



A Personal Word

From Assemblies of God U.S. Missions Executive Director Malcolm Burleigh

Dear Friend,

Your U.S. Missions family is rejoicing in Jesus' Resurrection with you!

This Easter, we want to enhance your spiritual walk with the Holy Week devotions included in this booklet:

- · A prayer request for each day and
- An encouraging testimony of how the Lord is using your investment in U.S. Missions to change lives and offer hope.

We selected each story to focus your attention on God's miraculous power to transform. Please rejoice with us and praise His name each day!

As you read each devotional, consider how the resurrection of Jesus has brought healing and new life to souls in need as you share the good news together with U.S. Missions.

Thank you, and may God bless you with an Easter season touched by His love.

Malcolm Burleigh



Palm Sunday

Pray for: Boldness from the Holy Spirit

As a homeschooler, Mattie wanted nothing to do with public school. However, she needed a driver's education class before getting her driver's permit. She enrolled in the class at a local high school, then felt God wanted her there for more than that.

She approached the school's principal about starting a prayer table. When her idea was approved 48 hours later, Mattie began ministering to students and teachers.

She enrolled in the school part-time to continue her ministry, and then contacted U.S. missionary with Youth Alive Billy Willis about training her to launch a Youth Alive club. At the first club meeting, 25 students attended and seven accepted Christ.

"We hear reports of churches that go a whole year without reporting a single salvation. These teenagers are doing incredible works for God," says Billy.



Monday in Holy Week

Pray for: Deliverance and anointing

Seth entered the Neosho Missouri Adult & Teen Challenge (ATC) center in May 2011. He began pacing immediately upon arrival, clearly not sober. "I can't do this. I need my bus ticket. I want to go home right now," he told the office.

An EF5 multiple-vortex tornado had struck 20 miles away, and all public transportation was canceled. Seth had no choice but to wait until the storm passed and, in the end, he stayed for the entirety of the program, graduating a year later, and then started working at the center with U.S. missionary Jim Lowans.

Now, Seth helps at the ATC women and children's center in Columbia, Missouri, as "the man of the house" on top of working extensively with Global Teen Challenge and traveling the world.



Tuesday in Holy Week

Pray for: Victory and wholeness

U.S. missionaries with U.S. Specialized Tim and Marcia Jones regularly get to see God changing the lives of hurting kids and family members.

At a church camp for kids, a boy in attendance was staying with the host pastor and his family because of recent turmoil in his own family.

The theme of the event was finding our identity in Christ and how God can free us from feelings of worthlessness and brokenness. After just one evening this boy said, "I'm ready to surrender my life to Jesus! I don't have to be broken anymore, and I don't have to feel like I'm worthless. I know I'm not the cause of anything that's happened between my parents."



Wednesday in Holy Week

Pray for: Steadfast hope

U.S. missionary chaplain Kevin Kappler had just finished speaking at a church when a man approached him. Kevin, whose primary ministry focuses on law enforcement officers, had spoken about the unseen struggles that officers face daily.

The man who approached him revealed, "I am a police officer. We have had five homicides in the past few weeks, and I cannot stop thinking about it. I cannot handle it all." In that moment, Kevin shared the gospel and plan of salvation with the officer, who accepted Christ on the spot.

Kevin reassured him, "You are not meant to deal with these things alone. That is what Jesus is for."



Maundy Thursday

Pray for: Firm rooting in Jesus

Many people who come to Christ have little or no spiritual foundation. Therefore, U.S. missionary with Church Mobilization Terry Fred intentionally makes discipleship a top priority of his ministry. He works to train up first-generation Christians to be taught basic biblical truths and the fundamentals of walking out their faith.

"Our vision is to be a center for change in our community," Terry says. "The body of Christ is what brings real cultural change and renewal. And our main weapon is prayer."

One young man had spent his childhood in poverty and homelessness. Through the ministry and discipleship of Terry Fred, he committed his life to Christ. Today he and his wife own a business and are active in reaching the inner city.



Good Friday

Pray for:

Deliverance and victory over despair

Aubrey had plans to be a happy wife and mother. Her dreams were crushed when her new husband began abusing her. When this marriage ended, Aubrey found love again and married another man who seemed to genuinely care for her.

Not only did her second husband abuse her, he also trafficked her.

Through a series of miracles, she connected with Kendra from Lavished Ministries, a U.S. Missions ministry to abused women.

"Kendra introduced me to trauma counseling and connected me with resources to help me begin unraveling the tangled web of my life," Aubrey remembers.

Today she is following Jesus, healing from the wounds of the past, and has dedicated herself to helping others escape the cycle of abuse.



Holy Saturday

Pray for: Revival and infilling of the Holy Spirit

"Recently we had a powerful move of the Holy Spirit," said U.S. missionary with Intercultural Ministries Martha Garcia-Lesperance and her husband, Michael, who minister to immigrants and hard-to-reach people groups.

"As the Sunday morning worship service began, many who were saved but not yet Spirit-filled began to receive Him," says Martha. "Altars filled and many fell to the floor, speaking in tongues."

The service was so powerful that Martha and Michael held another service the same evening. Word spread and more people came.

Sunday evening, Martha and Michael received a call from a local drug treatment center, questioning what had happened in the service as all the men who had been there "were glowing, and the glow stayed on them through the day and into the evening."



Easter Sunday

Pray for: Jesus to be known and exalted

"I could never convert. If I did, my family would kill me."

Aleena (name changed) was a devout Muslim girl from a closed country who came to the U.S. for college. In her freshman year, she attended a Chi Alpha event. There she experienced a miraculous healing.

"She knew it was Jesus who healed her," says the local Chi Alpha missionary.

Aleena continued to attend Chi Alpha. Following a retreat, she began to have dreams and visions of Jesus. That summer, she made the decision to abandon Islam and accept Christ's salvation.

"If she had stayed in her country, she likely never would have learned of salvation," the missionary says. "Now that she is here in the U.S., she has been confronted with the God of the universe who loves her."



