our enemy. He seeks to destroy the children of God, and separate those who would know God from Himself. How can you stop the anger in your life today?



## "God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

## - 1 Corinthians 1:9

Fellowship is no joke. To be a "fellow" at a university is to be someone who has a position, title and right to be where they are based on merit. We have no merit of our own, but are called by the blood of Jesus into position, title and right to oneness with Jesus. How does that sit with you?

What are you hoping God will show Himself faithful through in your life? Is this hope reliant on your close, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ?

Pray for unity with the mind of Christ today.



"And I will make them that are lame a remnant, and those that were cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from that time forth, even forever." – Micah 4:7

How are you lame or not as able as you would like?

Is this cause for mourning or celebration according to this verse?

Sit in quietness and trust before the Lord. Imagine having in your hand your sickness, disability, weakness or disease – and ask the Lord to bless this offering of weakness in your palm, that today and from this point forwards it would always be cause for celebration and glorifying His name.



"For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?"

- Romans 8:24

What are you hoping for from God? Have you brought something before Him repeatedly in prayer?

Ask God to give you a heart after His – and that you would bring the concerns of the Kingdom before Him. Keep praying this over the next 25 days until you receive break through!

Take this opportunity to thank God for all He has accomplished, done and been to you. Speak these repeatedly over the space of today!



"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." - Isaiah 9:6

How wonderful it is to sit under the Counsel of the Lord! Today, focus on the heart behind the great and Almighty leader – He has no secret agenda. Do you trust Him?

Praise God for the names you read in Isaiah! Spend a few moments making up names of your own based on the things you know and have experienced of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and the Father.

Father, help us to trust and submit to the way you govern.



"Sustain me, my God, according to your promise, and I will live; do not let my hopes be dashed."

- Psalm 119:116

The entire history of Israel is one of promises given, and the wait to receive them. Many could not see the things that were laying ahead – but they had to take the Lord at His word. What is a promise you cling to?

Are there things in your life – promises made – that others have betrayed you over? Do you still carry hurt, frustration or rejection because of these wounds and scars?

Lay aside your disappointment and fear here, friend. Pray that the Lord would receive the things you name out loud that you need to release and forgive. Do it without delay.



"From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I." – Psalm 61:2

Have you got a firm footing on this Rock of salvation? Do you know the Lord who is above all, in all and through all?

What would it look like today if you were to pray as if your rescue was imminent (just round the corner)?

Be assured – the Lord is not weary, deaf or traveling. He is solid as a rock, as firm as the beginning of the earth and as dependable as an eternity we can't even grasp. Today, breathe in and think "I trust you to come." and breathe out "You have never forsaken me." for a whole two minutes.



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." – Acts 1:8

Much fear surrounds the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on disciples these days – and yet, the power is in the blood of the Lamb, the will of God and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit Himself. What have been times you have felt the Holy Spirit move in your life?

Do you miss deep communion with Jesus?

Father, pour out Your spirit on us. We are a wicked and unbelieving generation, yet Your Blood makes us whole, clean and well. Anoint me to minister to others in your Spirit.



"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation."" - Mark 16:15

Many an excuse has been made by those who would say "Ah, but I am not an evangelist!" as a means to avoid speaking or learning the Word of God. Are you guilty of this same thing?

Many times zeal can overcome discerning compassion, and our words or our commitment to the Law can crush others – have you experienced this in relationship?

Pray that the Lord of the harvest would send workers into the field, but that you also would be raised up to speak and testify.







"He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." – Colossians 1:13–14

What does the dominion of darkness appear like?

How has your life changed now the light of Christ has shone upon you – and you live guilt–free, in the forgiveness of sins?

Do you have friends, family, co-workers or even those you consider enemies who are under the dominion of darkness?

Commit today to one name that you will intercede for over the next year. Write the name down and put above your bed.

TWINTY TWINTY



# FOR 20 17



"All Judah rejoiced concerning the oath, for they had sworn with their whole heart and had sought Him earnestly, and He let them find Him. So the LORD gave them rest on every side."

- 2 Chronicles 15:15

Have you sworn an oath to God in the past? Scripture reminds us to not make hasty oaths, for we will be held accountable. Are there any oaths you need to revisit or repent of breaking?

Jesus is calling you right now to deeper intimacy. Take some deep breaths and ask Him to lead you.

If you are in need of rest - fast for the next three days from something that usually provides comfort or satisfaction.

TURIT





"Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her." - Hosea 2:14

Israel, the ever-unfaithful – running off after other gods, never calling on the name of the Lord – speaking out against Him as if He doesn't hear... sound familiar?

And yet Jesus makes a way for us to return. The Father loves us and spends Himself on behalf of us – the unfaithful. Jesus, let us not scorn your love twice more – let us be faithful in return.

Consider something that continually trips you up – anger, rage, money issues, gossip – and when situations arise, have this scripture on hand to combat the urge to fall away.

TWENTY







"Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all." – 1 Chronicles 29:11

Oh, how we get headship wrong and ignore Jesus in favour of ministry of our own doing! Is this something you have been at the receiving end of?

Glorify God for who He is and commit to placing Him at the center today.

In your next few interactions with church/Corps members, consider where Jesus factors in the outcome of your speech or decision making.

FIVE







"And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So your God will rejoice over you." - Isaiah 62:5

Do you know you are loved by God, not just tolerated?

Today, every time you check your phone or go to the bathroom – say aloud "I love you God. Thank you for loving me. You find me delightful".

While this may seem frivolous at first, you will be amazed at the deep ministerial work of the Spirit that will happen. Let us develop a relationship that goes beyond penance as it journeys towards deep friendship and intimacy.

An outpouring of this will allow you to tell others of this love more freely.







""Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage." – 2 Kings 5:12

When instructed to wash in the waters of Israel to heal his skin disease, the commander of a large army refused (at first!). His pride was wounded at the humbleness of the healing. Are you spurning something equally humble Jesus offers today?

Jesus, often our sacrifice and offerings seem too humble to be given to you – help us to release our pride on every level.

Pray God would reveal what it is you need to offer Him for your healing and the healing of your city and families.

TWENTY





"Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own authority, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, but I know him because I am from him and he sent me." – John 7:28

Jesus is very clear that the only way to know God is through Him and His own power. Pray today that you would not look to Jesus alone, but allow the God of the Father-heart and the Holy Spirit of our souls to allow their own unique revelation today.

Have you been 'sent' somewhere by God in the past? Pray for fresh revelation of God's leading now.

Jesus we marvel at Your glory and authority together now.

TWENTY





"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

- John 3:14-15

The Old Testament can be something that Christians seek to avoid because of fear, lack of knowledge or laziness. Read the original scripture that this is quoted from in the Old Testament and try not to let your eyes glaze over... SOAK it in. It speaks mystery into the beauty of Jesus Christ, centuries later.

Start (or continue) a Bible reading plan – get an App on your phone, read the texts for lifegroup – now is the time to recommit.

TWENTY





"Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:..." - Revelations 4:9-22

Read the next part of this scripture, and make an art piece, poem of some kind of physical response as you imagine being in the VERY THRONE ROOM OF GOD as this takes place.

Don't feel the need to show anyone, but keep this offering before the Lord somewhere special for the next 11 days, praying that this hopeful offering will bless Him.





"He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them." From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him." – John 6:65–66

Predestination, the immutable will of God – big words that can make us feel small and helpless. Good. We need to surround ourselves daily in the mystery and contention of the Gospel. Only then will we begin to comprehend the fullness of Christ's sacrifice and glory.

Today pray for your friends, church and workplace – that Jesus would reveal the Father to them.

Commit to taking up the next theological learning opportunity.







"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me."

### - Romans 16:1

Phoebe was a woman of no small character and no trivial investment in the Apostle Paul's life. Who is a woman in your life who shows great economy, fastidiousness and the nearness of the power of God?

Reflect on the way you value women and men within your life. Do you hold them in equal regard? Does something need to change? Jesus bless the women and raise them up again.

THIRTY



### FOR PORT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH



"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes."

- Matthew 11:21

Have you despised the miracles of Jesus?

Reflect on a time when Jesus performed a miracle in your life, the feelings that arose in you, the gratefulness. Is there repentance that needs to take place in your heart?

Jesus, forgive our pride. We love you and your works are wonderful and miraculous and worthy of all praise. Forgive our arrogance and refresh us anew. Bless us with your gracious presence again.

THIRTY





"And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins." - Mark 11:25

This is an incredibly hard pill to swallow, but we need the Lord. We need His forgiveness of sins, and ultimately this freedom enables us to free others from their debts to us. Who do you need to forgive today? Release them.

Jesus, forgive my arrogance and persistence in harassing Your people. Help me to trust You to exact judgment and to desire mercy before sacrifice.

Think of someone you know who is incredibly gracious in times of trial – send them a message blessing them and their ministry, intentional and unintentional.

FOUL



### FOR PORT TO THE PROPERTY OF TH



"Fling wide the gates, open the ancient doors, and the great king will come in. Who is this great king? He is the Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, victorious in battle." – Psalm 24:7–9 (GNT)

What a battle cry! God the warrior! Jesus the victor! Holy Spirit the in-dweller! Does this make you excited? Why/Why not?

Read some stories in the Old Testament of the way God fought as the Lion of Judah against Israel's enemies. Refresh your respect and awe of our Great King.

Father, you are strong, victorious, wonderful. Thank you for Your Son and adopting us into your successful reign!

THIRTY





"It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for a man [or woman] to bear the yoke while [they are] young."

- Lamentations 3:26-27

Are you experiencing a time of intense and prolonged waiting?

Scripture says "Hope deferred makes the heart sick.". Seek Jesus afresh and commit to praying for the next week into that disappointment in your soul.

Jesus learned at the house of His Father as a small boy – it wasn't until much later in life that His ministry arose. Are you content in the waiting? Jesus, give us courage and patience to bear it for Your name sake and purpose.







"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

- Matthew 5:9

A peacemaker is different from a peace–keeper. Keepers of the peace avoid conflict and just seek to diffuse tension, even if it means unhealthy outcomes. Peace MAKERS advocate for reconciliation and change. Which are you?

Think of a line you can use the next time you get in a conversation you are not comfortable with. Pray that Jesus will enable your tongue to move when on trial.

Father, give us the courage to cut away where needs cutting, and to heal where needs healing for the true life of the Body.

THIRTY





"Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

- Matthew 26:10-13

Each of us have a fragrant offering that Christ wills to be poured out for His exquisite pleasure – what is yours?

Don't withhold the things God asks you for – His deep desire should not be rerouted by your disobedience. Jesus, forgive our intemperance. Be patient with us and blessed through us.





## FOR PORT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH



"When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"" – Matthew 27:54

When was the last time you had a moment believing and professing in awe-struck wonder "Surely he was the Son of God!"?

If you can't recall one to mind – pray afresh and seek every morning and night, until the Son of God reveals Himself.

Lord, we love You. We pray for increased signs and wonders. Increase our faith, our time with You, our service, our reverent awe. Let us be believing change-makers.

THIRTY





"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first." – 1 Thessalonians 4:16

Consider what it will be like for those who see Jesus coming back in power to earth.

Consider how this vision affects your everyday living and being.

Jesus, you are wonderful. You are rich in power and authority. Give me a heavenly disposition of servant-hood and submissiveness to Your will, that You will find me ready should You return in my lifetime.





### ""Crucify him!" they shouted." - Mark 15:13

A sweaty throng, loud, rowdy, obnoxious. A crushed and jostled saviour, knowing what lies ahead. Imagine He lifts His eyes, and sees centuries later you; us; the church. And He knows what must happen, because He loves us.

Read this text for yourself – imagine you are there, and Jesus lifts his head to see YOU. How does that make you feel?

Jesus, help to see You as You really are. You sacrifice was IMMENSE and beyond what I can humanly comprehend, but still I will try to know You better.

Let me know you, Lord. I'm ready and willing.