



Prayer
Network

Prayer MATTERS

AUGUST 2024



Dear Prayer Matters readers

Welcome to August's edition of *Prayer Matters*. It's the summer holidays (for many of us), and we're eight months into our new UKI Prayer Rhythm, so it feels like a good moment to do something a bit different.

This month, instead of focusing our prayers on specific events and ministries, we're taking some time to dream. I asked people to share with me one word or phrase which encapsulates their dreams for The Salvation Army, and the results make for a rich, exciting and thought-provoking series of prayers.

The title for each day is taken from the list of words and phrases which were sent to me; and in some cases the Bible verse was also provided by the dreamer in question, but for the most part the Bible verses and the prayers have been selected and written by me. Since many of the words and phrases were echoed by more than one person, names have not been included with the prayers.

In the midst of all the dreaming, we do continue to join the Worldwide Prayer Meeting every Thursday for the International Salvation Army.

We will be back to our usual themed Prayer Rhythm format in September. But in the meantime, please join with us in a glorious month of dreaming...

Lyndall Bywater and the
UKI Boiler Room Team

AUGUST



THURSDAY 1 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - Tanzania Territory

We pray today for The Salvation Army in Tanzania, giving thanks for a territory which has seen significant growth over recent years, and where the number of junior soldiers is already up to half that of senior soldiers. We pray that this vibrant young generation will put down deep roots in their Christian faith. We pray blessing on the territorial leadership team, Colonels Samuel and Mary Mkami and Lieut-Colonels Willy and Anna Gibson.



FRIDAY 2 AUGUST: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION **Salt and light**

'You are the salt of the earth ... You are the light of the world ... let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.' (Matthew 5:13-16 *NLT*)

In our prayers today, we dream of what it might look like for The Salvation Army to be salt and light in all the communities where God has placed us.



SATURDAY 3 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION **Restoration**

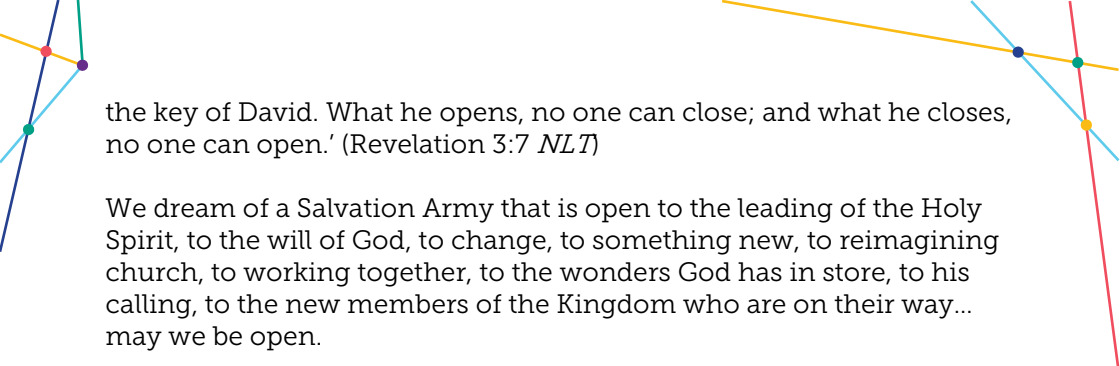
'Yes, the Lord has done amazing things for us! What joy! Restore our fortunes, Lord, as streams renew the desert. Those who plant in tears will harvest with shouts of joy.' (Psalm 126:3-5 *NLT*)

We dream of restoration: a deep gratitude for all God has already done in us; faith to believe for the restoring of all that is broken; and joy as we look forward to the many ways God will use us to be a blessing in desert places.



SUNDAY 4 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER **Openness**

'This is the message from the one who is holy and true, the one who has



the key of David. What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open.' (Revelation 3:7 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army that is open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, to the will of God, to change, to something new, to reimagining church, to working together, to the wonders God has in store, to his calling, to the new members of the Kingdom who are on their way... may we be open.



MONDAY 5 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS **God's new thing**

'For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland.' (Isaiah 43:19 *NLT*)

We give thanks that the new isn't just a pipe dream, but a promise from God. We choose today to dream big, looking with expectancy towards the new thing God is doing in The Salvation Army, and we rejoice at the desert places being refreshed and becoming fruitful.



TUESDAY 6 AUGUST: SERVING & CARING **Inclusion**

'There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.' (Galatians 3:28 *NLT*)

We dream of a day when, despite our human imperfections, The Salvation Army will be a community of people who reflect the fullness of God's love to every person we encounter, regardless of race, religion, background, sexual orientation or social status. And we pray for the guiding grace of the Spirit as we navigate our different understandings of what inclusion means.



WEDNESDAY 7 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH **Freedom**

'Jesus said to the people who believed in him, "You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."' (John 8:31-32 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army where each person knows the truth of how Jesus sees them; where each person is free to be themselves, not bound by the past or burdened by religion.



THURSDAY 8 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL SALVATION ARMY - Latin America North Territory

The territory covers Panama, Costa Rica, Cuba, Venezuela, Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. We pray for the leadership team: Territorial Commander Commissioner Merle Heatwole, Territorial President of Women's Ministries Commissioner Dawn Heatwole, Chief Secretary Lieut-Colonel Juan Mercado and Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries and Leader Development Lieut-Colonel Lydia Mercado Berberena. The team is based in Costa Rica, and we pray for wisdom, vision, health and strength as they oversee the Army's work over such a vast area.



FRIDAY 9 AUGUST: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION **Love like Jesus**

'This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends.' (John 15:12-13 *NLT*)

In our drop-ins and coffee mornings, our food banks and holiday clubs, may our service always be full of the love of Jesus, seeing people as Jesus sees them and treating them as friends.



SATURDAY 10 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION **Living love out loud**

'So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.' (John 13:34-35 *NLT*)

Let's dream today of what it might mean for us to live the love of Jesus out loud: not just saying it in words or even praying it in our prayers, but letting it shape every part of our lives – every action and interaction – that the world might be blessed through us.



SUNDAY 11 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER **Revival fire**

'When all the people of Israel saw the fire coming down and the glorious presence of the Lord filling the Temple, they fell face down on the ground and worshipped and praised the Lord, saying, "He is good! His faithful love endures for ever!"' (2 Chronicles 7:3 *NLT*)

Lord, re-ignite us with a hunger for your presence in our worship, a welcoming of your fire in our mission, and a burning desire to tell the world that you are good.



MONDAY 12 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS **Joyful evangelism**

'There is no sanctimonious long face in the Army. We talk freely about salvation because it is to us the very light and joy of our existence. We are happy, and we wish others to share our joy. We know by our own experience that life is a very different thing when we have found the peace of God, and are working together with him for the salvation of the world, instead of toiling for the realisation of worldly ambition ...'
(William Booth, *In Darkest England and the Way Out*, Part II, Chapter II, Section 2, first edition p110)

Today we dream William Booth's dream of a Salvation Army whose evangelism rings with joyful gratitude and confidence.



TUESDAY 13 AUGUST: SERVING & CARING **Equality for all**

'My dear brothers and sisters, how can you claim to have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ if you favour some people over others?... It is good when you obey the royal law as found in the Scriptures: "Love your neighbour as yourself."' (James 2:1,8 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army where prejudice, judgementalism and favouritism have no place, where the love of Christ is the standard we live to, and where every person finds the warmest of welcomes. acknowledging God at the heart of everything that we do.



WEDNESDAY 14 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH **Wholeness**

'Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God will make this happen, for he who calls you is faithful.' (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 *NLT*)

Jesus, you make us whole by the cleansing of your blood and the renewing of your Spirit. As we grow more fully into the people you made us to be, may The Salvation Army be a living demonstration of wholeness in this fragmented world.



THURSDAY 15 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL **SALVATION ARMY - Eastern Europe Territory**

The territory comprises Bulgaria, Moldova, Georgia, Romania and Ukraine, and the territorial leadership team is Colonel Richard Borrett, Territorial Commander, Colonel Ann Borrett, Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Lieut-Colonel JP Ramos, Chief Secretary and Lieut-Colonel Karin Ramos, Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries. We pray today for all the work happening across the territory to support Ukraine in its ongoing conflict with Russia. Renew hope and strength in the midst of this most difficult of situations.



FRIDAY 16 AUGUST: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION **Accessible**

'They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus.' (Mark 2:4 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army which stops at nothing to help people find their way to Jesus. May we be those who remove the barriers and open the way for all to come.



SATURDAY 17 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION **A world filled with peace and freedom**

'For as the waters fill the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the Lord.' (Habakkuk 2:14 *NLT*)

As an international movement, The Salvation Army has many opportunities to be a blessing to the world. Lord God, lift our eyes from our own concerns and help us see how we can come together, across borders and boundaries, to be a force for good for our planet and all who call it home.



SUNDAY 18 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER **Discipleship for all generations**

'He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.' (Ephesians 4:16 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army where every generation is nurtured in faith, and where every generation takes its place in worship, service and mission, being a blessing to one another, and demonstrating to the world that no one is too old or too young to do their part.



MONDAY 19 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS **Shine**

'Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars for ever.' (Daniel 12:3 *NLT*)

We dream of being a Salvation Army which has the courage to shine. Lord, help us to put aside the awkwardness that so often dulls our witness. Show us how to soak in your Spirit until we radiate your love.



TUESDAY 20 AUGUST: SERVING & CARING **Unity**

'Harmony is as refreshing as the dew from Mount Hermon that falls on the mountains of Zion. And there the Lord has pronounced his blessing, even life everlasting.' (Psalm 133:3 *NLT*)

We are a Salvation Army made up of all sorts of different people, yet when we place ourselves in God's hands, we can become a finely tuned instrument, producing beautiful harmony. Lord, thank you that you know and value each of us for who we are, and that you know exactly how to fit us together for your glory.



WEDNESDAY 21 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH **Empowered and released**

'This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.' (2 Timothy 1:6-7 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army where all those who worship in a local corps will be empowered through both practical and missional training. We rejoice in the gift of God in each of us, and welcome the Spirit of power, love and self-discipline into our lives.



THURSDAY 22 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL **SALVATION ARMY - India South Eastern Territory**

We pray for the leadership team, Colonel Lalbulliana Tlau, Colonel Lalnunhlui Khawlhiring, Lieut-Colonel Santhi Babu and Lieut-Colonel Samraj Babu, all of whom have only recently taken up their leadership positions in the territory. We pray that God will equip them with all the wisdom, grace and spiritual insight they will need, and that the work in the territory will go from strength to strength.



FRIDAY 23 AUGUST: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION **Available for all**

'Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realising it! Remember those in prison, as if you were there yourself. Remember also those being mistreated, as if you felt their pain in your own bodies.' (Hebrews 13:2-3 *NLT*)

Lord, forgive us when we become so preoccupied with our own comfort that we cease to notice the sufferings of others. We dream of being a Salvation Army with open doors, generous lives and compassionate hearts.



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION **Kintsugi**

'He has made everything beautiful in its time.' (Ecclesiastes 3:11 *NIV*)

The Japanese art of Kintsugi involves taking broken pottery and gluing it back together again, then decorating the glued seams with gold, to make the piece as beautiful as it was before, but in a different way.

We pray that God will take our broken pieces and make us beautiful in his way and in his time; that we will serve with soul, creativity and love, helping to mend the broken places in our world.



SUNDAY 25 AUGUST: SABBATH PRAYER

Being real

'Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.' (Psalm 139:23-24 *NLT*)

We dream of being a Salvation Army where we can be real with one another: real about our pains and our joys; real about our weaknesses and our strengths; real about our doubts and our beliefs. And we dream of being a Salvation Army which isn't afraid to let the world see that we are a work in progress, standing in need of God's grace.



MONDAY 26 AUGUST: SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

The Word of God

'For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.' (Hebrews 4:12 *NLT*)

We dream of being a Salvation Army ever more focused on being obedient to the word of God: listening to what God is telling us through his word, and then acting on it.



TUESDAY 27 AUGUST: SERVING & CARING

Faithful care

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other.' (Romans 12:9-10, *NLT*)

We dream of being a Salvation Army which loves well, taking care of one another and looking after those whom God brings to us. Lord, take us

beyond the place of being a club full of acquaintances and lead us to the place where we are together as friends and family.



WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST: GROWING IN FAITH **Embrace change**

'I have a lot more to tell you, things you never knew existed. This isn't a variation on the same old thing. This is new, brand-new, something you'd never guess or dream up.' (Isaiah 48:6-8 *MSG*)

We dream of a Salvation Army that welcomes the changes God is calling us into: true to Christ, grateful for the blessings of the past, but excited to embrace the new thing God is doing in our midst.



THURSDAY 29 AUGUST: INTERNATIONAL **SALVATION ARMY - Korea Territory**

The territory consists of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Mongolia and the Republic of Korea (South Korea). We pray for the territorial leadership team: Commissioner Chang, Man-hee, Territorial Commander, Commissioner Chang, Stephanie, Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Colonel Kim, Byung-yoon, Chief Secretary and Colonel Cha, Soon-sam, Territorial Secretary of Women's Ministries; and we pray for all those worshipping and ministering with the Army, particularly in places where Christianity is marginalised or outlawed.



FRIDAY 30 AUGUST: JUSTICE & RECONCILIATION **Hope for the broken**

'The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.' (Psalm 34:17-18 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army where all who feel broken find hope. We dream of being a force for good in our local communities, a place where people can come to find friendship and support. And we dream of helping people find the one who is the source of all hope.



SATURDAY 31 AUGUST: CARE FOR CREATION **Miracles**

“These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages ... They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.” (Mark 16:17,18 *NLT*)

We dream of a Salvation Army which is fluent in the language and works of Jesus. We dream of seeing people set free, and we dream of being a Spirit-empowered community which helps to bring healing wherever we go.



NOTES



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