

Do you truly intercede?

How often do you intercede for those in need?

I'm not asking how often do you say the one-liner, "God, help those who don't have food," but can you remember the last time you cried out before the Lord for another?

Maybe this person doesn't have any food to eat, or a house to live in, or maybe they're in and out of foster care, going from family to family but never settling down in one place. This person could be the war veteran whose life has become something he never imagined it would, especially in light of all he gave up so that others could live in safety.

That person could be one of the thousands of persecuted believers, whom you've never met, but lift their name up because you want His glory to be known in the lives of their captors. It could be a close friend or loved one, or someone making His name known in the underground church in Northern Asia.

It's not necessarily important who the person is, just as long as your heart is being formed and molded, and you create the pattern in your own life of coming humbly before God for those around you, near or far. There

"This is the day the Lord has made."

- PSALM 118:24



NATALI WILLIAMS

are many verses found in scripture that talk about the foundational principle of intercession and praying and/or acting on the behalf of others.

Where are you in this? Do you find yourself sitting silently, unable to feel the sadness, loss, or injustice that surrounds that other person? Maybe you're embarrassed that you don't feel anything, or if you do it doesn't really move you to action.

I want to encourage you to ask God for his heart for that individual, beg him to give you a heart of intercessory prayer. He wants us to lift up one another and be that encouragement, so he'll give it to you, I promise.

Here on the edge of the Sahara Desert, there is a young man whose life is heavy on my heart. We'll call him Seth. He is seventeen years old, has lost both his father and mother and is orphaned, and has been living

in the capital city - a three day journey from his home village - for the past five years.

As we say here, his hope has been cut, and his heart is crying. He's such a strong individual, but you can see that he is worn. At seventeen, he has had no formal education, he has no skills to support himself, and his only 'job' is to lead the younger beggars to the prime places around the city and pour himself into his religion. He is so empty, so brokenhearted, and yet he has to survive somehow.

May I cry out for justice in Seth's life, and for him to feel God ever so near and present in his troubles. May I act when the Holy Spirit prompts me to act on his behalf. May I weep for Seth the way God weeps for him.

The point isn't for tears to fall, but for those tears to be genuine and empathetic, full of passion for what God is passionate for.

Who is God laying on your heart to encourage and lift up before the throne?

Natali Williams is a missionary to West Africa through the Assemblies of God. She can be reached via email at bertienews@ncweeklies.com.

Like they treated him...

If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord.

If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

John 15:18-20 (KJV)
Following Jesus, being a disciple of the teachings of Jesus, comes with strong reactions and oppositions from the cultures and societies in which we live.

Jesus Christ is the best thing that has ever happened to everyone that accepts Him as Lord and Savior.

You would think that making this decision would come with applause and great celebration.

Because whenever a person experiences the love of God in Christ Jesus by faith, repenting of sins and turning to a life of obedience to the Word as directed by the indwelling Spirit, eternal life is the result. You would think that everyone would celebrate.

However, Jesus stops our celebration with a strong real-

"This is the day the Lord has made."

- PSALM 118:24



THE REV. DR. GARY CORDON

ity check. He issues a gripping warning to His disciples and to everyone who would become a disciple.

He tells them (and us) that He is hated by those disapproving of His performing miracles of love and speaking Words to restore men back to a righteous relationship with God. He is demonstrating love and they are reacting with hate! They would eventually crucify Him on a cross.

"And they will hate me and do this to me," Jesus says, "and they will do the same to you!"

But I want you to be encouraged by the power of His promise in verse 20....

When we submit to Him as Lord, we should expect to be persecuted because He was persecuted. But we can also expect them to keep and remember our words just as they have kept His words.

Jesus says, "If they have persecuted me, they will also per-

secute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also."

They will treat you like dirt, but keep your words like gold! Now you know that you are doing what He wants you to do because the same thing is happening to you that happened to Him!

Don't just be a convert. Grow into discipleship.

Walk the walk of Jesus. Speak the words of Jesus.

Allow the Holy Spirit to speak through you knowing that their immediate reaction to you is not the lasting result. You will be opposed in school, on your job and through government, but remember that they treated Jesus the same way.

Selah...

Remember that God loves you so much that He gave His Son Jesus to die in our places for our sins.

Accept His love by asking Jesus Christ to live in your heart through faith in His Word. Allow Him to be your LORD and Savior today.

The Rev. Dr. Gary Cordon is Pastor of Victory Temple Church of God in Christ of Windsor. He can be reached via email at pastor@victgic.org or through his website at www.PastorCordon.org.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets which were written on both sides; they were written on one side and the other. The tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.

Exodus 32: 15,16

BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Nahum in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In Acts 7, who recounts the story of Abraham along with the captivity and freedom of the children of Israel? Paul, Peter, Stephen, Andrew
3. Who went to sleep and fell out the window while Paul preached? Esua, Enid, Eutyclus, Eucyrus
4. From II Corinthians 3:17, "Where the spirit of the Lord is, there is ...?" Hope, Liberty, Love, Peace
5. In what Macedonian city were Paul and Silas imprisoned? Philippi, Neapolis, Jericho, Jerusalem
6. To whom was Priscilla married? Atilla, Aquila, Andrew, Alpheus

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Stephen; 3) Eutyclus; 4) Liberty; 5) Philippi; 6) Aquila

Comments? More Trivia? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com

Special Events

Church announcements are published each week in the Bertie Ledger-Advance. The deadline to submit news items for this listing is 10 a.m. each Monday. Submissions may be emailed to twhite@ncweeklies.com.

May 21

Family and Friends Day

WINDSOR - Family and Friends Day will be observed at 11 a.m. Sunday, May 21 at Mt. Arie Apostolic Faith Holiness Church.

The church is located at 1304 Woodard Rd. in Windsor. The Pastor, Bishop James Swain, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Church Anniversary

WINDSOR - The 77th Church Anniversary will be celebrated Sunday, May 21 at St. James Church of Christ (DOC).

Minister Irene Brewster will be the guest speaker during the 11 a.m. worship service, after which lunch will be served.

At 3 p.m., Bishop John Armstrong will preach.

The Pastor, Minister Willie O. Speller, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Choir Anniversary

WINDSOR - The annual Choir Anniversary service is planned for 4 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. John Felton of Zion Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Windsor.

The Pastor, Kennedy L. Barber, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Woman's Day

WINDSOR - The annual Woman's Day service is planned for 3 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at Mt. Ararat Missionary Baptist Church.

The guest speaker will be Candance Whitehurst of First Baptist Church of Kelford. A tribute will be given by Elder Corinne McCloud of St. Paul Church of Ayden.

The Pastor, the Rev. James Collins, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Usher's Anniversary

LEWISTON WOODVILLE - The Ushers Anniversary Celebration is planned for 3 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at Beautiful Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

The guest speaker will be the Rev. Shedon Barnes of Cedar Landing Missionary Baptist Church.

The church is located at 3446 Governor's Rd. in Lewiston Woodville.

The Pastor, Darryl A. Edwards, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Spring Gospel Festival

AHOSKIE - THE GNC Gospel Chorus of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church will hold its Spring Gospel Festival at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at the church.

The program will feature choirs and praise dancers.

The Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Jerryl V. Moody, and congregation invite the public to attend.

May 24-26

Revival Services

WINDSOR - Spring Revival Services will be held May 24-26 at Emmanuel Full Gospel Church.

Services begin at 7 p.m. each night.

The guest speaker will be Bishop Henry McNeill from Winston-Salem. Different choirs will render music each night.

The church is located at 145 Jamestown Rd. in Windsor.

The Pastor, Y-T McNeill, and congregation invite the public to attend.

May 28

Special Service

WINDSOR - A service entitled Godly Women Called to Serve is planned for 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 28 at Beacon Light Baptist Church.

The requested attire is rainbow colors.

The church is located at 792 Grabtown Rd. in Windsor.

The Pastor, the Rev. George Futrell, and congregation invite the public to attend.

Ongoing

Battleground for Success

WINTON - Pastor Keith Urquhart will host a Facebook broadcast from 7-7:30 p.m. each Wednesday.

The educational presentation "Battleground for Success" will be for school-aged students, parents and business-minded people.

Carolina Pine & Hardwood
Buyers of Standing Pine & Hardwood
Sawtimber & Pulpwood

PO Box 607 • 231 US 13 Bypass
Windsor, NC 27983

www.carolinapinehardwood.com

Phone: 252-794-2780 • Mobile: 252-209-5582

BAS
Bertie Ambulance Service

Corporate Office Bertie Co.
606 South King St., Windsor, NC 27983
252-794-9141 or Toll Free 877-757-1121

Bringing You The News

Until the cows come home

Bertie Ledger-Advance
Subscribe Today!
Call 252-794-3185 to find out how.