

2017 GB INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR



WELCOME

Dear GB Friends,

The Girls' Brigade International Theme for 2017 is 'Be Empowered'.

Every girl, officer, volunteer and leader at national, regional and international levels of GBI needs your prayers. This resource was created with our theme in mind and with the goal of empowering you, your members and friends with pointers to strengthen your prayer lives and to inspire you to empower others as you yourself are empowered.

As GBI has done for many years, this tool is provided to enable you to pray with fellow Girls' Brigaders worldwide. as we meditate not only on our local needs but communally pray for the needs of members within the five corners of the globe.

Our sisters in Christ, we challenge you in the name of our Lord and Saviour to meditate on 2 Peter 1:1-9 and to embrace the power which comes from knowing Christ. We pray that you will 'Be Empowered' throughout 2017: to launch out for MISSION; to stand firm and OVERCOME; to boldly MAKE A DIFFERENCE; to MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES; to render effective SERVICE & SPEAK OUT for young women in our world; and finally to embrace Christ's commission TO MAKE DISCIPLES.

We extend special thanks to Hazelann Hannaway Boreland (IVP Caribbean & Americas) and the representatives from all five GB fellowships Megan Noble, Valerie Joy, Monifa Gumbs, Nelly Banda and Christine Wakefield who assisted in gathering prayer requests, information and prayer ideas for this resource. We truly hope you enjoy and are strengthened as you share in this year's theme.

God's eternal blessings,

The GBI Prayer Resource Team



INTRODUCTION

This Prayer Calendar is designed to complement the 'Be Empowered Resource.' It will guide members with monthly resources to strengthen their prayer lives and to empower others. It is just a guide - tailor it to meet your needs. It is divided into two sections.

SECTION 1

Here you will find monthly prayer focuses that work in tangent with the 'Be Empowered Resource'. It breaks down our theme with pointers and prayer requests that members, companies, districts, regions or national bodies can focus on each month to help you grow in the mission of BEING EMPOWERED. You can use this section:

- As personal devotionals at home, for devotions or epilogues at local, district or regional leaders' meetings
- As a prayer focus during your regular GB meetings for the year or even as a spiritual badge-work program on BEING EMPOWERED
- To encourage girls, leaders and church partners to focus their prayers, perhaps engaging online with our GB global family by posting on our facebook page www.facebook.com/GirlsBrigadeWorldwide
- To help you prepare a monthly Prayer Station or Prayer Card to engage people in your church or at your regular GB meeting place (see below for resources)

SECTION 2

Here you will find some additional resources to support creative prayer events and activities in your GB meetings, at special gatherings, in community events:

2017 GB INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR



May 2017						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

LET US PRAY FOR SPECIFIC EVENTS

May 2017

USE THIS MONTH TO FOCUS ON SECTION 3 OF THE BE EMPOWERED RESOURCE 2017:
BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES

BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES

WEEK 1 Pray for COURAGE AND BOLDNESS TO GO AGAINST THE CROWD. Pray for courage to be able to go against the crowds and to not succumb to peer pressure remembering that it's only in Him we can make the right decision. (Deut 30:15)

WEEK 2 Pray for GUIDANCE IN OUR DECISION MAKING. Pray that we may embrace God's word and so develop a biblical outlook that penetrates the deceptive and distorted thoughts of the world. (Proverbs 3:5-6, Philippians 1:9-10a).

WEEK 3 Pray for FAITH. Ask God to help you grow in faith so you can better serve Him, confident that whatever path you choose He will go with you.

WEEK 4 Pray for WISDOM TO MAKE RIGHT DECISIONS IN GIRLS' BRIGADE. Pray that God will lead us to make right decisions about the programmes we offer, the partnerships we make, the places we work and the people who lead us.

PRAY FOR GIRLS' BRIGADE INTERNATIONAL

We pray for our local, regional and international officers and volunteers especially our IVP Vivienne Aitchison and the IPC. As we are charting paths in times of blindness amidst today's socio-economic, religious and political unrest, Lord empower them with your word *'I will lead the blind by a way they do not know, in paths they do not know. I will guide them. I will make darkness into light before them and rugged places into plains. These are things I will do, and I will not leave them undone.'* Keep those who serve in danger to turn the darkness into light, make the rugged places straight. Lord, give our leaders discernment to choose correctly and empower us to help others to make Godly choices. In Jesus name

ALSO LET US PRAY FOR GB INTERNATIONAL

Let us rejoice in the knowledge that we are part of a world-wide family divided by our varied cultures, and by political, economical and social diversity but held together with our common faith and trust in Jesus. Pray that GB may continue to transform lives around the world. Ask God to provide all we need to join Him in His mission in this world – in terms of both finance and personnel. Seek His wisdom as we look next year to appointing a new GBI President. Pray especially for the planning team for the 2017 Gathering in Ghana. Grant traveling mercies and life changing experiences to all who attend. Pray too, for the team in Zambia who are to host ICGB 2018. Seek God's leading on IPC as they meet in September that they may have wisdom to consider the strategic issue which are key to our ongoing ministry. Help GBI as it seeks to respond to open doors, new partnership opportunities and creative ways of 'making disciples' in the 21st century.

PRAY FOR OUR GB LEADERS & OFFICERS Dear Lord, empower us with your promise in Isaiah 30:20-23 that even when we are overwhelmed, if we press and seek your face you O Lord *will no longer hide yourself, but our eyes will behold you Teacher. Our ears will hear a word coming from behind us, 'This is the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right or to the left.'* Remind us that if we acknowledge you in all our ways, lean not to our own understanding you O Lord will direct our paths.

PRAY FOR OUR GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN Lord in this time of mixed and often confusing messages, give our girls and young women the courage to overcome and choose the right paths. Let them know that your word is not a myth. Instead, you are still the God of today's playground, today's classroom and the God even of cyber space and that you can break every chain and empower them to make the right choices. AMEN

2017 GB INTERNATIONAL PRAYER CALENDAR

SECTION 2 **SPECIAL PRAYER ACTIVITIES / EVENTS**

BE EMPOWERED FOR MISSION - Prayer Wrist Bands:

To help you reflect on praying for mission make Prayer Wrist Bands. Take several threads of wool, as you weave them or twist them together using words like: Assignment, Community, New Relationships, Healings, Open Doors and Opportunities

SONG: Your Love Never Fails (Newsboys)

BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE DISIPLES – Moon Light Picnic:

Hold an evening of prayer at the beach or round a bonfire to encourage persons who may not be comfortable in a church or more formal setting. The participants will sing songs, read scriptures and pray. The event will end with roasting marshmallows and making smores.

SONG: There Were Twelve Disciples

BE MPOWERED TO OVERCOME – Hand Prayers

Give each member of your group a piece of paper and ask them to draw around and cut out the shape of their own hand. On the four fingers they should write:

- something to praise God for;
 - something to thank God for;
 - something for which they would like to ask God 's help
 - something they would like to say sorry for
- Group members can fold down the fingers on their paper hand when they pray for each of these things.

This leaves the hand in a 'thumbs up' shape - a reminder that God has heard our prayers.

SONG: There is A Day – Lou Fellingham (Phatfish)

POEM: Footprints in The Sand

BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – Prayer Station:

Each Prayer station represents one of the GB fellowships around the world, or the different companies in your area. Each station will provide facts about the fellowship or company and their prayer requests. It will allow those participating to learn from each other as well as being able to pray for them too.

BE MPOWERED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – Prayer Partners:

Each participant gets to have a prayer partner from a different company. Girls of different ages may be best (e.g. a younger girl with older one)

SONGS: We are – Kari Jobe

SONG: Heart to Change the World– Psalty Kids' Praise

BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE RIGHT CHOICES - Festive Balloon Toss:

Use as an outdoor sit down service or a prayer walk – seeking God's direction through Christ's model prayer.

Materials: Each participant will need 4 balloons and a marker pen, balloon pump or helium, string or ribbon.

- In preparation: Blow up the balloons, attach strings and set up 4 prayer stations round your venue
- Set the scene with an opening prayer and song(s) e.g. *I Love You Lord, I Lift My Voice*
- Give each participant a white balloon
- Explain the importance of Prayers of Adoration. Ask them to use their marker to write a thank you prayer to God (in 5 words or less).
- Invite participants to hold up their balloons and read their prayers aloud in turn
- Move the group on to another venue, singing choruses and flying their white balloons as they go
- At the next station – distribute the red balloons Ask members to write personal confessions. Have a moment of silence for private confessions.
- Move on to the next venue singing choruses with both balloons flying. Sing e.g. *I Have Decided To Follow Jesus / What A Friend We Have in Jesus*
- Give out blue balloons. Ask everyone to write a short prayer for someone or their community
- Take turns reading their prayers of Intercession before lifting their third balloons, and moving on
- Give out the yellow balloons and ask everyone to write prayers expressing their honest needs
- Sing e.g. *There is a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place*
- Pair everyone up and exchange balloons. Ask everyone to pray for their partner's needs
- Release all the balloons signifying the lifting of each prayer to God and finish with a benediction.

SONG: There's Power in Prayer (The Perr)

BE EMPOWERED TO SERVE & SPEAK OUT – Prayer Cards

Create prayer cards to distribute to GB members, church friends and other interested people.

SONG: Send Me (William McDowell)

 <p>Today GB prayed for the empowerment of Girls' & Women</p>	<p>2 Peter 2: 3 <i>God empowers us with everything we need for a godly life Embrace God's gift to us ... pray for your empowerment and the empowerment of others.... join the mission!!</i></p>
---	---