

Personal Prayer

Daylight Robbery further reflection on Mike Haywood's sermon 5/01/2015

The beginning of a new year is an ideal opportunity to lower the crime rate in our own lives.

As Christians we can be more often under attack than we realise. It can be our lack of recognition that allows Satan such a high success rate in making our lives more difficult and distracting us away from enjoying a deep and fulfilling relationship with our Lord and even each other.

Wake Up; Be Alert; Be Aware that robbery is going on!

- * Robbed of time in the presence of our loving Father God; do we allow distractions to shorten or eradicate our time with Him or His word?
- * Robbed of worship; do we worship with all of our heart or do we allow thoughts to interfere and draw us away from true engagement?
- * Robbed of service; do we fully use all our God given gifts in His service and therefore gain deeper fellowship with Him and each other?
- * Robbed of deep relational devotion; are we deceived away from devotion to Christ by earthly pleasures or contra thoughts against the truth of His word?
- * Robbed of our walk with Christ; Satan is known as the prince of all lies; don't let him draw us along the wrong path and rob God of the opportunity to bless us with the life He has for us.

Personal Prayer

It is time to take a stand and not be easy prey for the enemy. Stand in the power of God's grace and recognise the strife and struggle for what it is; an attack from our enemy. Rejoice that he sees you as worthy of attack because you are a child of God. Arm and protect yourself and your family through the power of prayer. Make time to read His word and bask in His presence however is most natural for you. It is ok to just enjoy being with the Father. Not all of your prayer time needs to be petition for others. You also need to absorb and enjoy His presence; be strengthened to face whatever daily trials are before you.

1 Peter 4:7*Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.....*

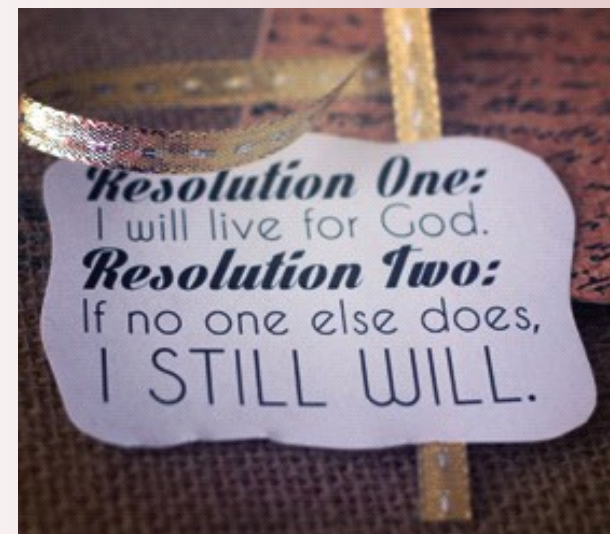


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Prayer Focus January 2015



2 Peter 1:10-11 **Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Family Under Fire – The Persecuted Church

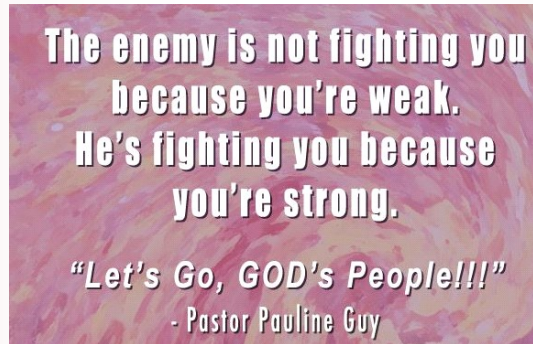
NIGERIA - UPDATE

You will remember us praying for 276 girls kidnapped by Boko Haram from Chibok in April. Many of the girls managed to escape and 4 of those girls are now all in a scholarship programme in the US thanks to the 'Education after Escape campaign'. This seeks to place the girls in US boarding schools specially set up to offer education and specialist counselling to help them recover from their ordeal.

Initially focussed on opposing Western education, - Boko Haram means 'Western education is forbidden' in the Hausa language so this strikes right at the heart of the organisation that kidnapped them. We continue to pray for the people of Nigeria, as Boko Haram continues to attack Christians across the country and beyond. 700,000 people have been internally displaced and 141,800 refugees left stranded in other countries.

NORTHERN IRAQ

Please keep praying for the refugees in Iraq as they suffer freezing conditions in the worst winter for years.



TERRORISM

Anyone who listens to the news cannot help but notice the increase in terrorism across the world. In response, there has been gatherings or peace marches. As Christians, how are we supposed to pray into these situations? Jesus gave us a directive which is specific *'But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you.'* Matthew 5:44

Please pray against the anti-Islamic movement which is sweeping across the world, similar to the anti-Semitic movement prior to the second world war. Pray love and forgiveness into the hearts of everyone on all sides.

Home Family

Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavours of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. "Here's



another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world. God is

not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16