

Worthy to be Praised

TWR CANADA PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL GUIDE FOR SEPTEMBER 4 - OCTOBER 29, 2022

GREATLY TO BE PRAISED

"I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable." (Psalm 145:1-3)

When this passage speaks of the greatness of God, it takes God's greatness to the highest degree. Not only is he great, but he is the greatest, and we don't even know the half of it!

We might get a small idea of this unsearchable greatness just by looking up at the night sky. Even on a clear night away from all the city lights, we can only see a small fraction of all that is in the sky above us. Of all the galaxies and planets and the billions of stars that are up there, we have only a small window to look through and even that small window gives us a brilliant and awe-inspiring view. If we were able to see the entirety of the night sky all at once it would certainly

overwhelm us and be too much for us to take in. Consider then, the God who made that great and brilliant sky. How much greater must he be? How much more brilliant and radiant and beautiful? The brightness and beauty of the night sky would pale in comparison to the greatness of our God.

And yet, we often have a mundane view of who God is. Do you have a small view of God? Do you downplay his greatness? Or do you see him as our God and King who is worthy to be praised every day; forever and ever?

Let us recognize and remember the greatness of God and praise him for who he is.

Ministry in 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.

September

- 4. Through our partner Together Network, there are more than 9,000 Discipleship Essentials small groups across the Middle East and North Africa. Praise God for these changed lives and pray for believers as they study God's Word together.
- 5. Pray that *Voice of Truth* will continue to provide discipleship and encouragement in the heart language of the Roma people living in Prilep, North Macedonia.
- 6. We are working with the North Macedonian team to create an app containing *Voice of Truth* and other Macedonian programming. Please pray for the process of creating and releasing this app, and pray for all those who will hear God's Word through it.
- 7. Pray for TWR Canada missionaries Vincent and Trina Collet in France as they balance responsibilities at the FM station in Lyon and family life with four young children.
- 8. We are creating a series of biblical songs and videos for Roma children in Serbia, where there are reportedly only four songs for children and none of them Christian.
- 9. Please continue to pray for the conflict in Ukraine. TWR programming is broadcast to Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. Pray that the hope of Christ would be heard across the region.
- 10. Praise God for the many Persian believers and seekers who reach out with questions and comments through TWR Canada's Persian ministry social media. Pray for wisdom for the Persian ministry team as they respond to these questions and comments.

WHO IS LIKE THE LORD?

"Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?" (Exodus 15:11)

There has never been and there never will be a god like the Lord. He alone is majestic in holiness. He alone is awesome in glorious deeds. He alone works great wonders.

This verse comes from a song sung by the people of Israel after God had delivered them from slavery in Egypt. They had watched as God sent plagues to judge his enemies and discredit false gods. They had seen how God acted with mercy and justice to deliver them from their oppression. They had watched as God swallowed up their enemies in the same sea that they had just walked through on dry ground. The people of Israel were eyewitnesses to the majesty, holiness, awesomeness, and glory of God.

Although we may not be accustomed to seeing this kind of display from God today, we believe in the same God. Whether in big and miraculous events or in quiet and simple mercies, the Lord is God and there is none like him.

Let us remember the glory and majesty of our God. There is no other God like him. He alone is worthy of our praise!

Missionaries

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

- 11. Pray that God would stir up new missionaries from Canada to go out and support the work of TWR around the world.
- 12. Pray for the Clarke family as they return to Eswatini from furlough in Canada. Praise God for a time of rest and pray for the transition back to life on the mission field.
- 13. Pray for Henry and Anna Penner and their family as they prepare to end their time in Polivia and return to Canada



in Bolivia and return to Canada in December 2022. 14. Pray for McDaniel Phillips as he works with our DE champions around the world to launch spiritual movements using

Discipleship Essentials in their ministries.

- 15. Stephen and Teresa Murray have been in South Africa for about 8 months! Pray for them as they continue to learn about the ministry of TWR across Africa and settle into their roles.
- 16. Pray for Nathan Dunlop as he works on several audio and video production projects for TWR globally. Pray also for Megan Dunlop as she continues to learn her new role of social and relational facilitator in the South Africa office.
- 17. Pray for Julia Schindeler as she works with diaspora communities in Toronto and looks at new ways of partnership for TWR Canada with these people groups.

LET THE PEOPLES PRAISE

"Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth." (Psalm 67:3-4)

The Lord is worthy of all praise from all people. In this psalm, the psalmist writes of his desire that all peoples from all nations would know the way of the Lord and experience his saving power (Ps. 67:1-2). He goes on to tell of the righteous judgments of God. Our God is not unjust but judges rightly.

Because God judges rightly, we have good reason to both turn away from sin and turn in thanksgiving to God. We have good reason to turn away from sin because we know that God will justly judge unrepentant sinners, and we have good reason for thanksgiving because we know that he will do what is right and good.

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We also have reason to praise because if we have experienced his saving power, we are assured that our sins will be judged in Christ and we will be forgiven.

This kind of forgiveness and salvation is something we all need; once we have received it, it is worth sharing with others!

Let us praise God for his righteousness and grace and tell the world what he has done so that all peoples might praise the Lord!

Digital Ministry

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

- 18. Pray for those accessing content on our Android and iOS apps. Pray that these apps would be a beneficial resource to many around the world as they grow in their faith.
- 19. In places where it is dangerous to be a Christian, we need discreet ways of sharing the gospel. One of the ways we do this is through distributing SD cards. Pray that those who receive an SD card would come to know and believe the good news of Jesus Christ.
- 20. TWR Canada's Persian web radio station shares the hope and truth of the gospel with the Persian-speaking world. Praise God for the changed lives we have seen and pray for many more to come to faith.
- 21. Our partners can benefit from having apps of their own, so we have created an easy and cost-effective way to do this. Pray that these apps would extend the reach of their ministries.



- 22. TWR360 includes a wide range of resources in more than 100 languages. Pray for those accessing resources online or on the TWR360 app.
- 23. Many TWR radio stations around the world also stream their broadcasts online. Pray for those listening in this way from any part of the globe.
- 24. Praise God for the ways digital technology allows people to find gospel resources from their computers and phones. Pray that those seeking the truth of the gospel online would find the answers to their questions.

BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." (Psalm 103:1-5)

How often do we find our souls in need of this kind of reminder? "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!" We so easily become distracted by the busyness of life or weighed down by sickness and sadness. How often do we need to speak to our souls and remind ourselves of who God is and all that he has done for us? How often do our hearts forget all the benefits of being children of God? How often do we forget the ways that he has forgiven our sins, healed our hearts, redeemed our lives, crowned us with love and mercy, and satisfied us unlike anything or anyone ever could?

May we no longer be forgetful of who God is and all that he has done! Let us consider all his benefits and bless the Lord with our very souls and with all that is within us!

Persian Ministry

For 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.

- 25. Many Persian-speaking believers are isolated from other believers. Pray that they would be encouraged as they attend training conferences, speak with Tony, and listen to the web radio station.
- 26. Pray for our Persian ministry leader, Tony, as he encourages and mentors believers throughout the Persian-speaking world.
- 27. Pray for the development of youth and short programs and for those who will listen to these programs. May they build up faith in younger generations and those who do not yet know Christ.
- 28. Pray for those listening to the Persian web radio station and interacting on our Persian social media channels. Many are asking about Jesus and Christianity. Pray that they would find the answers they seek.
- 29. Pray for all those who have attended conferences over the last several months. Pray that this time of fellowship and teaching would strengthen them as they return home to challenging circumstances.
- 30. 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.

October

1. As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of our Persian ministry this year, praise God for all that he has done and pray for his wisdom as we look to the future.

REJOICE IN THE LORD

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

In the book of Philippians, Paul frequently speaks of rejoicing in the Lord and urges his readers to do the same. Regardless of our circumstances, God is good and he is the source and object of all our joy.

Even so, rejoicing doesn't always feel like the most natural first course of action. Trying to stir up a joyful heart can be downright exhausting sometimes. But rejoicing in the Lord doesn't mean that we never experience sadness or that we must simply get over our heartaches. Rather, we are to trust in God in every circumstance and give thanks to him for who he is, even in trying and painful moments. God is good and is worthy of our praise and joy at all times!

We may certainly bring our complaints and our sadness to him, but may we do so not with despair, but with hope and joy knowing that he listens!

Even when everything else around us feels broken and hopeless, let us remember that who God is remains the same and we can rejoice in this truth.

Ministry in 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.

- 2. Praise God for the increase in younger viewers and callers through the ministry in Quebec. Pray for the team at Aujourd'hui l'Espoir as they work to share the gospel with a younger audience.
- 3. Praise God for providing a gas generator and battery back-up for the Quebec FM station and office so programming can be broadcast uninterrupted!
- 4. Pray for the upcoming applications to the CRTC to install repeater station antennas in Quebec to reach more communities across the province.
- 5. Aujourd'hui l'Espoir's phone line, the Hope Line, continues to receive many calls from viewers and listeners requesting resources and asking questions. Please pray for wisdom for the volunteers as they speak with callers and answer their questions.
- 6. To supplement the topical episodes of the TV show *Parole Vivante*, we are creating a series based on the TTB series of Genesis. Please pray for the production of this series and for all who will view it.
- TWR Canada offers media players to believers to use as an evangelism tool to reach new Canadians with the gospel. Pray for those who will receive a player in their heart language.
- 8. Pray for the creation of a new audio series for these media players designed specifically for new Canadians.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." (Psalm 136:1)

It is always a good time to give thanks to the Lord, but perhaps this week especially, as we celebrate Thanksgiving, we are provided with more reminders than usual to be grateful to God. We may thank him for family, friends, good food, new opportunities and adventures, provision, new additions to families, beautiful sunsets, or meaningful lessons learned.

But perhaps you have a difficult time finding things to be grateful for. Perhaps you feel lonely, lost, weak, or lacking. Whether you are in a nighttime of sorrow or a morning of joy, there is still good reason to give thanks to the Lord: he is good and his steadfast love endures forever.

Of all the things that there are to be grateful for, the goodness and steadfast love of God is unchanging. Whether your list of gratitude runs miles long or is only a few short lines, may it never be empty. Whatever else is on your list of things to say "thank you" for, may God's goodness and steadfast love always be at the very top of the list.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for his constant and unchanging goodness and steadfast love.

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 which brings the stories to life and makes the listener feel like they are there.

- 9. Please pray for the translation and production of the *Bible Stories Alive* programs in Arabic, Spanish, Persian, Swahili, Somali, Hindi, Gujarati, and Mandarin.
- 10. Happy Thanksgiving! We 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. Praise God for the infrastructure to meet growing needs!
- 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' 101 faithful years of life and counting!
- 12. Praise God for an increase in the number of listeners of *Bible Stories Alive* in Kenya. In one listener group at a church in

Kakuma Refugee Camp, a pastor reports that in two years the group has grown from 300 children to 700 children!

13. 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.

- 14. Pray for the distribution of the Mandarin stories on tablets and online through TWR Canada's Chinese ministry. Pray that the children and families who read and listen to these stories would grow in their faith together.
- 15. 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.

I HAVE LEARNED TO BE CONTENT

"Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever circumstance I am to be content." (Philippians 4:11)

To be content is not a simple feat! When we look at our circumstances and what we have compared to other people's circumstances and what they have, we may feel that we have received the short end of the stick.

Why can others afford a new home, have good relationships with their families, be happy, and so much more when we can't?

In the final chapter of Philippians, Paul speaks briefly of his own state but instead of going into extensive details of his times in prison, the ways he had been persecuted for his faith, or his poverty and need, Paul says that he has learned to be content. He says, "I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:12-13).

Paul found that it was not through material goods or pleasant circumstances that he received strength but through Christ. If all he had was Christ, and he often found himself in that position, he was able to be content for he had all he needed.

If all we had was Christ, would we be content? Would we feel that we had enough?

May we learn to be content! When we experience abundance, may the Lord still be the most beautiful thing that we have. And when we lack something, may we still trust that we have all we need so long as we have him.

Radio Broadcasting

Radio broadcasting allows listeners in hard-to-reach places, as well as urban centres, to have access to the gospel. From FM stations in countries like Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire and Nepal to high-powered radio from Bonaire, Eswatini and more, radio broadcasting shares the hope of the gospel around the world.

- 16. The Discipleship Essentials French radio program is a muchloved program across West Africa. Praise God for the changed lives!
- 17. Pray that the 30-minute weekly program *Against the Current* would be heard by all who seeking wisdom on living a godly life across Uruguay.
- 18. The programs *Good News for All* and *Jesus is the Answer* are two of the favourite programs in Burundi. Pray for all who hear the gospel preached through these programs.
- 19. Pray for *Our Home*, which airs weekly to Cuba from the Bonaire transmitter. Pray that the teachings on marriage and family life will create change in the lives of those who listen.
- 20. In Nepal, we are sharing the gospel with Bhojpuriand Maithili-speaking people across 10 FM stations. Pray for those listening from remote areas who do not have another way of hearing this good news.



- 21. Pray for listeners of *Women of Hope* in Mozambique, Mali and Côte d'Ivoire. Pray that they would find hope and healing in Jesus as they listen.
- 22. Through radio broadcasting, TWR has a potential reach of over four billion listeners. Pray for all who are hearing the gospel preached in their heart language.

MORE THAN CAN BE TOLD

"You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told." (Psalm 40:5)

The Lord our God has done great things for us. He is the God who is worthy of all praise and none can compare with him. When we consider all that God has done, how can we stay silent? How can we not sing his praise? How can we not proclaim to the world what he has done? Even with all of our voices joining together to tell of the greatness of God, we will never in one lifetime come up with an exhaustive list of all his wondrous deeds. They are far more than can be told by finite people.

This may lead us to wonder if it's even worth it to try to tell of his greatness. If we can never tell all there is to be told, why even bother trying?

It is worth it to proclaim his goodness because he is worthy of all praise! We may not be able to sing all the praise that he is worthy of, but we can certainly sing all the praise that our lips and lungs will allow. In this life, let us give praise to God with all that we have, looking forward to the time when we will be able to praise God for all eternity!

Ministry in Asia

Through radio home groups, radio broadcasts and follow-up ministries, the message of hope is being shared across Asia. God is changing lives!

- 23. Japan is the second-largest unreached people group in the world. Pray for a new initiative to share the gospel to this nation through a series of audio dramas based on stories from the Gospels.
- 24. Please pray for SOTA students across China as they implement what they are learning into their ministries. Pray that what they have learned would assist them in leading and discipling.
- 25. In Sri Lanka, *God's Unique Book* both encourages believers and shares the gospel with those who don't know Christ. Pray for the production team as they create programming to meet the needs of listeners.
- 26. Pray for those hearing the gospel in their heart language through radio broadcasts across South Asia. Pray that listeners would hear and believe the truth of the gospel.
- 27. Praise God for the more than 7,600 radio home groups across South Asia. Pray that members would grow in faith together as they listen and discuss God's Word.

28. In India and Bangladesh, radio home group leaders are trained using Discipleship Essentials. Praise God that those who have been trained report being better able to disciple their group members.

29. Across the Philippines, there are over 6,000 small groups using Discipleship Essentials. Pray that each person studying the material would grow in faith.

PRAISE THE LORD!

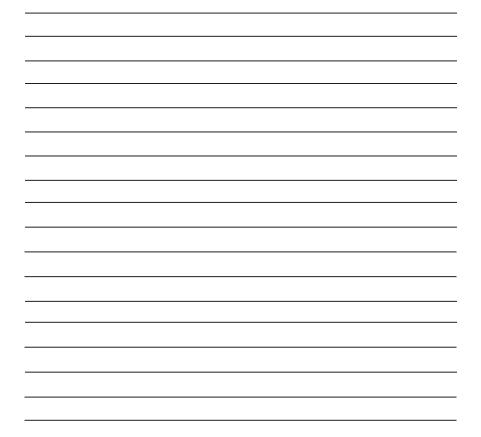
"As he was drawing near — already on the way down the Mount of Olives — the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.'" (Luke 19:37-40)

In this passage, the Lord was being given the praise he rightfully deserves but, as usual, opposition to this praise rose up from the Pharisees. But God is worthy to be praised and if his people will not praise him, he will be glorified in other ways.

As fascinating as it might be to witness a bunch of rocks singing praise, it is far more beautiful and fitting for the people of God to give him the praise due to his name. Are we in the habit of praising God, or would we much rather be silent?

May we be a people who praise God at all times and in every circumstance. May we not be silent and let the stones cry out, but instead *"Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!"* (Ps. 150:6).









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



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