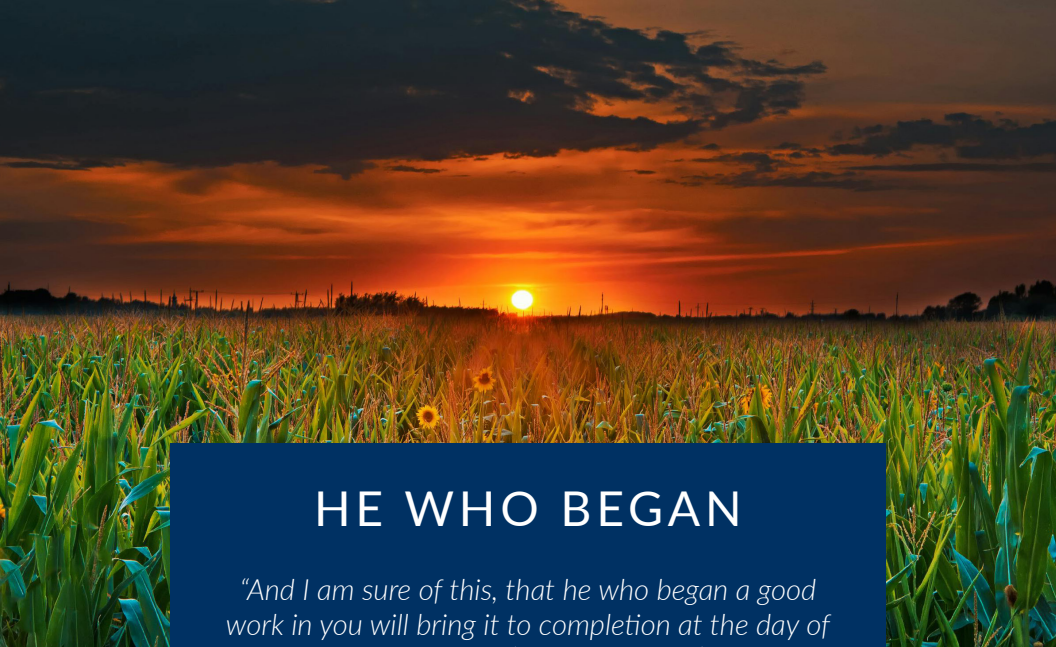


A photograph of a woman in a yellow shirt reaching for fruit in an orchard. In the foreground, another person's hand is holding a wicker basket filled with fruit, lined with a red and white checkered cloth. The background is filled with green leaves and red fruit.

Growing in Faith

TWR CANADA PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR
SEPTEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 2, 2024



HE WHO BEGAN

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:6)

With great joy and gratitude, Paul opens his letter to the Philippians recognizing that God had begun a good work in them. Seeing their unity, love, and faith during his time of suffering, Paul encourages them in these things.

For us, too, it is important to recognize that genuine faith and spiritual growth come first and foremost from the God who began a good work in us. The very same God will also complete that work through the Holy Spirit at work in us! Our growth is not primarily about us and our change but about what God has done, is doing and will do. The God who saved us will not abandon us but will stay with us and work

in us, making us more and more like him. Jesus Christ has saved us once and for all. In him, all our sins are forgiven and cast away!

But we are not left in the same state in which we were first saved. We were made into new creations when we first believed in Christ, and now by his Spirit, we are also made to look and live as new creations! When Christ returns to bring us home, we will be blameless before him, not because of our own efforts but because he who began a good work in us will also bring it to completion! Praise be to God!

Radio Broadcasting

Radio broadcasting allows listeners from hard-to-reach places to urban centres and everywhere in between to access the gospel. From FM stations in countries like Burundi to high-powered radio from Bonaire, Eswatini and more, radio broadcasting shares the hope of the gospel around the world.



September

1. Across Sri Lanka, *God’s Unique Book* introduces Buddhists to the truth of God’s Word. Pray that hearts across the country are open to receiving the good news of Jesus.
2. In Kenya, *Bible Stories Alive* is aired in Swahili on four FM stations across the country, one of which reaches into Ethiopia as well. Praise God for the enthusiasm of the children who listen!
3. Pray for plans for five new FM antennas in Quebec, which will expand the reach of Radio Espoir.
4. In Côte d’Ivoire and Mali, *Women of Hope* is broadcast in the French and Bambara languages. Pray that the women who listen feel valued and supported and that they will share Christ within their communities.
5. The Discipleship Essentials radio program is aired across Latin America and West Africa on medium-wave transmitters and local FM stations. Pray that listeners will deepen their faith and understanding of God’s Word.
6. Pray that, through *Tools for Wise Leadership*, leaders in South Sudan will be equipped with biblical leadership principles to ultimately become a better, more peaceful, and prosperous nation.
7. Praise God the Burundian programs *Good News for All* and *Jesus is the Answer* continue to be well-loved across the country!



THAT YOUR LOVE MAY ABOUND

*“And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”
(Philippians 1:9-11)*

The love of the Philippians was evident to Paul during his imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel (Phil. 1:7). Love clearly was not lacking in the Philippians but there is always space for more! Paul’s prayer was that their love would “abound more and more.”

This prayer for love was not a merely sentimental or warm and fuzzy love but a sincere and transformative love for one another and for God’s ways. This type of love inspires a desire for what is excellent and results in loving action and obedience to Christ. It is both a feeling and an action, which

cannot be separated from one another. We were not made to be emotionless robots who simply carry out a task. Nor were we made for a shallow or inactive love. Rather, when real, sincere love abounds in us, we are compelled by love for God, for our neighbours, and for goodness to then know what is good and right, to desire what is good and right, and to do what is good and right. Let us pray with Paul that our love would abound more and more so that with knowledge and discernment we will be driven to active love for Christ and others and that the fruit of righteousness will be produced in us!

Latin America and the Caribbean

Broadcast from the island of Bonaire, TWR programming can be heard across much of northern Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as from local FM stations. Local teams also share the hope of the gospel through on-the-ground initiatives in their communities.

8. Pray for incoming RTM Cuba leader Moisés. Pray that his youthful vigour will stir the hearts of Cuba to experience the hope of Christ.
9. Please pray for RTM Cuba leader Alberto, who continues to await visa confirmation so he can join his family in the United States and carry out God’s will for him there after years of faithful service with RTM Cuba.
10. Pray for those listening to our two Cuban programs, *Messages of Faith and Hope* and *Our Home*, broadcast from the TWR transmitter on Bonaire.
11. In Paraguay, the TWR Women of Hope team shares the love of Christ with women in three prisons. Pray that these women find their purpose in Christ.
12. Pray that children listening to *Bible Stories Alive* from local FM stations across Latin America and the Caribbean are excited to engage with the stories of Scripture and grow in their faith.
13. Praise God for the more than 500 media players we have distributed across the region in the last two years. Pray that recipients grow in faith as they listen to the biblical content included on the media players.
14. Praise God for the infrastructure and technology that enables RTM Colombia to spread the hope of the gospel through recording programs in their office and studio space.





WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL

“Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents.” (Philippians 1:27-28a)

In the verses before this, Paul talks about the conflict in his mind between his desire to be with Christ and his duty to serve fellow believers and spread the gospel on the earth. He says that there is no competition; going to be with Jesus is a beautiful and desirable thing, and yet, he knows that for the duration of his life, he is called to honour Christ with his body (Phil.1:20).

Dying for Christ, though filled with hope and the guarantee of a beautiful and joyous welcome, is still a heavy and hard thing. If that is what you are called to, it is a hard calling indeed.

But that does not make living for Christ a lesser or easier calling. Living for Christ, suffering for him, reflecting him, patiently walking through

the mundane, knowing the best is yet to come, and knowing that we have to wait for that, can be very hard. But this is what we are called for. To let our *“manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.”* To live at peace with other believers striving with them and not against them for the sake of the gospel. To be unafraid in the face of opposition.

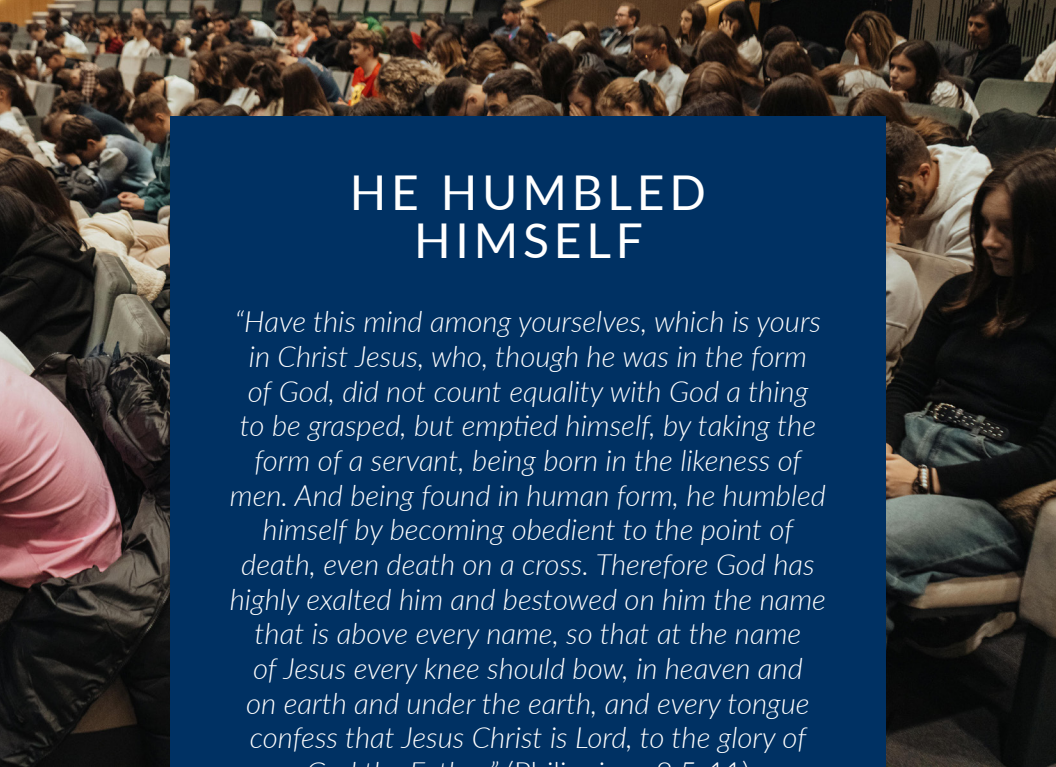
This is hard work, but it is not work done alone. Paul says that *“to live is Christ”* (Phil. 1:21). As long as we are living, we are living in him, through him, and for him. This is a work done with him and alongside other believers, and because of this, it can be a joyful work! Let us strive together for the sake of the gospel with joy even in the hard parts, looking forward to the greater joy to come!

Discipleship Essentials

Discipleship Essentials is available in more than 20 languages and is used by individuals for personal study and in thousands of small groups in Canada and around the world.

- 15. Praise God for providing DE in new languages! Please pray for those using the materials in the Bambara, Peruvian Quechua, Tagalog, Hiligaynon and Albanian languages.
- 16. Pray for those accessing DE online on TWR360, YouTube and the DE Android and iOS apps. Pray that their faith is strengthened as they watch, listen and read.
- 17. Our partner, Together Network, trains believers in the Middle East and North Africa. Pray those who receive training live as dedicated believers and act as role models to the people they serve and encounter.
- 18. Praise God for the more than 28,000 small groups worldwide using Discipleship Essentials to grow in their faith.
- 19. Praise God that the translation of DE in Hausa is complete! Pray for the production team as they complete the audio programs.
- 20. Pray for DE Partnership Development Director Tony and DE Southeast Asia Regional Consultant and Partnership Development Coordinator Elena as they build new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships with groups and denominations who are using DE in their discipleship ministries.
- 21. Pray for the distribution of DE in Indonesian. Praise God for the multiplication efforts of the more than 200 people who received DE training in Indonesia this year.





HE HUMBLLED HIMSELF

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:5-11)

Paul encourages the Philippians to be humble and to put the needs of others ahead of their own (Phil. 2:1-4). This is counterintuitive to us as human beings, so he provides the perfect example: Jesus.

Jesus is God. From all eternity he “was in the form of God.” If anyone has the right to not be humble, it’s Jesus. And yet, he did not cling to or exploit his divinity for selfish gain but appeared in the form of a man and gave himself up for us. He saw our desperate need and considered our needs above his personal comfort. He was

humbled, emptied and killed for our sake so that we would be saved! Greater love has no one than this (Jn. 15:13). This is the example of humility we are called to.

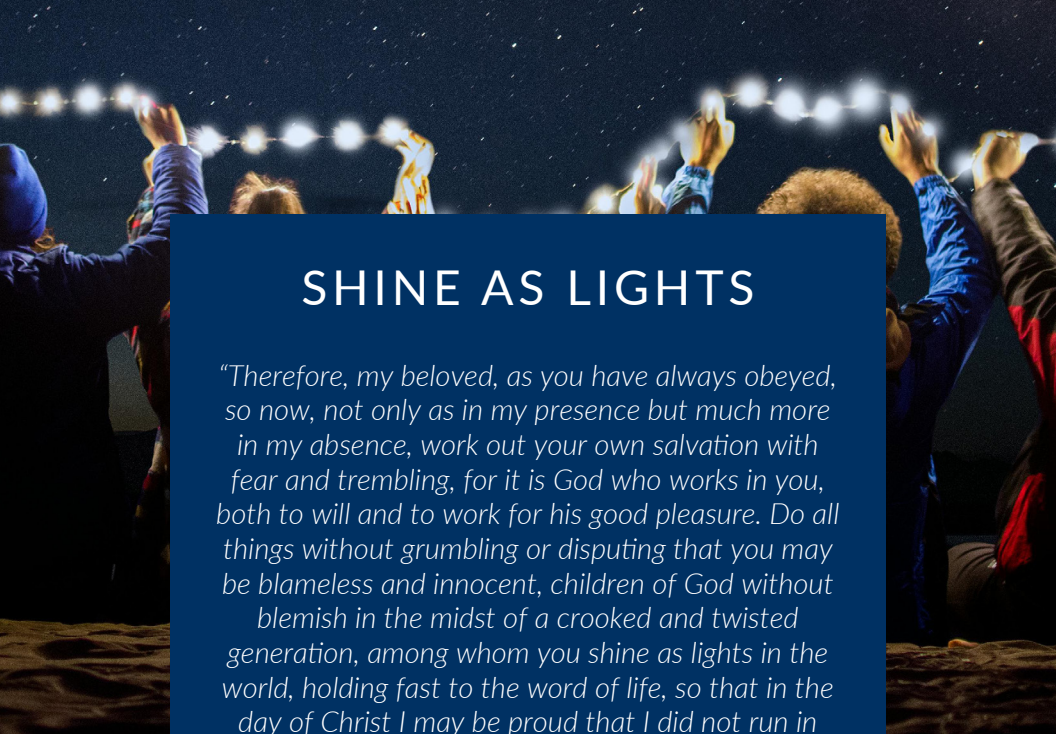
Christ is alive again and he is with us as our helper! He is exalted and worthy to be praised and even now continues to help us. When we are inclined to pride and selfishness, let us remember Christ who was humbled for us. Let us desire and strive to love and consider others in the same way!

Portable Media Devices

Whether listening to content in a group, on a media player or privately from an SD card on their phone, these devices provide biblical teaching directly into the hands of people in their heart language.

- 22. Media players help equip pastors to grow in their faith and build their congregations. After a recent media player distribution in Kenya in partnership with Thru the Bible and ShareWord Global, one pastor shared, “[This media player] has been more than the audio Bible to me; it is a Bible school.” Praise God!
- 23. Praise God for the ways in which portable media devices such as media players, radios, SD cards and USBs provide people with biblical resources in a format that is more effective for them.
- 24. In partnership with Thru the Bible and Norea Media Mission in Denmark, we distributed media players with the New Testament and Thru the Bible sermons in the Amharic, Oromo, Somali and Tigrinya languages in Ethiopia. Pray that the small groups who received a player will grow in their faith.
- 25. Pray for those who receive an SD card at a Persian ministry conference. Pray that the biblical content shared will continue to encourage and equip believers when they return home.
- 26. Praise God for the SD card distribution which took place in Indonesia this year. The feedback from the pastors who received SD cards indicated that the material helps maintain enthusiasm and is applicable in their discipleship ministries.
- 27. In remote parts of Central Asia, media players provide access to biblical content where churches may not exist and pastors may not often visit. Pray for those living in these areas to find Christian community.
- 28. Listener groups and radio home groups around the world use media players to listen to sermons and biblical programming together and then discuss what they have heard. Pray that group members would grow in faith as they meet, listen and discuss.





SHINE AS LIGHTS

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labour in vain.” (Philippians 2:12-16)

In the previous verses, we were presented with a beautiful example of Christ’s humility and exaltation. Here, we are again called to be humble, gracious, patient, kind, like-minded, and to shine as lights in the world.

Paul tells the Philippians to “work out their own salvation.” He is not telling them to save themselves; that has already been done! Paul calls us to do this because “it is God who works in you.” We have the Holy Spirit at work in our hearts, helping us to will (or desire) and to work (or act) for God’s pleasure and glory.

We are called to shine as lights in this world, to live for God and not for ourselves. Matthew 5:16 says, “let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” This encouragement to “do all things without grumbling or disputing” is not simply because it’s the right thing to do, but also because through our active love for others, our good deeds, and our obedience to Christ, others may come to know and give glory to God! Let us, relying on the help of the Holy Spirit, strive to this end, shining as lights in the world!

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.

September

- 29. CultureCross was created for the Canadian church to assist Christians in knowing how to share the gospel with people of other cultures. Pray for the churches and organizations going through the 12-week series this fall.
- 30. Praise God for the ways *La Parole Vivante* opens doors for the gospel to be heard and spread through television across Quebec.

October

- 1. Pray for those in Quebec who call the Hope Line seeking biblical resources and for God to bless the faith-building efforts of the Aujourd’hui l’Espoir team who connects with callers.
- 2. Pray that the applications for five new FM antennas are approved quickly so that more people across the province can hear the hope of the gospel across the airwaves.
- 3. Praise God for the fruit grown and the faith strengthened through Every Man a Warrior Canada! One small group participant shared, “EMAW provides essential teaching about how to mature in faith in the midst of the real problems of life.”
- 4. In partnership with other like-minded organizations, we are exploring projects to share the gospel and disciple Indigenous peoples across Canada. Pray for God’s guidance in having these conversations and developing relationships.
- 5. Praise God for the TWR Women of Hope prayer groups across Canada, which meet regularly to pray for the ministry and women worldwide.





WHATEVER GAIN

“But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—” (Philippians 3:7-9)

Paul just finished listing out all the things that most people of his day would consider to be “gain” or a foot up in right standing with God. But Paul says he considers these things to be loss or rubbish, unable to save. Status, title, good deeds, and every other supposed “gain” we have will never be sufficient to save us. We are called to obedience, yes, but that is not our salvation. Rather than presenting our obedience and good works when we stand before our Judge, we need to be able to point to Jesus and say, “I know him and he knows me.” There is a value in knowing Christ and being known by Christ that far surpasses any earthly gain and goodness.

Matthew Henry says in his commentary on this passage,

“We are undone, without righteousness wherein to appear before God, for we are guilty. There is a righteousness provided for us in Christ, and it is a complete and perfect righteousness. None can have benefit by it, who trust in themselves.” Nothing we bring to the table can save us from ourselves. The righteousness we need comes from Christ alone. By putting our faith not in ourselves and our abilities but in who Christ is and what he has done, we are saved and counted as righteous! Let us put our faith in Christ, humbling ourselves and counting as loss every prideful gain that we would claim. Jesus saves, not us, and this is good news indeed!

Hard Places

Using media and technology, we reach into parts of the world where life is hard. When we respond to those reaching out, we share resources, offer encouragement and connect them with local believers – because life is meant to be lived in community.

6. Pray for wisdom and strength for our partner Media Impact International as they engage with people across India on social media who are seeking after Christ in difficult circumstances.
7. Cuba continues to suffer from inflation and food shortages that affect daily living. Pray that those who seek Christ will experience lasting peace and connection through radio programs and content published online through RTM Cuba.
8. In Colombia, poverty and corruption can highlight spiritual needs. Praise God for RTM Colombia’s new office and studio space which creates and distributes biblical programming so that those who need to hear the hope of the gospel can hear it.
9. Praise God for the TWR Women of Hope conference in West and Central Africa this summer, where ministry leaders were blessed to receive biblical training and encouraged in their spiritual walks.
10. Belarus is the often-forgotten third country caught in the middle of the Russia-Ukraine War. We have partnered with TWR Belarus to provide easy access to their weekly programming through an Android and iOS app. Pray for those accessing the content on the app to find hope in God’s Word.
11. The Christian and Missionary Alliance Church of the Philippines uses Discipleship Essentials and Leadership Essentials to train pastors and church leaders in leading small groups, which builds spiritual community. Praise God for strengthened discipleship across the country!
12. In Côte d’Ivoire and Senegal, economic hardship has many looking for hope in hard circumstances. Pray for listener groups in these communities to experience God’s unity and strength as they listen to media players containing the Discipleship Essentials radio program and *Women of Hope*.





REJOICE IN THE LORD

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:4-6)

Happy Thanksgiving! This holiday gives us an intentional opportunity to consider the idea of thanksgiving and gratitude, and this passage offers a little bit of Paul’s insight into this.

Paul is not naive. He does not tell his readers that there’s nothing to be worried about, no pain, suffering or hardship, and therefore they can give thanks. Instead, he encourages them that the Lord is at hand and because of this, they need not be anxious but can take even the anxiety-inducing things to God in prayer.

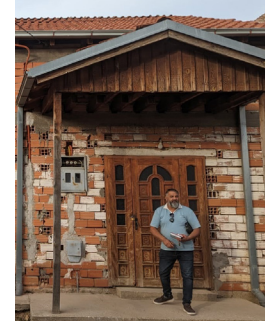
The rejoicing that Paul refers to is not a circumstantial happiness but contentment in the Lord based on trust that he is good, loving and sovereign. The Lord is at hand with each and every one of us, and because of this, we need not

be anxious. This joy found in the Lord is able to replace all our unreasonableness and fear. Because we are confident that he is with us at all times we can give thanks even during our hardships and anxieties.

This is the beauty of our God! He is worthy of our praise when we are on the mountains and when we are in the valleys! Not only on one day a year when we take a closer look at our blessings, not only when our relationships are healthy and our work is fulfilling, not only when everything is going just right, but also in our suffering, our fear, and our sickness. Let us carry this day of thanksgiving into the next week, month, and year, giving thanks and earnestly praying that God will help us in these things and give us hearts of gratitude even when it doesn’t come easy to us.

Hidden Places

Everyone should have access to the gospel, no matter where they are. We share the hope of the gospel with and provide fellowship to those who are isolated due to geography, culture or simply where access to Christianity is limited.



13. The Roma population in North Macedonia is hesitant to enter a church or publicly acknowledge their faith for fear of rejection from family and friends. Pray for peace for believers and praise God for the ways *Voice of Truth* speaks into their lives.
14. As we celebrate Thanksgiving, praise God for the ability to distribute biblical resources and portable devices so that believers who are in hiding or who lack access to such resources can receive what they need to grow closer to God.
15. Through the production of songs and animated videos, we are assisting Serbian Roma church planters and pastors in reaching out with the hope of the gospel to children. Pray for those who engage with this biblical content!
16. Pray that women in West Africa tune into *Women of Hope* and learn of the God who loves them.
17. In partnership with TWR Motion, we are creating a series of videos, artistically tailored to resonate with the values, background and daily life of Thai Buddhists, to share the gospel story. Pray for the team as they connect seekers in Thailand with these biblical resources.
18. Despite there being more than 200 Quechua-speaking churches in Peru, there are no discipleship resources in this heart language. Pray for the translation and production of *Discipleship Essentials* in the Quechua language, which will allow believers to be discipled and disciple others in their heart language.
19. SON-Lift is a series of 60 audio dramas covering stories of Jesus from the gospels, initially developed for the unreached in China. Pray for those across Japan, the second-largest unreached people group in the world, as they hear the truth of Jesus through this initiative.



THINK ABOUT THESE THINGS

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” (Philippians 4:8)

This list can interject into so many different types of thoughts. Are you anxious? Think about what is true. Are you lacking joy? Think about what is excellent and commendable. Are you tempted to sin? Think about what is honourable and pure. Are you hurting? Think about what is lovely. In any and all circumstances, we are called to think about these things. And who or what fits these descriptions better than Jesus Christ and his work on the cross?

When we are anxious, thinking about Jesus reminds us of the truth that is able to anchor our souls and give us steady ground. When we are lacking joy, thinking about Christ and

his completed work reminds us of the joy set before us. When we are tempted to sin, thinking about Jesus reminds us that he died to free us from sin and helps us to follow him instead. When we are hurting, thinking about Jesus provides us with the comfort we can find nowhere else. In any and all circumstances we can fix our minds, eyes, and hearts on him. Wherever you are, whatever your circumstances may be, remember Jesus, who he is, and what he has done. This won't dissolve your problems but bit by bit, over time, it will become easier to return to him, easier to find your footing again, easier to hope and rejoice even in the heavy and painful times. Think about these things. Think about Jesus!

Hostile Places

Where Christians face persecution and religious restrictions, we provide safe and accessible means to hear the gospel, be discipled and grow in faith through technology and discipleship conferences.

- 20. 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.
- 21. Pray for the networks SOTA uses for fellowships and that believers in China would stand firm in the face of hardship and persecution.
- 22. Pray for seekers in South Asia who are keen to know about the Bible. Pray that our signal strength and coverage will reach listeners through radio broadcasts such as *The Way of Righteousness*, which preaches the gospel, provides a biblical education and leads people to salvation.
- 23. Praise God for safely held conferences where believers in the Persian-speaking world can learn, worship and share in fellowship. Some conference attendees mention this is their first time experiencing what a church service feels like.
- 24. Distributed to Chinese families through our China ministry's network, *Bible Stories Alive* shares the stories of the Bible in a you-are-there way with children and families. Pray that these stories will spark curiosity and excitement in the children.
- 25. 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.
- 26. Across the Middle East and North Africa, Together Network equips Muslim-background believers and church leaders to start a discipleship movement using *Discipleship Essentials*. Praise God for the more than 20,200 small groups across the region using *Discipleship Essentials*!





MY GOD WILL SUPPLY

*“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”
(Philippians 4:19)*

Paul was helped and supported by the Philippians in a significant way during his imprisonment and ministry. In response to this, he was confident that as God supplied for him through the Philippians, so he would generously supply them with their needs. The God we have put our faith in is this same God: the God who provides. This can be a hard perspective to have. If we are experiencing loss or lack it is very difficult to see how God will supply. Sometimes we don't have what we want or feel we need, and we must wait and trust God to strengthen us in that waiting. He knows our needs better than we do and can be trusted to care for us in them.

The verse we are focusing on now follows Paul's secret to being content in both lack

and abundance. He has found that Christ is enough for him and that, through him and the strength he provides, we are able to endure. Paul expresses frequently throughout this letter his gratitude to the Philippians for their support and generous provision for him, but he wants them to know that what he needs most of all is not physical provision, but Christ. Whether we feel that we have much or little we can always pray, “Lord, give me more of you. Satisfy me with yourself and help me to trust you when I feel that I am lacking.”

God is kind and gracious, a giver of good gifts. Let us be quick to trust in the God who supplies. He is enough for us and he is worthy of our trust and confidence!

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

- 27. Praise God for 50 years of speaking hope through broadcasting in Eswatini! Pray for God to continue to bless the ministry, including Greg and Ingrid Clarke, TWR Canada missionaries serving in Eswatini.
- 28. Pray for Carol Hawkins as she works in the London office calling donors to thank them and pray with them.
- 29. Praise God for the prayers and support Nathan and Megan Dunlop received from ministry partners and donors during their furlough in Canada!
- 30. Pray for McDaniel Phillips, the global ambassador for Discipleship Essentials, as he promotes the material and mentors leaders who use it.
- 31. Vincent and Trina Collet and their family moved from France to Canada earlier this year and are now involved with editing, translation and administration work in Canada. Pray for Vincent, Trina and their four young children, one of whom just started school for the first time in September.



November

- 1. Pray for Jeremy Mullin and our Arabic and Spanish production teams as they produce *Bible Stories Alive* in our London office.
- 2. Pray for Stephen and Teresa in their work with TWR Africa. Stephen is working with teams across Africa to improve the technology used to speak hope to the world and Teresa is working with TWR Women of Hope to equip and encourage women across Africa.



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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