

A close-up photograph of a child's hands holding a small, green, textured object (possibly a piece of wood or a small animal) in a body of water. The child's hands are wet and the water is rippling around them. The background is a blurred, dark, textured surface.

# Steadfast

TWR CANADA PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR  
SEPTEMBER 3 - NOVEMBER 4, 2023



# STEADFAST IN HOLDING FAST

*“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.”*  
(Hebrews 10:23)

While looking at the idea of steadfastness, let’s consider two things: 1. the circumstances we are remaining steadfast through, and 2. the reason for remaining steadfast.

Before digging into those two points, let’s look at what exactly this verse instructs us to do. This verse calls us to *“hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering”* but what is the confession of our hope? The whole book of Hebrews (including the verses just before the verse we’re looking at today) talks about how Jesus is our priest and sacrifice who gives us access to God. The confession of hope we are called to hold fast to is that Jesus Christ died to save

us, rose from the dead, and has gone to prepare an eternal home for us. Our confession of hope is that Jesus Christ saves! We may come up against circumstances of outward criticism, inward doubt, or even intense trials, but let us remain steadfast in holding fast to the confession of our hope.

The reason we can hold our ground and hold onto this confession is because God is faithful. He promised that through Christ we will be saved and have life everlasting, and he is a faithful God. He will not break his promise to his children, therefore, let us be steadfast in holding fast to the confession of our hope.

## Persian Ministry

For more than 40 years, we have been reaching the Persian-speaking world with the hope of the gospel. Through web radio, social media, training conferences and more, we continue to see believers strengthened in their faith and new disciples being made.

### September

3. Many Persian-speaking believers live fearfully and are isolated from other believers. Pray that these believers would be encouraged as they attend training conferences and listen to the web radio station.
4. Conferences, in addition to providing fellowship, provide a time for baptisms. Pray for those who are baptized and those who witness the baptisms.
5. Praise God social media has been reaching younger generations who are seeking a new perspective on life!
6. Pray for the ongoing development of youth and short programs and for those who will listen to these programs.
7. Praise God for the enthusiasm of two young men who, through our Persian ministry, are being trained in evangelizing the message of salvation to the Persian-speaking world!
8. Pray for our Persian ministry leader Tony, as he connects with and encourages Persian believers.
9. Pray for those across the Persian-speaking world who receive resources such as SD cards, Bibles and other resources. Pray that they would grow in faith.




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# STEADFAST IN SUFFERING

*"Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You also have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful."  
(James 5:11)*

When we consider the idea of suffering, we don't typically feel blessed. We also might not be feeling like God's compassion and mercy are the primary attributes being displayed.

In the case of Job, he was facing suffering from Satan with the permission of God (Job 1:6-2:10). Job's suffering was intense and he didn't have the same clarity of his circumstances as we the readers do, yet he remained steadfast. He refused to curse God but asserted that God had every right to give and to take away (Job 1:21) and he blessed the Lord. Job suffered greatly, but even when expressing his confusion and anguish over his circumstances, he never resorted to cursing God.

Like Job, we are called to remain steadfast through suffering. That means remaining steadfast in our confidence in God's character. Trust that God is good and just, trust that he works all things out for good, trust that he will not abandon his children, and trust that his ways are greater than our own.

And why can we trust him? Because he really and truly is compassionate and merciful. In this world, we will have troubles and suffering, but God is greater than this world! Whether our suffering is the consequence of our own sin or a result of living in a world that is broken, God will again show mercy. His compassion is warm towards his children. We can remain steadfast through trials because his mercy has saved us and will not leave us.

## Ministry in Asia

Across Asia, the message of hope is being shared through radio broadcasts and follow-up ministries. God is changing lives!

10. Pray that Sri Lankan listeners of *God's Unique Book* would have the opportunity to listen every week. Pray that new listeners, many being of Buddhist background, are comforted and encouraged by the love of Christ.
11. Pray the good news of Christ reaches those searching for hope in Pakistan through programs such as *The Prophet* and *The Way of Righteousness*.
12. Pray for those across Japan who will hear the truth of Jesus through the SON-Lift project, which shares stories from the Gospels in audio programs.
13. Please pray that SOTA students across China will effectively implement what they are learning from fellowships and their studies into their ministries. Pray that what they learn would assist them in leading and discipling.
14. Through our partnership with Media Impact International and their India Follow-up Centre, we are speaking hope to those in India who engage with our ministry partners on social media. Praise God we have already distributed over 150,000 digital Bibles and other Christian materials!
15. Praise God for multiplying his kingdom through over 8,700 small groups using Discipleship Essentials in the Philippines!
16. Pray for TWR Motion's ongoing video production to create a series of animated videos to share the gospel with Thai Buddhists.




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# STEADFAST IN DOING GOOD

*“The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:56-58)*

Just before this passage, we read that when the trumpet sounds Christ will return, and the dead will be raised to new life. On that day all will be new. On that day death will lose its sting, for ultimate victory belongs to Christ. On that day we will see that the eternal glory of Christ and his kingdom were well worth the wait. On that day, when we hear voices from every nation, tribe, and language singing God’s praise, we will know that our work was not in vain.

Looking ahead to that day may leave our hearts longing. Longing for the day when the race is complete and our work in this fallen world will finally be done. But we must not be discouraged! It is in this time of waiting and longing that

we are called to be *“steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.”* We are not, however, given this command without good reason. There are at least two reasons in these verses to be steadfast in doing the work of the Lord.

First, in verse 57 we are told that God gives us victory through Christ Jesus. Jesus’ victory over sin and death is counted as our own so we can be confident that joyous day will come. Second, we are told to be steadfast because in the Lord our labour is not in vain. Our short lives matter and God intends to use us for his glory and for the expanding of his kingdom. Let us be steadfast in working for the Lord, knowing that he has the victory, and our work is not in vain.

## Women’s Ministry

TWR Canada’s ministry to women includes TWR Women of Hope, which equips women around the world to understand the Word of God, grow in faith and discover the hope of Jesus.

- 17. Pray for the broadcasts of *Women of Hope* in French in West Africa and Bambara in Mali. Pray that the women who listen would learn of the God who loves them.
- 18. Praise God for the many prayer partners across Canada and around the world who faithfully pray for the TWR Women of Hope ministry each day.
- 19. Pray for Susie Pek, TWR Women of Hope global director, as she leads and guides the ministry.
- 20. Pray for Jeanne, TWR Women of Hope coordinator in Mali, as she writes and records radio scripts, as well as plans for and speaks at churches and conferences in her own and surrounding countries.
- 21. TWR Canada missionary Jonathan Griffiths is a consultant with TWR Women of Hope. Pray for him and the global leadership team as they strategize.
- 22. Around the world, TWR Women of Hope has women who oversee the various country teams in their regions. Pray for Miia, Inja, Sphiwe and Yicell in their roles as regional coordinators.
- 23. Pray for the TWR Canada women’s ministry team to see and carry out new opportunities for sharing the hope of Jesus with women across our country and around the world.




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## STEADFAST FOR THE PRIZE

*“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.” (James 1:12)*

Remain steadfast in trials. Easier said than done! Jesus guarantees that in this world we will have troubles (John 16:33) and we can very clearly see the evidence of that statement when we look at the world, the news, and even our personal lives. Jesus also says in this verse in John that he has overcome the world and we can take great comfort in that.

Even so, our trials weigh heavily on us and the temptation to give up is strong. In times of trials, we can either be driven closer to God or further from him. In the fear and the pain and the heaviness of it all we might be tempted to shake our fists at God in anger or forsake him entirely, wondering how he can call himself good while allowing our circumstances.

Still, we are called to be steadfast. Throughout Scripture there are many reasons as to why steadfastness in trials makes a person blessed, but in this passage specifically, James points to the crown of life, the prize which God has promised to those who love him. This isn't some superficial or materialistic reward to hope for but is the promised reward of the gospel. Those who trust in Jesus – who endured the greatest trial on our behalf – will receive the prize, the crown of life that God has promised.

Let us be steadfast in trials, spurred on by the joyful hope of the prize that Christ has won for us!

### Ministry to Children

Our ministry to children includes *Bible Stories Alive*, a series of stories chronicling the lives of people in the Bible, such as Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, in a way that brings the stories to life and makes the listener feel like they are there.

24. Praise God for the infrastructure to share *Bible Stories Alive*, including on four FM stations in Kenya, on TWR360, and on the Speak Hope and Bible Stories Alive Android and iOS apps.

25. Pray for Dr. Griffiths and his team at Bible Stories Alive as they edit the English stories for translation into other languages. Praise God for Dr. Griffiths' faithful life of ministry as he celebrates his 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday today!



26. The Spanish and Arabic stories are recorded in the studio in our London office. Pray for the production teams, including TWR Canada missionary Jeremy Mullin, as they produce the stories.

27. Pray for the distribution of the Mandarin stories on tablets and online through TWR Canada's China ministry. Pray that the children and families who read and listen to these stories would grow in their faith together.

28. Please pray for the translation and production of the *Bible Stories Alive* programs in Arabic, Spanish, Persian, Swahili, Somali, Hindi, Gujarati, and Mandarin.

29. Across Cambodia, children listen to the *Bible Stories Alive* programs in groups. Praise God for the growth in faith in these children and their families.

30. Please pray that God would instill in children all over the world a curiosity to know God and develop a strong foundation rooted in his truth and goodness.

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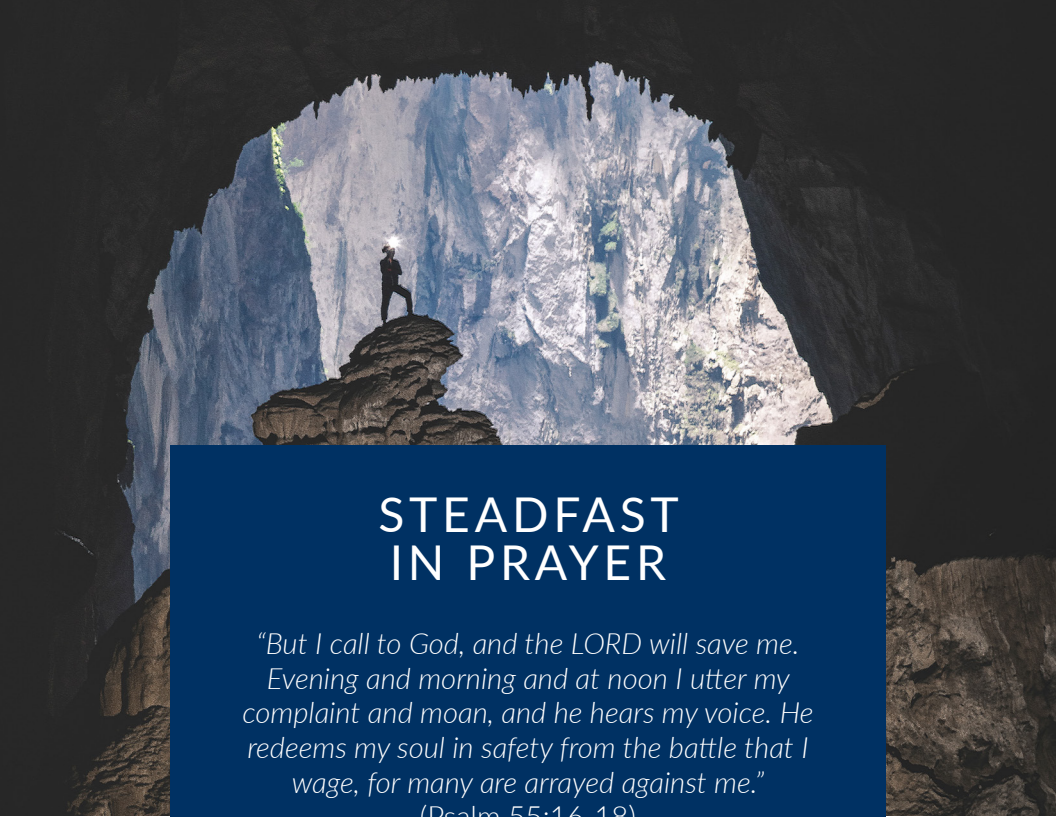
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## STEADFAST IN PRAYER

*“But I call to God, and the LORD will save me. Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice. He redeems my soul in safety from the battle that I wage, for many are arrayed against me.”*  
(Psalm 55:16-18)

Morning, evening, and at noon. At each of these times of day, the psalmist says he calls out to God and utters his complaints, and at each of these moments of calling out the psalmist is convinced that God hears. What a beautiful confidence this is! Our calls, complaints, moaning, and prayers do not go unheard. Equally beautiful is the fact that we can take any type of prayer to God. Yes, we can and should bring to him the praise and thanksgiving that is due to him, but we can also come to him with

our questions, frustrations, sadness, and complaints.

If psalms like this can offer us any kind of encouragement, let it be to remain steadfast in prayer and in calling out to God because he really does hear and care. In the morning, evening, and afternoon, when you can't quite make out the answer, when you feel that you have enemies all around, cry out to God because he is the God who hears you, saves you, and redeems your soul.

### Missionaries

Our missionaries serve in a variety of countries, including here in Canada! Using their God-given skills and passion, they are the on-the-ground workers in the field.

### October

1. Pray that God would stir up new missionaries from Canada to go out and support the work of TWR around the world.
2. Pray for Greg and Ingrid Clarke in their roles as station manager and finance manager at the Eswatini transmitter site.
3. Pray for McDaniel Phillips in his role as global ambassador for Discipleship Essentials, mentoring and encouraging partners.
4. Steve Shantz leads TWR's global digital media ministry. Pray for him as he works with teams around the world to build and enhance their digital outreach.
5. Pray for Stephen and Teresa Murray in South Africa in their second year on the field, as they continue to build relationships with their coworkers and community.
6. Pray for the Dunlop family in South Africa. Nathan is working on several audio and video production projects for TWR globally, and Megan continues her role of social and relational facilitator in the office. Praise God their three children are so actively involved in church activities!
7. Pray for Carol Hawkins as she works in the London office calling donors to thank them and pray with them.




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# STEADFAST IN REJOICING

*“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.”*  
(Philippians 4:4)

Over and over again in Paul’s letter to the Philippians, we are called to rejoice. In all circumstances, we are called to give thanks to our good God. In all circumstances, the joy of the Lord is our strength.

This week, we have an added reminder and encouragement to rejoice in the Lord and to give thanks. This special occasion, however, does not in itself make rejoicing and thanksgiving easy. Maybe you are in a very joyful season or maybe you are feeling deep inner pain. Maybe you are surrounded by friends and family or maybe you feel terribly alone. Maybe you are feeling blessed with health and strength or maybe your body is worn down with sickness.

In any and all circumstances, we are called to rejoice in

the Lord and give thanks. But why? Why should we remain steadfast in this way even when we are suffering? And how? How can we find this joy and how can we give thanks? We can always rejoice in the Lord, and we can always give thanks to him because no matter how drastically or painfully our circumstances may change, our God does not change. He is always good and kind and gracious. He is always our Healer and Saviour. His joy is always our strength. He gifts us with joy, disciplines us in love, sustains us through suffering, and will someday bring us home.

Let us remain steadfast in giving thanks and in rejoicing in every circumstance because God is and always will be good.

## Technology

From radio transmitters to media players to SD cards to apps, technology plays a crucial role in distributing programming and resources for evangelism and discipleship, in the ways best suited for the recipient.

8. Pray for the safety and health of all those around the world who maintain transmitter sites. They keep the technology working so that the gospel can be heard.
9. Happy Thanksgiving! Praise God for the technology of radio transmitters, media players, SD cards and apps, all of which allow us to share the hope of the gospel with the world.
10. In partnership with ShareWord Global and Thru the Bible, we are distributing 1,000 media players across Chile and Peru in 2023. Pray that these media players would help pastors grow in their understanding of God’s Word and shepherd their churches well.
11. Praise God for media player distributions happening in partnership across Mongolia, India and Kenya this year. Pray for those receiving a media player.
12. Pray for smooth operations for those who work at radio stations and in offices with the equipment used to broadcast hope.
13. Praise God for providing technology that allows us to safely and securely share programming in areas of the world where it is unsafe to be a Christian.
14. As we work with different partners, including missionaries sent out from Canadian churches, pray for wisdom in knowing what technology is best for reaching the group receiving the content.




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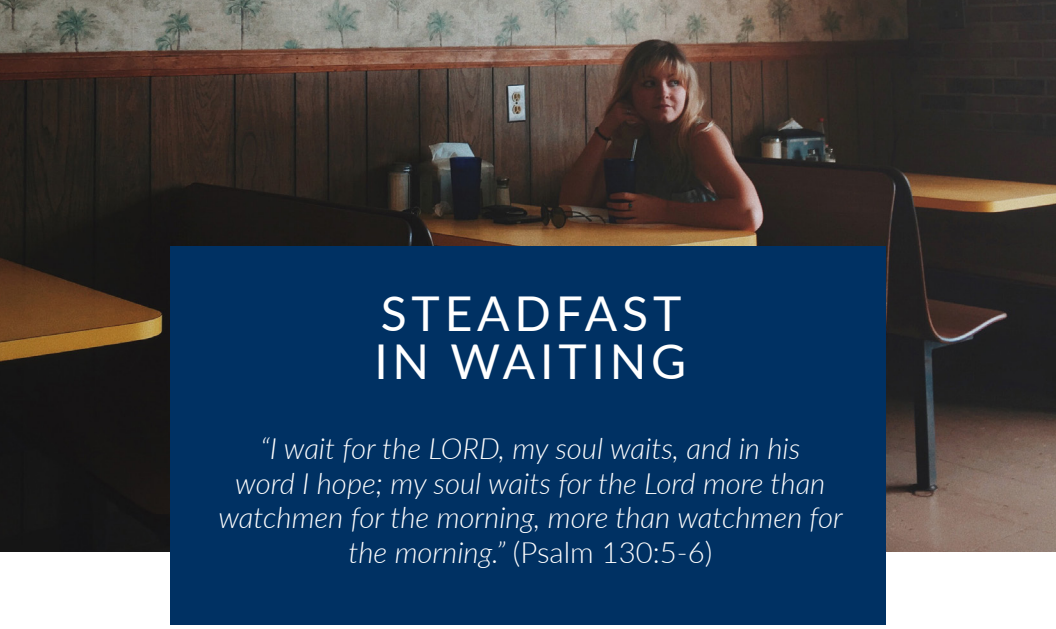


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## STEADFAST IN WAITING

*“I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.” (Psalm 130:5-6)*

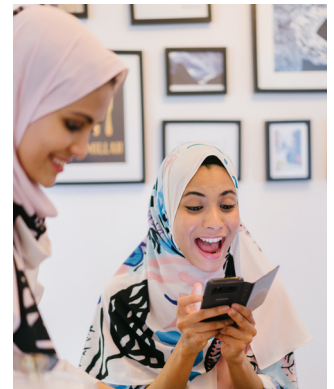
As much as we may be disappointed to hear it, the Lord’s timing and the timeline that we create for ourselves are not always aligned. We have all been, in one way or another, required to wait. Perhaps it is for something small like waiting in traffic, in line or for your food to arrive at your table, or for something bigger like waiting to hear back from a big work interview, for news from a doctor, for a positive pregnancy test or for a loved one to come to know the Lord. We can create five, ten, or fifteen-year plans for our lives, we can climb corporate ladders, jump through hoops, and try to find shortcuts, but we can’t make tomorrow come sooner and we can’t change or rush the Lord’s timing or plans.

Whatever we are waiting for and no matter how long the wait, we are called to be steadfast in waiting for the LORD. The night, or the season of waiting, may seem to stretch on for longer than we can bear, but the morning will come! The answers we are waiting for may not be the answers we need or the answers we get, but the Lord is not slow as we count slowness (2 Pet. 3:9) and he will provide. He knows what we need long before we do, and his timing is never off. Let us be steadfast in waiting for the Lord because the long night will end. Wait for the LORD and hope in his Word. Let your soul be still and trust that he is a good God.

### Digital Ministry

Our digital ministry allows anyone, anywhere, at any time to gain access to a wide range of resources in their heart language.

- 15. With digital technology, we have the opportunity to reach people at any time all around the world. Pray that those who discover resources online would come to know God.
- 16. Our new Software Support Specialist, Cecil Baby, recently joined the TWR Canada team! Pray for Cecil as he learns his new role and begins working with partners in our digital ministry.
- 17. We are working with TWR Belarus to expand their digital ministry through an app and studio equipment. Please pray that the expanded digital ministry would effectively reach the nation with the hope of the gospel.
- 18. Many TWR radio stations around the world also stream their broadcasts online. Pray for those listening in this way from all around the globe.
- 19. Across the Persian-speaking world, people hear God’s Word preached on our web radio station. Pray that their faith would be deepened.
- 20. Pray for those accessing content on TWR Canada’s Android and iOS apps, including the Speak Hope and Discipleship Essentials apps. Pray that these apps would be a beneficial resource to many around the world as they grow in their faith.
- 21. We are working with several partners to create Android and iOS apps for their ministries. Pray for the development process and that those who access the content will grow in faith.




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## STEADFAST IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

*“Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live, but he who pursues evil will die. Those of crooked heart are an abomination to the LORD, but those of blameless ways are his delight.”*  
(Proverbs 11:19-20)

Be steadfast in righteousness. Sometimes the wicked really do seem to prosper but we are called to be steadfast in righteousness. For most of us, we can very clearly see the ways in which we have pursued evil. When we are alone with accusing thoughts, we see the crookedness of our sinful hearts. We are not blameless and we have not always been steadfast in righteousness.

But this isn't the end of the line for us. Christ Jesus our Lord is always steadfast in righteousness. He is blameless. He lived blamelessly and died in our place. He rose again to

life and sent the Spirit to help us. Where we have failed, he is victorious and by his Spirit we can grow in righteousness. He will give us the strength to be steadfast. In him and in his righteousness we will live. Because he is steadfast in righteousness we are not doomed to die. We can be steadfast because he is steadfast and he dwells with us.

Knowing what Christ has done for us, and having the Spirit as our Helper, let us remain steadfast in righteousness, knowing that in Christ we will live.

### Canada

TWR Canada provides resources for the Canadian Church, as well as tools to help share the hope of Jesus in the heart languages of our neighbours.

- 22. Praise God we have completed the filming of CultureCross, a resource designed to help Canadians share the gospel with those of a different culture. Please pray for the post-production process and for distribution plans.



- 23. Pray for Robert Barbeau as he grows the ministry of Every Man a Warrior in Canada. Pray that, through EMAW, Canadian men will be equipped into faithful warriors and multiply God's Church.
- 24. Pray for the team at Aujourd'hui l'Espoir in Quebec to be equipped to effectively share the gospel.
- 25. Pray for the CRTC application process for the four new FM antennas in Quebec. Pray that the applications would be quickly approved so that more people across the province could hear the hope of the gospel across the airwaves.
- 26. Pray for the Hope Line volunteers in Quebec to have meaningful discussions with callers and provide answers and encouragement to those in turmoil.
- 27. At the request of and in partnership with Indigenous leaders, we are exploring projects to share the gospel and disciple Indigenous peoples across Canada. Please pray for the relationships and developments involved in these initiatives.
- 28. TWR Canada provides media players for believers to use as an evangelism tool in reaching new Canadians with the gospel. Pray for those who will receive a player in their heart language.



## STEADFAST IN LOVE

*“So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13:13)*

Faith, hope and love. We are called to remain steadfast in all three. Steadfast in faith when doubts and trials come. Steadfast in hope during dark seasons when it seems that our joy will never return. Steadfast in love for God and our neighbours when relationships get rocky and when our hearts threaten to go cold. All three of these things are challenging and all three are to abide in us, but the greatest of these is love.

Sometimes our faith feels weak, our hope feels unstable, and love feels like more effort and pain than it is worth, but we are called to be steadfast. The Holy Spirit is our Helper to strengthen our faith, give assurance to our hope, and

warm the fires of our love. For as long as we are living, we are to abide in these three things but ultimately, love will outlive faith and hope. One day we will see our Saviour and King face-to-face, and our faith will be turned to sight. One day we will have all that we need and have hoped for when we come to our eternal home. Faith and hope are for this lifetime, while we wait, but love—perfect, unending, eternal, and steadfast love—will endure. Our love for God will be made perfect and his love for us will be fully realized.

While we wait for that day, let us continue in faith, hope, and love, calling on the Spirit to abide with us and to help us be steadfast.

## Europe & CAMENA

While Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa are diverse in culture and language, one commonality is the need to hear the gospel. Radio programming, training conferences and missionaries are all part of our ministry in this region of the world.

29. Pray that our teams in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus can continue speaking hope through media during this time of war and hardship.
30. Pray for TWR Ukraine’s production of the project *How Are You, Out There?*. As the team conducts interviews across the country, pray for God’s love to unite and rebuild communities.
31. Praise God for the training of Serbian children’s group leaders which happened last month. Pray that the newly produced biblical songs and videos for children would be an effective tool for those ministering to children and their families.

## November

1. Across the Middle East and North Africa, our partner, Together Network, trains believers to lead small groups and disciple others using Discipleship Essentials. Pray for those who have received this training and are discipling believers across the region.
2. Pray for those listening to *Voice of Truth* in Prilep, North Macedonia. Praise God for the way he uses this program and the faithful ministry of pastor Edijan to speak hope to the Roma people.
3. As we work with several TWR partners across Europe and CAMENA to create Android and iOS apps, please pray that the development process would be smooth and that these apps would assist believers as they grow in faith.
4. Pray for safe radio distribution in Central Asia. Pray also that these radios would be an encouragement to those living in rural areas far from a Christian community.







## About Us:

Using media, we partner with churches around the world to share the message of salvation among the nations.



**Media  
Content**



**Training  
Believers**



**Digital  
& Media  
Technology**



**Missionaries  
and  
Mobilization**

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