

2011  
December



## Daily Prayer Guide

"The LORD is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2

Our daily prayer requests can also be found on our web page:

[www.mbmission.org](http://www.mbmission.org)

*I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us— yes, the many good things he has done for Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses."*

**Isaiah 63:7**

**To ensure their safety**, we are using the initials of long-term workers serving in restricted access countries. Please pray for their protection. Ask the Lord of the harvest to continue to show them favor as He works through them to transform communities among the least reached.

### Thank you for praying!

We believe prayer is the foundation of our ministry and you are a valuable partner in our vision of transforming lives in mission.

This Daily Prayer Guide is available monthly via email or post. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe to this publication, please contact Ann Zauner with your email or mailing address.

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**Thursday (1): B**

**Restricted**

Initially, B only received a short-term visa to enter the country where he'll be serving long-term. Now, he needs to come back to North America to apply for a long-term visa. Please pray that he will utilize his time at home wisely and that the visa process will be smooth and effective. He writes, "God has been showing me how to abide in Him and to be increasingly obedient to what He has called me to. He has chosen me to bear fruit here and I would love for you all to continue to cover my life with this verse:

*"You did not chose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you."* John 15:16

**Friday (2): S**

**Restricted**

Please continue to pray for S as she settles into her new living situation, studies the language and meets many new people. S recently met a N. African lady and after a long chat, she gave her a New Testament. Please remember to pray for S and those she meets on a daily basis, that God will open doors for her to walk through and that she will be obedient when she hears His voice.

*"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."* 2 Corinthians 10:5

**Saturday (3): M & R**

**Restricted**

M is currently helping with relief efforts, clean-up and restoration in a city recently hit by an earthquake. This family prays that they "will be the hands and feet of the Father to these hurting people." Please pray for opportunities for M & R to speak truth to their neighbors and that many will see the light of Jesus shining through their lives. In a nation where it is sometimes dangerous to share Jesus, please pray for God to cover this team with His protection.

*"He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."* Psalm 91:4

**Sunday (4): S & N**

**Restricted**

S & N just arrived in their country of service this past month! S's visa allows him to work as a consulting psychologist for a local non-government organization (NGO). He will be involved in a variety of aspects of this NGO, including working with troubled youth with addictions. This country has one of the highest suicide rates in the world. Please continue to pray for financial and prayer support, and that all their man-made plans will be God-made plans.

*"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed."* Psalm 20:4

**Monday (5): MB Mission Staff**

**North America**

Today is the beginning of an All-staff Summit, followed by a Mobilization Summit. Please pray that God will unite the Regional Mobilizers from around North America as they meet together for a time of prayer and planning. Pray that God will give them a passion to love and serve our local MB churches and international missionaries. Pray for a short-term mission plan that will support and bless our global church planting teams.

*"Also in Judah the hand of God was on the people to give them unity of mind to carry out what the king and his officials had ordered, following the word of the LORD."* 2 Chronicles 30:12

**Tuesday (6): Blaine & Michelle Warner**

**Burkina Faso**

"We are finishing our MINA (Mobilization in North America) this month. We praise God for safety as we traveled all over Western Canada and for the wonderful conversations we have had with many friends. Pray for us as we head back to Burkina Faso for our third term." Pray that God will continue to inspire local leaders to take over the work.

*"Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."* Acts 20:28

**Wednesday (7): Rob & Judy Griffioen**

**Thailand**

Rob & Judy are still in Canada as they, along with MB Mission leadership, prayerfully discern where they will minister upon their return to Thailand. Please pray that all involved in the planning and discernment process will hear God's very clear direction. Lastly, pray for safety as they travel to visit supporters and churches.

*"I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes."* Psalm 119:125

## Thursday (8): Otto & Lidia Funk

Peru

Although five of the churches in Northern Peru have recently lost their pastors under unfortunate circumstances, God has blessed Otto & Lidia and the churches they are involved with this past year. They write, "God has been very real in our lives and we claim His promises. About half of the Miraflores congregation is under 25 years old and about 70% of the church-goers participate in our weekly prayer and study nights. Many have received Christ. Our local youth works every Saturday with about 150 children from very poor neighborhoods. Many of those children are sexually and physically abused, often by their own family members." We want to join the Funk's in prayer for these children, and also praise Him for the awesome work the youth are doing among the poor and suffering in their neighborhoods.

*"He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD." Jeremiah 22:16*

## Friday (9): Cynthia Friesen

Thailand

"Pray as the local churches come together for the annual all-churches Phuket Outreach, which starts tomorrow. Many bring their friends, family and neighbors who do not yet know Jesus. The secular aspects of Christmas – the tree, gifts and lights – have become popular in Thailand. The Good News is that there are many open doors for foreigners to share what Christmas is all about. Pray for us as we share the truth of Christmas in schools, hospitals, villages and with those we meet in the community."

*"You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God!'" Isaiah 40:9*

## Saturday (10): S

Restricted

"I am so thankful to have finally arrived in Asia at the beginning of October! Please pray for our team as we settle into a new culture and begin language school. Please also pray that as we build relationships with people we will get a sense of what our Father is specifically calling us to. Please pray that homesickness during the Christmas season will be manageable and that there will still be much joy and peace in celebrating the holiday season with loved-ones here in Asia. Thank you for praying!"

*"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8*

December 11-17

## Sunday (11): J & F

Restricted

"One of our team families has been asked to leave the country recently. This is the first time we have had to face opposition on this level. We are aware that every year, across the country, missionaries are asked to leave, but it has never hit so close to home for us. This family has now returned to the US. Please pray that they will have supernatural comfort and the grace to see things as God sees them right now. Pray also that there will be no ramifications for the rest of our team due to what has happened. We need extra favor with the government at this time."

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11*

## Monday (12): C & F

Restricted

"Praise God that French language acquisition is progressing and we are beginning to communicate more freely. Pray that we will continue to learn rapidly and effectively. Praise God for our children's time in the Alps with their school. It was a long time to be away from their parents, but they did well and learned loads of French. Thanks for your continued prayers for us, especially our children!"

*"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you." Psalm 5:11*

## Tuesday (13): PK & C

Restricted

"The last six months have been a time of challenge and a new chapter of Kh\*u ministry. The last ten years were a time to spread and plant the seed of the Gospel. The next ten years will be a time of building the storehouses and gathering the crops when the time of the harvest comes. We are praying that God will produce new leadership, especially from among the youth. In the last six months we reached 19 new villages, planted 16 house churches and 18 churches in the various provinces. Please pray together with us, asking God to send the Holy Spirit to empower these people with knowledge and understanding of how to expand God's Kingdom and serve one another. The last six months I have been encouraged by this verse:

*"For through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens but you are fellow citizens with the saints and are of God's household." Ephesians 2:18-19*

## Wednesday (14): Stacy Kuhns

Peru

Stacy is still waiting to move to Northern Peru. Please pray for financial & prayer supporters to join her support team. The new team has formed but

they are now waiting for finances before they join the needy churches in the northern area of Peru (see Dec. 8). In January, Stacy is co-leading a short term Tabor College group to Colombia. Pray for peace and positive relationships during this trip.

*"Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."  
1 Samuel 1:17*

### **Thursday (15): Sandra Fender** **Thailand**

Sandra is in Thailand again after several months back in America. This time it was difficult for her to leave her daughter and elderly, ailing mother behind. Please pray for Sandra and all our missionaries who leave family to heed the call of God. Pray for a smooth re-entry into Thai culture and climate, and that her needs for a vehicle, residence and work permit will be met. We are praying with her that the Gospel message will be clear and God will be glorified during the Christmas outreach events planned by the Thai and Burmese churches.

*"Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." John 12:28*

### **Friday (16): Andy & Carmen Owen** **Thailand**

"We will be attending a seminar along with some other missionaries and Thai leaders on what it means to be an Anabaptist Christian. Please pray for us to be united in our efforts to mentor faithful disciples and strong leaders in the Thai church. Andy will be following up with curriculum and resources for leaders to use in their churches. Carmen has started a Bible study on Fridays with a group of ladies at a women's prison here in Chiang Mai. Twelve women signed up for the study, and most are not Christians. Pray for God's anointing on Carmen as she teaches and pray that the young women would meet Jesus in a real and personal way."

*"But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." Exodus 9:16*

### **Saturday (17): Edd & Ingrid Russell** **Thailand**

"We are thankful we stayed safe during the October and November floods in Central Thailand and Bangkok. Learning language and culture continues to be on our praise and prayer list as we see ongoing progress; yet there is much still to be learned. Our "Christmas break" starts Dec. 17 and we would like to travel to Northern Thailand during that time to spend time with our team in the Chiang Khong area and the Changed Life Center. Please pray for wisdom as we discern a location and areas of ministry when we leave language school at the beginning of April."

*"If I rise on the wings of dawn and settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast." Psalm 139:9-10*

## **December 18-24**

### **Sunday (18): James & Alyssa Wiest** **Mexico**

"Pray that God will give us opportunity to connect with new people from Campo Real through our Christmas events. We are organizing men's only and women's only events along with a couples' retreat to help us connect better with the community. Pray that those in our group take ownership of planning and executing these events. Praise God for the 12 people that were recently baptized! We thank Him for the youth in Campo Real who have taken great responsibility among themselves to meet and teach each other."

*"Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart." 2 Timothy 2:22*

### **Monday (19): Sandra Plett** **Mexico**

At the time of this writing, Sandra was still in Manitoba battling health issues. Please pray that God will heal her body completely. She writes, "God has been teaching me a lot about perseverance through rest. I've been using this time to be in prayer for Mexico and all our ministries there. My doctor has said it will still be 2 or 3 months until I have my full energy back, although I hope to be back in Mexico before then. Please continue praying for our youth group and the youth leaders that have been leading in my absence."

*"The LORD protects and preserves them (the weak); they are counted among the blessed in the land; The LORD sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness." Psalm 41:2-3*

### **Tuesday (20): Motoshiro & Mariya Hamana** **Thailand**

It's a struggle to learn a new language. The Hamana's ask you to pray for them to learn proper pronunciation and correct sentence structure. Pray that they will have good relationships with church members and their neighbors. Please also pray for a one year visa extension which they are waiting for. Moto's father's health is not good. We are praying for a full recovery.

*"As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forevermore." Psalm 125:2*

### **Wednesday (21): S & B** **Restricted**

"We are excited about what God is doing here. Praise God that our team continues to grow in unity. Pray for perseverance in language learning and discernment of potential business opportunities. Pray for the unified affirmation that we as a team have to continue the period of active waiting on God's direction for our future."

*"Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him." Psalm 37:7*

## Thursday (22): David & Louise Sinclair-Peters Thailand

Their prayer: "THANK YOU Father God for all the opportunities we have this month to proclaim the Good News of the birth of your Son to our Thai and B\*rmese neighbors! We ask for creativity, love and unity for all our ministry teams as we work together. We pray the message of Christ's salvation will go out in POWER to soft hearts that are full of faith. We ask that all our hard work and sacrifice will bear fruit in hundreds of people's lives who hear this message for the first time. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen!"

*"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." Ephesians 5:1-2*

## Friday (23): K & W Restricted

Thank you for the many prayers on behalf of this family as they settle into their new home. Pray for continued culture and language study and that they will be able to interact with the locals with the help of the Holy Spirit. In mid-January, their oldest son will return to Canada for schooling. Please pray for special times together as a family before he leaves. The remaining teenagers are going to a brand new school, not knowing a single person – understandably, that is currently a big challenge for this family! They write, "Early in our time here, the Lord gave us this promise, which we claim again now:

*"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, but with an overwhelming flood...he will pursue his foes into darkness." Nahum 1:7-8a*

## Saturday (24): Jim & Marilou Nightingale Brazil

"Pray for us and the São Paulo Churches as we go through the transition of returning to North America and training the São Paulo leaders by distance. Pray also for Raphael who is in training as the future Camp Director for the Camping Ministry in São Paulo." Please help us pray that God will continue to equip mighty leaders to continue the work in Brazil.

*"The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher." Luke 6:40*

## December 25-31

## Sunday (25): All Prayer & Financial Supporters Worldwide

Merry Christmas! Praise God together with us for sending His precious Son into the world that we might live with Him forever! Thank you and praise God for you, our MB Mission prayer and financial supporters. God has given you a burden for the lost and hurting and He will reward you for your offerings of prayers and finances. As you know, we have many missionaries working in Restricted Access Countries (RAC). Please pray that 2012 will be a safe year for them as they spread His Word in dangerous situations where the story of Christ is not welcome.

*"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*

## Monday (26): Baudouin & Marie-Brigette Nsulunka South Africa

"We thank the Lord for recently giving us an opportunity to attend the Anabaptist Networking in South Africa Conference at Pietermaritzburg. We pray that God will touch the hearts of those who will be baptized to understand the true meaning of that event. We've just completed 40 days of prayer and fasting that God will become real and precious to those baptized. Pray with us."

*"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good." 1 Peter 2:2-3*

## Tuesday (27): S & L

S has reported that he has the final approval papers from the government for the House of Grace (new Training & Media Centre). They look forward to begin using this new tool to impact the least reached in the coming months and years. We praise God for his provision! Please pray for the editing team as they put the finishing touches on the latest batch of programs filmed earlier in the summer. We are asking God to continue to bring in the harvest as a result of the proclamation of the Good News! Please also pray for the 270 men that attended the Men's Conference recently, that the Holy Spirit will bring about transformation in their lives.

*"But if I say, 'I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,' his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot." Jeremiah 20:9*

## Wednesday (28): Otto & Marjorie Ekk Portugal

Otto and Marjorie are now starting MINA (Mobilization in North America). Please pray that the transition will go smoothly as they leave Joe, Mente, Marques, Walter, Alexander, and other leaders behind to serve in five

Portuguese MB churches. Pray that the Ekks' time in North America will go as planned and they will experience safety as they travel to report to the various churches and supporters. Please help us pray for new workers to heed the call to Portugal where more missionaries are needed.

*"With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith." 2 Thessalonians 1:11*

### Thursday (29): John & Evelyn Wiens

Ukraine

"Life without parental love, support, and guidance leads to awful statistics. Children must leave orphanages by age 16 and then fend for themselves. 10% of them commit suicide within one year of leaving the orphanage. 70% of the boys will turn to crime and end up in prisons. 50-60% of the girls will turn to prostitution in order to survive. We invite you to join us in prayer for God's favor with village officials regarding the purchase and lease of facilities to start a Trade Center to help these young people learn a trade and function as contributing members of their society. Praise God for New Hope Church, and the growth God is bringing. Currently, about 90 people meet regularly in 2 services on Sundays."

*"Religion that our Father accepts as pure and faultless: to look after orphans..." James 1:27*

### Friday (30): MB Mission Board

North America

The MB Mission Board of Directors includes four members from the US MB Conference and four members from the Canadian MB Conference. The current Board includes Ike Bergen (Chair), Brent Warkentin (Vice-Chair), Beatrice Pauls, Rick Reimer, Bruce Enns, David Marshall, Bill Loewen, Ruth Schale, and Lowell Stutzman. Please remember each Board member in prayer as they go into the New Year, that their wisdom will come from God Himself. Pray for unity of Spirit amongst themselves and with the MB Mission Lead Team, that they will be an example of what it looks like to live in peace and harmony.

*"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." John 17:22-23*

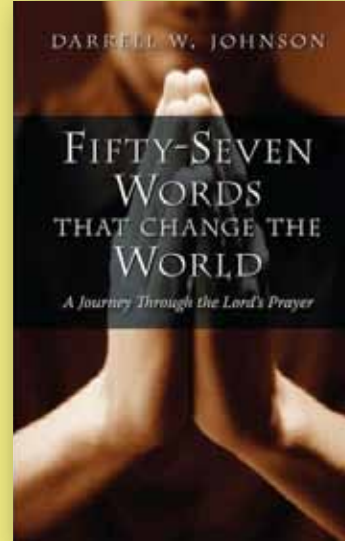
### Saturday (31): MB Mission US Midwest Office

U.S.A.

Pray for "ACTION: Tabor" participants as they prepare for this program designed for Tabor college students to experience a short term mission trip to Colombia Jan. 4-27. Pray for the leaders as they direct and guide this team and that the Tabor students will experience Jesus during this time of service. Pray for the MB Mission office staff in Kansas: Chris Spahr, Stacy Kuhns and Jon Pritchard as they embark on another year of service to the MB churches in the Midwest.

*"Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." 2 Corinthians 9:13*

## Our Christmas Gift to You...



***"When we pray the Lord's Prayer we participate in the transformation of the world."***

Our Christmas gift to you this year is a resource to enrich and enhance your prayer life. We want to strengthen you as you partner with us in praying that least-reached people all over the world would have an opportunity to hear and respond to the Good News of Christ.

Simply contact Ann at our office (toll-free 1-866-964-7627 or email [annz@mbmission.org](mailto:annz@mbmission.org)) and we will send you a free copy of 'Fifty-Seven Words that Change the World: A Journey through the Lord's Prayer,' by Darrell W. Johnson.

If you would like to make a small donation to help resource our prayer team, please refer to project code C0000.

Thank you for your faithful prayers.

Merry Christmas!

Randy Friesen  
General Director

Call the office in your area: 1.888.866.6267 (Regional Office)  
1.866.964.7627 (International Office)  
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