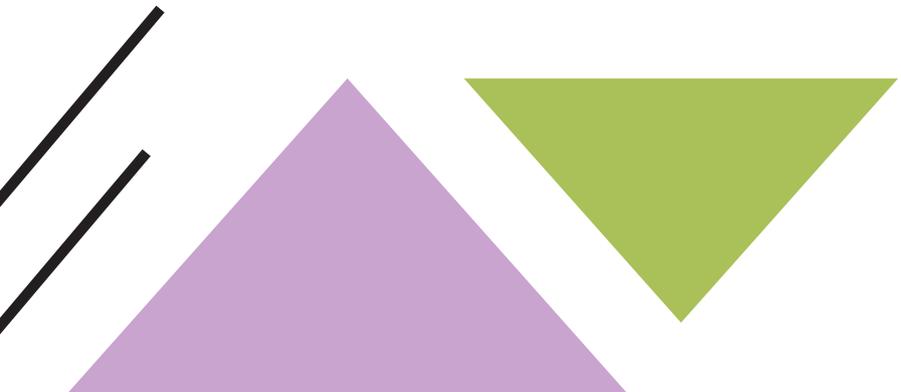
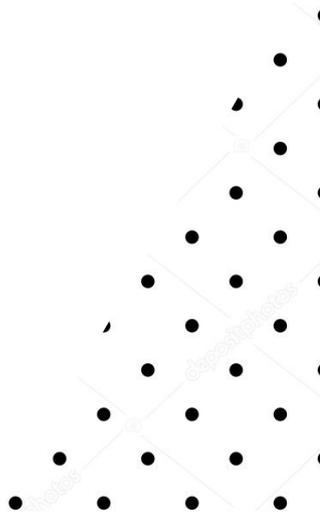
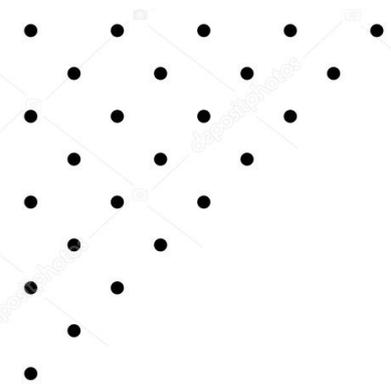


# FRUITFUL

AND *overflowing*

- LIVE JOYFULLY -  
PRAYER CALENDAR 2019



# Dear GB Sisters,

The Theme for 2019 is

**'FRUITFUL AND OVERFLOWING...  
LIVE JOYFULLY'**.

Is it possible to have a heart full of joy in this world with so much suffering, abuse and hurt? We will explore the Bible and pray together as we each try to find joy, true joy in our lives.

Every girl, officer, volunteer and leader at national, regional and international levels of GBI needs your prayers.

This resource was created with the goal of helping you, your members and friends with pointers to strengthen your prayer lives and to guide you through the process to come to the point of becoming fruitful and overflowing. Becoming fruitful is not a one day event but a process!

Luke 14:28-30 says: *"Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish'."*

As we meditate on these words, we pray that you will go through the process of equipping yourselves **WITH THE RIGHT TOOLS, PREPARING THE SOIL, SOWING THE SEED AND PROTECTING GOD'S CREATION** and making a better world for the next generation. We pray that in the process you may experience the Love, Joy and Peace from within that we can only get through abiding in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We extend a special thanks to

**Aruk Omori** (IVP for Africa)

and **Renelle Neale** (IVP for the Pacific)

And representatives from the Fellowships,

**Elizabeth Neale** (Pacific),

**Rosemary Fennell** (Europe),

**Debra McLaughlin** (Caribbean & Americas),

**Dorothy Lowry** (Pacific),

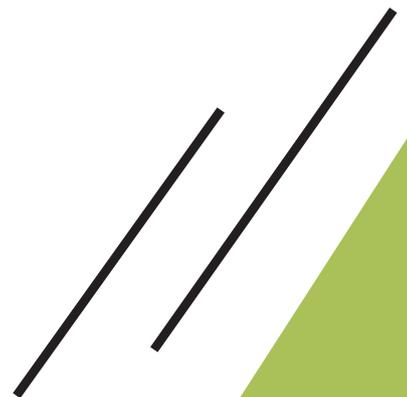
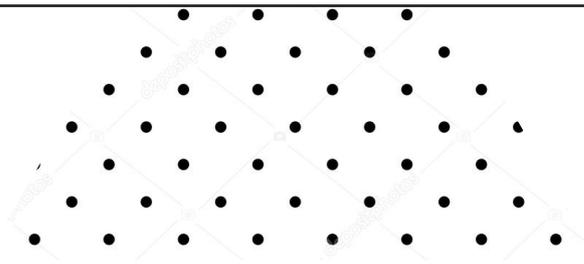
**Ibemesi Tochi** (Africa),

who assisted in gathering prayer requests, information and prayer ideas for this resource.

We truly hope you enjoy and are strengthened as you find joy in the Lord and become a fruit bearer and share the fruit.

*Peace, love and joy!*

The GBI Prayer Resource Team.



# live joyfully!

## INTRODUCTION

This Prayer Calendar is based on GB International's 2019 theme:

**'Fruitful and Overflowing... Live Joyfully'.**

It is designed to complement the GBI "Fruitful and Overflowing, Be Joyful" Resource.

It will guide members with weekly resources to strengthen their prayer lives and to help with activities for their weekly meetings. Sessions must be prepared before each meeting. We would suggest that you use this as a guide and tailor it to meet your needs.

The theme has been broken down into 6 sub-themes which are further broken down into topics that the groups or individuals can focus on each week. The subthemes cover two months and with a different focus point for each month.

You will also get some additional ideas to support creative prayer events and activities in your GB meetings, at special gatherings or at community events.

## HOW TO USE THE RESOURCE

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, in parallel with our **BE JOYFUL RESOURCE**, as a spiritual badge work programme.
- To engage online with our GB global family by posting on our Facebook page. It will be helpful to email feedback on how you've used the resource and whether it was helpful to [home@gbworldwide.org](mailto:home@gbworldwide.org)
- You can use the prayer activity to create a 'prayer station'. A prayer station is an interactive activity with instructions that allows people to pray creatively. It may be set up on a table, in a corner, or in a designated room.

# January

This month we are focusing on; **'Equip the Sower: getting ourselves ready'** (Abiding in Christ). Use this month to help prepare for the year ahead, especially looking at the planning for the next Gathering in 2021 and International Conference of GB (ICGB) in 2022.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on the Parable of the Sower in **Matthew 13:1-23**. In this parable Jesus tells a story of a farmer who sows his seed. Some seed lands on the path and was eaten by birds, some fell on rocky ground and quickly died, some fell on the thorns and were choked by the plants and some fell on good soil and produced a large crop! Jesus explained what this meant including '...the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it.' (Matthew 13:23) **How can we make sure we are like good soil?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

plant pots, soil, seeds, stickers, pens, utensils to plant with

Fill a plant pot with compost, place a seed in to the pot and add water. Think of a person known to you who would benefit from dedicated prayer. Write their name on a sticker then attach the sticker to your plant pot, praying for that person. Take the plant home and place it somewhere where you will see it regularly. As the plant grows remember the name you placed on the pot and continue to pray for them.

## EVENTS

27/1/2019 – Community Fun Fair (Theme- Love our Family) in Hong Kong  
Swaziland – Camp  
Cook Islands – National Conference

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

"Because I'm a girl, I'm more likely to be unable to read and write." 65 million girls are missing from school rooms across the globe. Thank God for how GB is an informal learning space for many girls and pray for barriers to be removed so that girls can be all that God created them to be.

### Week 2

Let us pray for Girls' Brigade worldwide that GB will continue to be the strongest and most consistent Christian mission movement focusing on the Girl Child. Pray for the many Officers and girls who gather each week to praise and worship God, to learn together and just to have fun.

### Week 3

Pray for the new Northern Ireland Executive Team and pray for wisdom, vision and most of all God's guidance in the decisions they make.

### Week 4

Pray for GB International Family as we start planning for the next Gathering 2021 and the next ICGB Conference in 2022. Pray for those who are contemplating to host, for God to give them courage and empower them.

### Week 5

Pray for the International President, Priscilla P. Penny. Pray for wisdom and a vision to take GB forward for the next four years and beyond.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, thank you for sowing your Word in us. May it take root and grow strong in our hearts. We pray that you continue to guide, protect and plant seeds of goodness within us. Equip us with the tools to help others to receive the Good News of Jesus. Like a good gardener uproots weeds and removes rocks from the soil, show us how to remove barriers and problems from peoples' lives so that they may know how much you love them and care for them. Nourish our minds, bodies and souls as we prepare to live out your word and with joyful hearts, carry out good deeds and spread your gospel. Enable us to grow and flourish today and forevermore. In Jesus Christ's name. Amen.*

# February

This month we are focusing on;

## 'Gathering the tools'

Use this month to help prepare for the year ahead, especially looking at the planning for the next Gathering in 2021 and International Conference of GB (ICGB) in 2022.

### BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on the Armour of God in **Ephesians 6:10-18**.

'Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.'

(Ephesians 6:11)

Imagine yourself putting on each piece: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit. How can you gather these tools in your daily life?

### PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

Make a small display with the garden tools, garden gloves and potted plants.

Either get the girls to draw the outline of a small garden fork, or find an image to print. This will need to be big enough to write in. Reflect on all of the tools God has given you on your Christian journey. This might be some of the items in the armour of God. It might be skills you have - creativity, organising, being an encourager. Think about how you could use these tools in your GB group, church and community. Write one or two of the tools God has given you on your garden fork, and pray that God would help you to use them more.

### EVENTS

Zambia – Officer's General Meeting

Zimbabwe – Officer's Training and retreat

England & Wales – GB Ministries Trustee Board Meeting

### PRAYERS

#### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

Let us prayerfully remember the areas of our society and world which undermine a girl's prospects just because she is a girl. Lord may they each know more of the love of Christ in their lives, and discover that there is hope in Him. Pray that through GB they may be given opportunities and knowledge that otherwise they may never experience.

#### Week 2

Pray for the tools that God has provided us with and ask God how you can better use these tools in your GB group, Church, community.

#### Week 3

Pray for all GB groups across the world- ask for God to bless them this year. Maybe connect with another GB group and become prayer partners over this year.

#### Week 4

Pray for International Vice President for Africa, Aruk Omori. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB in her fellowship.

#### Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you that you created the world and everything in it. We pray that we will learn to look after the earth and its people by using the tools you have given us. We know that, with your help and guidance, we can make this world a better place to live in by encouraging each other to do the right thing in every area of our life. Amen.*

# March

This month we are focusing on; 'Caring for creation: preparing and protecting the soil' by understanding issues impacting girls. Use this month to help you give thanks to all the amazing women in the Bible.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on **Galatians 3:28**: 'There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.' God made all of creation, including everybody alive today. He loves each and every person and it doesn't matter if they are a male or a female. It doesn't matter where they are from or what language they speak. **How can we care for God's creation including all of the people who we come into contact with each day?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

This month we celebrate International Women's Day on 8th March, a day set aside to "celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievement of women" as well as to press for gender parity in those parts of the world where it does not yet exist. So while we take time today to consider the contributions of women to history and culture, it's worth considering the ways in which women shaped the history of the Bible and Christianity, and the ways they continue to lead and influence the faith today. You will need several pieces of paper, each with the name of a woman in the Bible (e.g. Ruth, Esther, Naomi, Lydia, Abigail, Mary, Martha etc.) Hand out the pieces of paper. Ask each person to read theirs out and share what lessons they can learn from their lives. After everyone has finished, get them to lay out all the pieces of paper on the floor or on a table in the middle of the room, and begin to pray to God and thank Him for these wonderful women. Pray too that He raises more women in this generation that will inspire and influence the next generation. Ask each one to pray specifically for women or a woman who has made an impact in their life.

## EVENTS

28-31/3/19 Australia – National Council meeting  
Scotland – Queen's Award Residential Weekend  
Niue – National Council

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

As we celebrate International Day of the Woman thank God for the legacy of Girls' Brigade and the many women across the world who have helped to raise hope for girls. Over the last 126 years, six generations of Christian women have invested in the next generation of girls. Pray that the young women we now serve may take on the baton and join Jesus in His mission as we move into the next 126 years of service.

### Week 2

Pray that God will bring His hope and light into issues affecting girls in our GB groups and around the world.

### Week 3

Pray for the leadership of Girls' Brigade in Anguilla, in the Caribbean and America Fellowship. Ask God to raise up dedicated and passionate leaders within and outside of the group. As membership continues to grow, leadership is essential to all of the groups.

### Week 4

Pray for International Vice President for Asia, Mrs Tay Poh Imm. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB in her fellowship.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, as we spend this month thinking about some of the issues affecting girls and young women across the world, we thank you for the continued work of GB and how you have used us for 126 years to bring light into these situations. Thank you that you love each and every person, no matter who they are or where they're from. We pray that many more girls and young women will know that they are loved by you. Amen.*

# April

This month we are focusing on; 'Caring for Creation: Preparing and Protecting the Soil' by understanding issues surrounding the environment. This month we are focussing on Use this month to think about how to prepare our hearts to help protect God's creation.

## BIBLE FOCUS

God expects us to play our part in the protection and continuation of His creation. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. In **Genesis 1:26** God said, 'Let us make man into our own image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' Not only does our faith call us to care for creation, but it is the foundation of our faith.

God prepared the stages of creation by providing Light and Dark, and Earth and Waters.

God created the rhythms of life. Spend this month learning/reflecting about the creation.

**How can you steward God's creation this month?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

A plain sheet of paper, A3 Size if available,  
Colouring pencils/ or paint brushes and paint,  
picture from magazines.

Create a collage of God's creation. Have Fun!

## EVENTS

11-14 April 2019 - Pacific Fellowship AGM,  
Auckland

23-28 April 2019 – Zambia Girl's Camp & AGM  
Zimbabwe – National Camp  
Malawi – Officer's Workshop

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

Currently 113 Chibok girls remain missing since their abduction on 14 April 2014; some of them are GB members. This will mark their fifth year in captivity. See the GB Worldwide website for how we can pray for them and the many others impacted by Boko Haram violence in Nigeria.

### Week 2

Pray that God will help us to prepare the soil of our hearts and plant that seed of trust and obedience to be fruitful and overflowing.

### Week 3

Pray for Zimbabwe as this country focus on an outreach programme to help grow GB throughout the year.

### Week 4

Pray for all of the Churches across the world that support GB groups. Pray that they would continue to be a valued support for GB and that God would bless them.

### Week 5

Pray for International Vice President for the Caribbean and Americas, Quindell Ferguson. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB in her fellowship.

## Prayer

*Dear Lord, we know that you made the world and everything in it, and that you have set apart humans to look after your creation. Help us to love your creation as you do, and to do what we can to protect the environment. Prepare our hearts to value your world and to let our actions reflect this. Amen.*

# May

This month we are focusing on;  
**'Sow the Seed: Sharing the Gospel'.**

Use this month to tell stories of GB sharing the Gospel of hope.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on the Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18-20**: *'Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

At ICGB 2018 we were challenged to "Live our lives in such a way that the non-believers will question their unbelief."

Think about how we can do this within GB.

**What resources are available for us to use?  
How have they made a difference?**

Some ideas include wearing our uniform and talking about GB, offering practical help to people, and using social media in a positive way.

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

a large world map, tea lights (these can be battery-operated)

Fill a plant pot with compost, place a seed in to the pot and add water. Think of a person known to you who would benefit from dedicated prayer. Write their name on a sticker then attach the sticker to your plant pot, praying for that person. Take the plant home and place it somewhere where you will see it regularly. As the plant grows remember the name you placed on the pot and continue to pray for them.

## EVENTS

11 May 2019 – Scotland, Presentation Evening

18-19 May 2019 – New Zealand, Youth Forum in Wellington

24-27 May – England & Wales, leading the 18-30s stream and sessions at Cliff Festival

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

"I'm more likely to have tears of sorrow (not tears of joy) on my wedding day because I am a girl." Every 3 seconds another girl is forced to marry someone they don't want to. Pray for legislation and cultural change which will enable girls to make decisions for themselves. Pray that GB may be a place where young women are given a sense of self-worth, purpose and agency.

### Week 2

Pray that we would care about the outcome of our efforts to share the Gospel and that someone's life will be impacted positively by sharing with them. Pray that we would always be ready, willing and able to share the Gospel of hope.

### Week 3

Pray for the Cook Islands in the Pacific Fellowship as they prepare to host the International President's Committee in July 2019. Pray for the preparation and logistics and thank God for the volunteers helping to make this happen.

### Week 4

Pray for International Vice President for Europe, Dr Claire Rush. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB in her fellowship.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, Thank you for the Gospel – the Good News of Jesus Christ! Thank you that you loved us so much that you came into this world and died to take away all of the things we do wrong. We thank you for those people who first shared the Gospel with us, and we pray that you would strengthen us as we seek to share your Gospel with people around us. We thank you for good news stories within GB and we pray that more people would come to know you through the work and mission of GB. Amen*

# June

This month we are focusing on;  
'Sow the Seed: Reaching out to the Community'.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on **John 1:14**: *'The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.'*  
At ICGB 2018 we were encouraged to "pioneer again" and to not wait for girls to come to us. Just as God became man in Jesus and came into the world, so too we must follow this model and go into the world to share the Good News of Jesus with people where they are.  
**How can we 'pioneer again' in GB and reach out to our communities?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:  
The first part of John 1:14 written onto pieces of card and cut into puzzle pieces  
Split everybody into groups and give them a set of puzzle pieces with the words of the first part of John 1:14 written on them. Encourage them to make the puzzle up to reveal the Bible verse.  
Spend some time reflecting on what this verse means to us today and then pray for two things:  
1) Thank God for coming into the world to be amongst us  
2) Pray that He would be with us as we reach out to the community

## EVENTS

10 June – International Day of Prayer  
26 June – New Zealand - AGM  
Zambia – Congo DR repeat visitation & commissioning  
Scotland – Leadership Training Gold Level Residential

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

Statistics tell us that only 22% of the world's parliamentarians are women, there are only 14 female heads of state in the world and women account for only 4.4% of Fortune 500 CEOs. In critical spaces of power, very few women are in control. How can this change? Increasing female leadership in all areas of public and private life begins with supporting girls to lead today. Pray that we in GB may continue to train and empower young women to be leaders in the world in which they live.

### Week 2

Pray for everyone in GB as we sow the seed and reach out to the many different communities that we are a part of.

### Week 3

Pray for Ireland, in the European Fellowship, as they move forward under many new regulations brought in by their government. Pray for the team that work through this and that God would stay in the centre of all they do in GB.

### Week 4

Pray for International Vice President for the Pacific, Renelle Neale. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB in her fellowship.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, we pray for our local community. We pray for the schools, the workplaces, the shops, and everything else within it. We pray for each and every person that lives in our local community. We know that your Holy Spirit is always with us, and so we ask for your help and support as we sow the seed. We pray that you would give us new ideas to pioneer again, that you would provide us with opportunities and open doors, and that you would always give us the right words to say to share your love with our community. Amen.*

# july

This month we are focusing on;  
**'Be Loving: Loving God and Others'**.

Use this month to step out in faith and show love to someone each day or week. Visit someone who's sick, elderly, or someone who's unable to get out of their home. Take them a meal, pray with them, read with them, do a chore for them (e.g. clean dishes, wash clothes etc.) or take them flowers. Whatever they need.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on **1 Corinthians 13:13**: *'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'*

You may want to read all of this chapter in the Bible, which talks about love. Read the passage a second time and this time, replace the word 'love' with the word 'God' and think about what God's love looks like in your life. Then read the passage a third time and replace the word 'love' with your name, thinking about the ways we can love God and others.

**How can you show love to people this month?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

A jar, slips of paper and pens

Make a list of Random Acts of Kindness that anyone in your GB group or church can do. There is lots of inspiration online! Place these in a jar and leave the jar somewhere visible. Ask people to collect one each time they see the jar. You may want to write the items on heart shaped paper and you could add relevant bible verses too.

## EVENTS

6-7 July – England & Wales, Network Council meeting and leaders' retreat

13-20 July 2019 – Trinidad & Tobago, Hosting Fellowship Camp

17-19 July 2019 - New Zealand, Awesome Leadership Committee

30 July 2019 – International Day of Friendship set by the UN

Papua New Guinea – Leader's training day

Zambia – Junior Council Skills Trainings/Capacity building session for mentors

South Africa – Conference

Niue – National camp

Cook Islands – Hosting International Presidents Committee

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

"I am more likely not to have a choice about where and when my first sexual experience happens because I am a girl." 150 million girls across the world have experienced rape or other forms of sexual violence before they reach 18 years old. Girls are exposed to sexual violence as they walk to school, go to the toilet, socialise with friends and even in their own homes. Pray that this may change!

### Week 2

Pray for all of the GB groups across the world as they seek to be loving and to raise girls who love God and love others.

### Week 3

Pray for the International Presidents committee who are meeting this month in the Cook Islands.

### Week 4

There are lots of exciting events happening across the world in GB this month. Pray for each of them – that they would be an opportunity for girls and women to grow as people and as disciples.

### Week 5

Pray for International Treasurer Betty McComb. Pray for wisdom and clarity over the next four years to strengthen and grow GB across the world.

### Prayer

*Dear God, thank you for all your blessings and your unconditional love for us. Please help us to be loving and kind to others. Instil in us hearts of kindness and compassion for our family, friends, and fellow brigaders around the globe. Give us grace to mirror your loving image. Through your sacrifice we have received forgiveness, help us to extend this same love and kindness to others. Give us the courage to stand up for others and to give our support to those who need a helping hand. Help us to live a life of service to you so that others can see the love we have for you and also come to love you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

# August

This month we are focusing on; 'Be Loving: Loving Ourselves'. Use this month to help you remember that you are created in the image of God and to practise self-care.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on **Ephesians 5:1-2**: *'Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.'*

This a good reminder that we are dearly loved children who Christ loved. Isn't it incredible to think that the God who made the Universe loves you and me?!

Sometimes the world tells us something different – it makes us feel that we need to be prettier, thinner, cleverer, stronger, braver... the list is long! But God doesn't give us a list of things that we need to do to be loved by Him. His grace and love are free gifts to us.

**How can you remind yourself this month that you are a dearly loved child of God?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need: a mirror, lipsticks

Take a moment to each look in the mirror. What goes through your mind as you look at yourself? Perhaps you think "I wish this..." or "I wish that..." Pause and remind yourself that you are a dearly loved child of God.

Take the lipstick and write a word on the mirror that reminds us of who we are in God's eyes.

For example: precious, loved, valuable, worthy, righteous.

Thank God for all of these things and pray that we would each see ourselves as God sees us, and love ourselves more.

## EVENTS

- 15-17 August 2019 – Nigeria, Annual General Meeting
- 17-22 August 2019 – Nigeria, Officer Refresher Course
- Zambia – Twin exchange educational visits
- Malawi – National Rally

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

For around 2 billion women and girls worldwide, menstruation is a monthly reality. However in many low-income countries, managing their periods is a major challenge and remains a taboo subject. According to a study from UNICEF, 1 in 3 girls in South Asia knew nothing about menstruation prior to having their first period. Pray for those campaigning or practically supporting those who need sanitary products or who are providing education in this area of health care.

### Week 2

Pray for all of the girls in GB groups – pray that they would know that they are loved by God and precious in His eyes. Pray that, as they do this, they would 'walk in the way of love' themselves.

### Week 3

Pray for Zimbabwe, in the Africa Fellowship. Pray for political and social stability in this country and for safety and security for all..

### Week 4

Pray for the Asia Fellowship's forthcoming events, a sense of unity for those involved in GB Asia as they continue to aim to be fruitful and overflowing as they serve God together.

### Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father, we pray that we will always try to see ourselves as you see us. We know sometimes we look at ourselves and think that we are not perfect, but with your love we know that we are unique, and that you have created us in your image. Help us to remember that you are always with us, and that you love us, no matter who we are, we are your children. Amen.*

# September

This month we are focusing on;

**Be Joyful: Differences between Happiness and Joy'** Use this month to reflect on rejoicing in God, regardless of circumstance.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on Philippians 4:4: 'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!'

Rejoice is one of the most repeated commands in the Bible – what an encouraging thought. But did you know that there is a difference between joy and happiness? Take a moment to reflect on the following:

- 1) Happiness is a feeling, but joy is not.
- 2) Happiness is fleeting, but joy is everlasting.
- 3) Happiness depends on circumstances or other people, but joy is a gift from God.
- 4) Happiness is worldly, but joy is divine.

**Are there any areas of your life in which circumstances or other people are not as they could be? How can you rejoice and have joy in these areas regardless of circumstance?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need: access to a computer and the internet.

If you have access to the internet, play the video 'The story of the wrong direction' from GB England & Wales' koko project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QkmvVCZe0I>

Discuss or reflect who is in our life and which direction we are following. Are we looking for things just because they make us happy? Or are we following God's way and able to have joy in all circumstances? Who and what are we letting influence us?

Pray that God would give us the strength to stand and follow His way, even if it means standing out, because we know this is the way to true joy.

## EVENTS

South Africa – Brigade Week

Scotland – GBS Conference and Annual General Meeting

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

In some parts of the world many young women will be starting new adventures as they move on to college or university or begin work for the first time. Pray for them as they learn to live independently. This is often a time of great challenge as they move away from their support networks - home, church and friends. Pray that as leaders who have nurtured and supported them over the years, we may continue to let them know we care. Pray that all they have learnt at GB will equip them to make right choices and have a sense of self-confidence and self-worth in their new environments.

### Week 2

Thank God for calling you to Jesus and to the Kingdom of Heaven. Ask for a help and guidance for the week ahead so that you can live your life coming closer to Jesus. Pray for opportunities to tell others about the difference between happiness and joy.

### Week 3

Pray for England & Wales, in the Europe Fellowship. Pray that they Build Hope for the church by increasing engagement and partnership with local churches, to enable growth of GB groups. Pray that they Build Hope for Girls' Brigade by supporting local groups in mission. Pray that they Build Hope for Girls and Women through intentional discipleship as they offer events that disciple and equip, and as they advocate for girls and young women on areas that are disempowering or unjust.

### Week 4

Pray for the Africa Fellowship's forthcoming events, a sense of unity for those involved in GB Africa as they continue to aim to be fruitful and overflowing as they serve God together.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, Thank you that whatever our circumstance, you give us reason to rejoice. Thank you that you are a God of joy and you want us to know that joy and share it with others. We pray that we would know what it means to rejoice in you the Lord always. Amen.*

# October

This month we are focusing on;

**'Be Joyful: Relying on God in the Midst of Difficulties'**. Use this month to think about how you face difficulties.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you can reflect on words from Paul in Romans 5:3-5:

'Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.'

**What type of person are you in difficult times?**

**Are you an optimistic person? Can you see the best in any situation?** Paul reminds us that as Christians we can rejoice in the midst of any circumstance because of where our hope is placed. Hope is what keeps us moving and rejoicing whatever life throws at us.

**How do we show others our hope in these situations?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

Paper, pens, bibles, ideas of encouraging verses.

Write down verses from the Bible that encourage us when in difficult situations or of verses containing God's promises.

Leave your Bible verses around your church, home, and community to encourage others.

## EVENTS

25-27 Oct 2018 - England & Wales – Esther Generation Weekend (For Young Leaders and Queens Award)

South Africa – Brigade Week

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

11 October is International Day of the Girl, a day to celebrate and champion the potential of girls. Thank God for every single girl in your life and community; pray that God would use your words and actions to champion, empower and equip them to be all that God created them to be. Ask Him to mobilise you to stand with girls in your community and help break down any injustices that they may face.

### Week 2

Hope does not disappoint us! Pray that we can hold this sentence with us always.

### Week 3

Pray for Canada for the continued growth of the GB in their country and for regular Bible study to be readily available to all members.

### Week 4

Pray for all the ministers who support GB groups across the world.

### Week 5

Pray for the Caribbean and Americas Fellowship's forthcoming events and for a sense of unity for those involved in GB Caribbean and Americas as they continue to aim to be fruitful and overflowing as they serve God together.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, Teach me to trust in you so that when the unexpected storms of life come, I will experience peace in the midst of those storms, knowing that you are near, you hear my cries and you are with me and for me. Amen.*

# November

This month we are focusing on;

**Be Peaceful: Relying on God as a God of Peace.** Use this to help you lean on God when you need peace in your life.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you might want to reflect on the words from the prophet Isaiah who speaks of the coming of Christ in **Isaiah 9:6-7**:

*'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 Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.'*

Isaiah's vision of the Prince of Peace offers tremendous hope, blessing and affirmation for Christians.

**How can this make a difference to areas of worry in your life?**

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need: different coloured brick (like lego) Reflect on your reactions to situations in your life this past week/month. Then pick up the following lego bricks:

Green – for each time you have been worried

Blue – for each time you have been afraid

Red – for each time you have tried to fix a person or situation by yourself

White – for each time you have prayed, read the Bible or consciously trusted in God.

Use the coloured blocks on one side and the white on the other – make a bridge.

Look at your bridge and pray for God's help in becoming a person of peace, or thank Him for helping you quiet your fear and worry. Think how life might be different if you consciously tried to "wear" the peace of Christ?

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

25 November is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Violence against women and girls is one of the most widespread, persistent and devastating human rights violations in our world today. Gender-based violence causes more deaths and disabilities among women worldwide, aged 15-44 than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents and war. Pray that all of God's people will be treated with dignity and respect and will live lives free from fear.

### Week 2

Pray for God to help all those who need peace in their lives through GB across the world.

### Week 3

Pray for the Niue in the Pacific Fellowship who will be celebrating their national awards evening next month – pray for those who are organising the event and for those attending.

### Week 4

Pray for the Europe Fellowship's forthcoming events, a sense of unity and for those involved in GB Europe as they continue to aim to be fruitful and overflowing as they serve God together.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, You are the God of peace, when all around is fear. You are the God of joy, when all around is sadness. You are the God of love, when all around is hatred. You are the God of hope when all around is despair. Amen.*

# December

This month we are focusing on; **'Be Peaceful: Be a Peacemaker'**, by building good relationships and friendships. Use this month to think about the type of good relationships you have and which relationships you could develop.

## BIBLE FOCUS

This month you may want to reflect on what Paul says in **Romans 12:18-21** *'If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay"'* says the Lord. On the contrary: *"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."* Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.'

How will you do your utmost to preserve peace this month?

## PRAYER ACTIVITY

What you'll need:

Wall space or large poster, post-its, pens

'When you close your eyes and think of peace what do you see?'

Put this sentence up on the wall or on a poster and see over the month what peoples' suggestions are as they are encouraged to write their response on a post-it and stick it near the question.

At the end of the month reflect and pray over them.

## EVENTS

Hong Kong – Cambodia Service trip  
(visit the girls' school & serve the poor)  
Zambia – Retreat

## PRAYERS

### Week 1 - Pray for girls & young women around the World

Throughout the world, gender stereotypes limit both girls and boys by creating oversimplified views about how they should be and what they should act like as girls and boys. Praise God that in the Bible, He shattered many gender stereotypes and affirmed the dignity, potential and giftings of many women and used them in His mission of restoration. Thank God for the leadership of Deborah, the obedience of Hannah, the boldness of Esther and the courage of Abigail. Pray that God would use us to raise up a new generation of Deborah's, Hannah's, Esther's and Abigail's.

### Week 2

Pray that God would help us to be peacemakers in this world full of turmoil and anger. For us not to judge others, but to understand that each one of us is equal in God's eyes. Pray that we would be able to give and not always be takers.

### Week 3

Pray for Hong Kong as they go on a service trip to Cambodia this month to visit the girls' school and serve the community. Pray for God to bless them as they serve others showing peace.

### Week 4

Pray for the Pacific Fellowship's forthcoming events, a sense of unity and for those involved in GB Pacific as they continue to aim to be fruitful and overflowing as they serve God together.

### Week 5

Pray for all the wonderful things that have happened this year and ask for God to bless everyone across the world as we journey into a new year.

### Prayer

*Dear Lord, I know there is a lack of peace sometimes in peoples' homes. I pray as we gather as families and friends over this month that more of Your peace would fill our homes. I pray that Your peace would fill our hearts. Help us to be the peacemakers and seek to be peaceful in every situation in Jesus' name. Amen.*