



Uniting our hearts in  
**PRAYER**

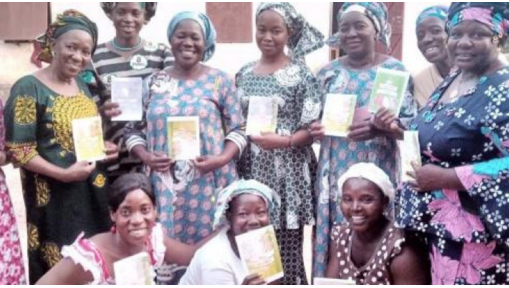
Educating, encouraging and equipping women to  
pray, listen, learn, grow and give.

*Join us in praying for West and Central Africa*

**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023**



# A Sphere of Influence



the impact that Jeanne has had on their faith. One listener shared “Jeanne, you have raised Christian women in Mali through the show Women of Hope. We are really satisfied and fulfilled. We ask for blessings on you and the show.” Others direct their messages to “Mama Jeanne.” These notes show the impact which Jeanne has on the faith of those across her nation.

Dear friends,

Who first shared the hope of the gospel with you? Do you remember the names of those who have been instrumental in shaping your faith? We all have people who have been part of our journey of faith.

For over 15 years, TWR Canada has been speaking hope to West Africa through the ministry of TWR Women of Hope, first in Côte d’Ivoire, followed shortly after by the ministry in Mali.

In Mali, the ministry grew out of one woman’s desire to see what was then known as Project Hannah impact her nation. For the past 14 years, Jeanne has been the voice of *Women of Hope* in the Bambara language, speaking hope to those tuning in on the radio, and now also speaks at conferences and training events across Mali and in bordering nations. In a three-month period earlier this year, Jeanne spoke at 12 different events, attended by more than 1,600 people!

Listeners of *Women of Hope* and those who attend conferences where Jeanne speaks often note

While we likely don’t have the same opportunity to speak the hope of Jesus as Jeanne does, each one of us has a sphere of influence. Who is around you that you speak hope to? Your family? Friends? Neighbours? A Bible study or small group at church?

As we reflect on what our sphere of influence looks like, it can help to reflect back on the ways that others have impacted our spiritual lives. As you do so, may you see that this impact may have come from a seemingly small comment that God used to grow your faith. It doesn’t need to be big, audacious plans and ministries, but also looks like journeying through life together.

Today, may the story of Jeanne be an encouragement to you as you go forth to share the hope of Jesus with those around you. We all have a sphere of influence, however large or small, to speak hope to the world.

Together in prayer,

The TWR Canada Women’s Ministry Team

## NOVEMBER

1. Holy God, we pray that you will manifest your power to destroy satanic altars, strongholds and false gods in Liberia. (Judg. 6:25)
2. Remember, Father, childless wives in Côte d’Ivoire who are awaiting your gift of a baby. (Ps. 113:9)
3. Father, please give the leaders of Gabon wisdom to be able to improve the economy and create jobs so people can provide for their families. (Prov. 2:6)
4. Lord, may radios be distributed to people in Nigeria who are eager to receive the gospel, and may they invite others to listen with them and even play the gospel programming in their shops for customers to hear. (Rom. 1:16)
5. God, please protect marriages and families in Senegal from domestic violence. (Jer. 15:21)
6. We praise you, Lord, for the TWR Women of Hope teams and intercessory groups formed in Benin through the collaboration of local churches and our partner, Evangelical Media of Benin. (Phil. 1:5)
7. God, give wisdom to our team in Mali as they are invited to facilitate and participate in community meetings, which are often initiated by people who have listened to *Women of Hope*. (2 Tim 2:2)
8. Lord, bring real solutions to the refugee crises in Nigeria, Chad, Cameroon and Niger. Many families are lacking even basic food for each day. (Matt. 25:35)
9. Although the Central African Republic is rich in diamonds, gold, oil and uranium, its people are poor. God, enable its people to benefit from these resources. (Ps. 22:26)
10. Lord, enact cultural change and protect girls from female genital mutilation in Sierra Leone, where 90 per cent of women ages 15 to 49 have experienced this harmful circumcision. (Ps. 107:6)
11. Enable further training of Nigerian women, God, in how to manufacture homemade items like soap to help support their families. (Prov. 14:23)
12. Father, we pray for those Christians in Gabon who are persecuted by their families for their faith in you. Give them the courage to stand for you. (1 Pet. 4:16)
13. God, may the women of Côte d’Ivoire come to intimately know you as their Lord and find the joy of their salvation in you alone. (1 Pet. 1:8)



# From the Hearts of Those Across the Region

14. We praise you, Lord, that many women and girls in Liberia are waiting on you to give them a godly life partner and that others who had been cohabitating are now getting married. (Ps. 37:4)
15. God, give strategies and creativity to our leaders in Senegal so the TWR Women of Hope ministry may grow and thrive for your glory. (Acts 2:47)
16. Lord, bring an end to the promotion of Voodoo in Benin. May people following its practices renounce it and be transformed by a relationship with Jesus. (Acts 3:19)
17. Praise God that our Mali team is involved in bringing evangelism training through local churches and women's camps. May believers begin to regularly share their faith and hope in Jesus. (1 Pet. 3:15)
18. Father, bring an end to the kidnappings and murders in Cameroon. May your presence bring peace and life to this nation. (Deut. 31:6)
19. Lord, bring honesty in the governing of the Democratic Republic of Congo and peace to its civil wars. May its people find stability and rest in you. (Ps. 29:11)
20. Father, use our TWR Women of Hope team in Nigeria to minister to women whose homes were destroyed and family members killed due to insurgency. (2 Cor. 1:3-4)
21. God, we ask that you heal the people in Gabon who are

suffering from illness. Bless our TWR Women of Hope team with good health so that they may continue your work. (Jer. 17:14)



22. Father, may the rightful inheritance of widows and their children in Côte d'Ivoire be restored to them. (Ps. 68:5)
23. Father, we praise you that so many Liberian women are reading your Word, spending time with you and sharing the Word with their families. (Ps. 119:105)
24. God, we pray for salvation for the women of Senegal who listen to *Women of Hope*. May they be discipled and brought into Christian community. (Isa. 12:2)

**From a listener in Mali:** *"Often, we find ourselves in certain difficulties that we do not know how to get out of. Women of Hope gives us the solution. It helps us strengthen our faith. When we are discouraged, this show comforts us. It helps us build our family relationships. It also helps us with our health, which we don't usually talk about. Because of this program, my mind has been freed and I know I am not alone. Women of Hope is a help for us. It gives us hope for the things of life and also hope for us in our walk with God."*

**From a listener in Côte d'Ivoire:** *"This program is extraordinary! Thank you for the subject covered today. It is an example of God's love and of all the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is an inexhaustible treasure to be with him because it was through faith, hope and love that he came to save us. In return, we are to give that back to him by putting it into practice for our neighbours. I understand the exhortation. Thank you very much."*

**From a listener in Mali:** *"I have been immensely touched by the show Women of Hope. I have deleted all of the other programs that were on my mobile in favour of these programs. They are truly educational, constructive and uplifting."*

**From a listener in Côte d'Ivoire:** *"I am thankful for the ability to listen to the program with a group. It helps me a lot, especially the experience of the other participants. I am encouraged to continue my walk with God."*

**From a listener in Côte d'Ivoire:** *"I am figuring out how to pray longer. As I begin to pray more regularly, I am seeing significant changes. But I am thirsty to pray more. This message comes at the right time."*



# Hearts for Others in Need

By Maribeth Stevens,  
TWR Women of Hope Volunteer

Since its 2018 origin in the state of Abia, TWR Women of Hope's ministry in Nigeria has been welcomed and embraced by local women and is expanding now to more than seven states across the country. Our teams are grateful for the support and assistance from so many leaders within TWR's ministry to this densely populated country.

Prayer is a core element of each TWR Women of Hope team in Nigeria. The teams understand the importance and need for prayer so that the global ministries may thrive. Therefore, praying through the global prayer calendar within their prayer groups is one of the main activities when these women gather. After printing and distributing the prayer calendars throughout the nation, the ministry often hears positive responses from those who receive them.

When the groups meet for corporate prayer and fellowship, they also plan how they will reach

out to women in their respective areas. Often they partner with other Christian organizations to reach as many people as possible with the hope and peace to be found through the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

One way to minister to their surrounding communities is to provide free medical care for women who can't afford it themselves. Another example of outreach is the training of women to make soap and household items by hand. This enables them to provide for themselves and their families. Programs reach across cultures in all parts of Nigeria, even into the rural areas.

An important area of service to women is ministering to those living in camps for internally displaced people in northern Nigeria. These camps have been set up by the government to house people who have fled from their homes because of unrest in the area. Many have lost their homes and families. The team members



bring Bibles and radios into the camps so the women may read and listen to God's Word, which brings them comfort.

Even though TWR Women of Hope teams in Nigeria are ministering in so many ways to meet the needs of the people, they wish to do even more. The prayer calendar is distributed in two languages, and the ministry needs translators so it can expand on that number. The ministry would also like to see

*Women of Hope*, currently not on the air in Nigeria, being broadcast across the country.

Would you join us in prayer asking that God will send volunteers to help and that funds needed would be raised within this nation? The women who work on the Nigerian teams have hearts for others in need. We praise God for what they are doing and for their faithfulness in loving others well in his name.

## NOVEMBER CONT'D

25. Father, penetrate the hearts of the rulers in Benin. Send godly men to these leaders as their counsellors and intercessors. (Prov. 12:15)
26. Lord, may the team in Nigeria be able to secure financial support within the nation for additional translation and prayer calendar outreach. (2 Cor. 9:8)
27. Heavenly Father, we ask that you meet the needs of those living in poverty in Gabon, whether they be spiritual, physical, financial or emotional. (Ps. 113:7)
28. You are a God of reconciliation. May husbands in Côte d'Ivoire

who have abandoned their wives return home and be reunited with them. (Mal. 2:14-16)

29. Father, help the youth of Liberia to understand that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and that they should refuse to use drugs and alcohol. (1 Cor. 6:19-20)
30. Many parts of Benin that embrace traditional practices and idolatry do not have a strong presence of the gospel message. God, awaken the church to bring your message of salvation to them. (2 Tim. 4:5)



## STORY OF HOPE

### Peace Transforming Communities



Mali is a country in West Africa whose northern boundaries lie deep in the Sahara. Due to drought and internal fighting, the people of Mali face increasing vulnerability. Women and children are particularly susceptible in these conditions, and the number of widows and orphans increases daily. As people are deprived of their loved ones due to military conflict, the number of trauma cases increases as well.

The Women of Hope program reaches far and deep into the hearts and souls of those who listen to them. Their listeners include internally displaced people and even jihadists for whom the program is not prohibited.

The programs are aired on radio stations and used by different churches. Often the program content leads to churches and community leaders organizing further community gatherings or seminars. They then implement some of the good advice or biblical

principles learned from the program. One critical social need is being able to live harmoniously within communities. TWR Women of Hope has significantly contributed to this aspect, as testified by several pastors and individuals who have shared the following testimonies.

*"I am very grateful to God because the program led me to forgiveness,"* one listener told us. *"I had sworn not to forgive my little sister, let alone talk to her. We had gone years without speaking to each other. But after listening to the program, I decided to forgive, and now my heart is **totally free.**"*

A radio station director shared, *"The program has greatly facilitated a peaceful coexistence in the region among many families. Our station covers a 250 km radius. This means that it also reaches many other areas from which we have received testimonies. The Women of Hope content becomes the key themes in community meetings and engagements. Among the participants in these meetings are notable community and government leaders as well as imams and pastors. We salute TWR Women of Hope for having gathered all these people around the living well together in peace and tranquillity."*

Truly the Word of God brings peace that transforms individual lives and communities.

## EMBRACING HOPE

# The Rearview Mirror Helps Us Move Forward

TWR Women of Hope  
Global Director Susie Pek



I can hardly believe we are approaching the end of another year. November and December are special months as in some countries, people take time to give thanks and to celebrate the birth of our Saviour. We at TWR Women of Hope have yet another reason to celebrate – it's our 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I can't help but smile when I consider all that God is doing in the lives of women around the world and across generations through our ministry.

As our Central Asia team reported, one sister who speaks only her native language testified that she believed in the Lord through listening to the radio. What drew her attention to the Lord was hearing about Jesus in her own language. I pray you feel encouraged to know your prayers and involvement are touching lives all over the globe.

The end of the year always inspires me to take some time to look back. I wonder if you are like me. Recalling all the wonderful things the Lord has done for me, my family, friends and ministry is a marvellous exercise for a very happy and full heart. In many ways, it feels like driving.

What do I mean by that? When we are on the road, we keep our eyes on what's ahead to avoid accidents and to make sure we are headed in the right direction. But we also look in the rearview mirror to see what's coming behind and ensure a safe ride. As we move forward, we look back and see all that is being left behind. We consider all the good and all the bad. The good things fill our hearts with joy and thanksgiving. As for the bad ones, they seem to make much more sense now. Looking back helps us to have a better understanding of how the bumpy roads, the storms and close calls have contributed to our personal and spiritual growth.

When we see life in the rearview mirror, we spot details that were unknown to us when the journey was tough. I am reminded of a quote by Ron Mehl in his book *God Works the Night Shift*: “Most artists I've heard about like lots of light in their studios. Yet God creates His masterpieces in the dark, on the night shift. You are the canvas. The paint and brushes are your trials and pain. The portrait is His Son.” The rearview mirror sheds light on the picture God is painting in our lives.

A journey often requires breaks. That's what looking back means, a pause to ponder about life. Continuing the analogy, these breaks offer us an opportunity to consider how good or bad a driver we have been. It's important that we are honest with ourselves at this point so that we can leave our bad driving habits behind as we proceed on our journey.

*“Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 3:13-14)*

Just like the apostle Paul, after evaluating our driving, we do not keep our eyes on the past; rather, we recalculate our route and move forward.

A new year may take us onto some “interesting” roads. Some will be bumpy, and some will be really smooth. Whatever comes our way, let us keep in mind that the Lord is with us, and he bears our burdens. *“Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens” (Psalm 68:19, NIV).*

Thank you for journeying with us. I pray you have a meaningful Christmas and a wonderful new year.



# DECEMBER

1. Father, sustain the believers in Nigeria where there is intense persecution of Christians. Strengthen those in danger to hold fast to their faith in Christ. (1 Pet. 3:14)
2. Lord God, we pray that the authorities and members of the government in Gabon would lead honestly and justly with integrity and maintain peace. (1 Tim. 2:1-2)
3. Pour your provision out, Father, to the widows and their children in Côte d'Ivoire. (Ps. 68:5)
4. God, we praise you that so many of the women in Liberia who were unable to read are now reading during the monthly prayer meetings. (Ps. 119:18)
5. Lord, awaken Christians in Senegal to partner with TWR Women of Hope as they minister in orphanages and prisons. (Ps. 68:5-6)
6. God, protect believers in Benin as they are pressured by those in the occult to abandon their faith. (Lev. 19:31)
7. Father, continue to use our Mali TWR Women of Hope team to bring messages of reconciliation leading to peace between community groups. (2 Cor. 5:18)
8. God, many of Cameroon's people are internally displaced and in need of humanitarian aid due to militant group attacks. May the Lord provide peace and the resources they need. (Ps. 23:1)
9. Lord, bring healing to the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo as Ebola, measles and cholera have broken out among its people. (Ps. 91:3)
10. Lord, bring cultural change to those in the Central African Republic who promote early marriage. As many as 61 per cent of girls there marry before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and 26 per cent before they turn 15. (Ps. 16:1)
11. Father, bring healing to the children of Sierra Leone who lack nutritious food and health services. Give wisdom to those seeking to improve these conditions. (Deut. 15:11)
12. Lord, we pray your blessing on the crops of West and Central Africa. May drought and flooding not destroy their food supply. Bring food security to these nations. (Ps. 72:16)
13. May our Nigeria team bear much fruit, God, as they share hope with the hopeless and minister the love of God to women in rural communities. (John 15:16)
14. We pray, Father, that the Holy Spirit would give discernment to church leaders in Gabon to bring light, life and hope to the local communities. (Phil. 1:9)
15. Many women in Liberia face rape and even death at the hands of their husbands. God, protect women from violence and transform the men who harm them. (Ps. 23:4)
16. Lord, may the distribution of radios and memory cards in the villages of Senegal bring salvation to those listening. May they grow in their faith by tuning in to *Women of Hope* programs. (1 Pet. 2:2-3)
17. Father, transform the hearts of traditional chiefs in Benin with your gospel, and may they be instrumental in bringing salvation and freedom to those under their leadership. (1 Tim. 2:1-4)
18. The high cost of living and poverty are serious problems in Benin. Lord, inspire its leaders and people with creativity in entrepreneurship to bring in the income needed to improve their living conditions. (Ps. 90:17)
19. God, we pray for funds to be secured within Nigeria so that the *Women of Hope* program can be translated and produced in Igbo, Nigerian Pidgin, Hausa and Yoruba, covering millions of listeners there. (Heb. 13:20-21)
20. We praise you, Lord, that the Mali team provided leadership for a mother-daughter conference focusing on peace between them and how that affects the greater community. (Heb. 12:14)
21. Heavenly Father, may the Gabonese who are far from you come to the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 16:31)
22. Lord, bring an end to the educational boycott in Cameroon. May those attacking schools and students encounter you and experience true heart change. (Ezek. 36:26)



23. Be the protector, Father, of women and children in Côte d'Ivoire. May kidnappers and all those who wish to do them harm not come near them. (2 Thess. 3:3)
24. Father, divorce is common in Liberia. May couples there follow your Word, which says that men should love their wives and women should respect and submit to their husbands. (Eph. 5:22-25)
25. May the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo find their peace in you, God. The continued armed conflicts bring hunger, disease and displacement of the country's people. (John 16:33)
26. Father, provide employment opportunities for women in Senegal as they seek to improve the living conditions of their families. (Prov. 31:31)
27. Thank you, Lord, that our TWR Women of Hope team is partnering with Heralds of Hope and TWR to share Bibles and radios with women in northern Nigeria. (Eccles. 4:9)
28. Father, we ask that the leaders of Gabon use the country's natural resources wisely for the benefit of the nation's citizens. (1 Cor. 4:2)
29. Lord, provide the means for the TWR Women of Hope team in Côte d'Ivoire to train those

in the Yamoussoukro listening groups. Deepen their spiritual lives. (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

30. God, bring financial, prayer and volunteer support in Liberia to sustain and grow the TWR Women of Hope ministry there. (Phil. 4:19)
31. Father, may street and market vendors in Côte d'Ivoire who were evicted due to the early 2024 African football tournament known as CAN find new places to sell their goods. (Prov. 16:3)



## Spiritual Warfare, Part 2

A Word of Hope from Lisa Hall,  
International Prayer Coordinator

Repeated sins. We all have them. Satan tells us that overcoming them is hopeless and that we will never change. But God offers us hope in defeating these strongholds in our lives.

If you want to defeat these strongholds, here's how to get started:

- Know the areas where you are tempted.
- Embrace confession, repentance and forgiveness.
- Pursue loving God with all of your being.
- Put on the armour of God daily and stand strong.
- Take captive every thought and compare it with God's Word.

And taking every thought captive involves these three things: **putting off** old habits, thoughts and patterns; **renewing your mind** with God's truth; and **putting on** new attitudes and behaviours (Eph. 4:22-24).

One very practical way to renew your mind is to begin a regimen of **40 days of Scripture**. Find scriptures that address both the temptation you struggle with and the godly characteristic that is its opposite. If you tend to hold a grudge when someone hurts or offends you, look up scriptures on being offended and on forgiveness. Collect these scriptures and read them out loud each day for at least 40 days, asking

God to transform your thinking as you develop patterns of correct thought and action.

One book that I use to overcome strongholds is *Praying God's Word: Breaking Free from Spiritual Strongholds*, by Beth Moore. I cannot emphasize enough that **our strongholds must be demolished!** You will not experience freedom in Christ if you are holding on to secret sins and remain defeated. And so Ephesians 6:10-18 calls us to put on the armour of God **daily** in order to stand our ground against Satan's attacks. May I encourage you to memorize this scripture?

**Belt of truth** – Truth is the cornerstone of this armour: being honest with God, with yourself and with others. We use God's truth to recognize Satan's lies and deceptions. But when we do sin, God longs for us to come to him in true confession and repentance, and his response is always forgiveness. Ask God to help you clearly see his truth, Satan's lies, our own sin and the way of escape when facing temptation.

**Breastplate of righteousness** – Righteousness is what we received from Jesus when we placed our faith in him; we are now in a right relationship with God. We live righteously when we choose to live according to God's standards. This is where putting off our old thoughts and habits, renewing our minds through God's truth, and putting on new attitudes and behaviours are so important if we are to live rightly before God.

*continued on the next page...*



# Spiritual Warfare, cont'd

**Gospel shoes of peace** – As we share the good news of salvation with those around us, we are ambassadors appealing to people to be reconciled with God. Through belief in Jesus' sacrifice for them, they can now have peace with God. And as we keep the gospel fresh in our minds and hearts, it is a deterrent to keep us from temptation and sin.

**Shield of faith** – God calls us to a life of faith: complete trust in him, his power and his promises. Ask yourself: Do you trust in God's character? Do you believe that he is good and has your best in mind? Do you believe his promises and the perfection of his timing? Our level of faith in God's character determines our intimacy with him.

**Helmet of salvation** – We received our salvation in Jesus Christ the moment we believed. But his salvation and deliverance continue for us today.

God is our deliverer from sin and from satanic attacks. The helmet of salvation is the protection over our minds – the place where most of the battles take place. Guard your mind and compare every thought with God's truth.

**Sword of the Spirit** – God's Word is our offensive weapon. Read the Bible, meditate on it, memorize it, study it, pray it out loud. In addition to praying scripture out loud, I often use Wanda Alger's resource, *Words to Pray By*. She lists scriptures and prayers she has written on dozens of practical topics with which we all struggle.

**Pray in the Spirit** – In times of war, this is a call for us to stand strong against the enemy and intercede faithfully for other believers. Our prayers are a strategic weapon against the enemy. Also, we can join our persevering prayers with fasting for the deliverance of others undergoing spiritual attack.



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