
July Prayer Points

And now July has come and gone!

23 July 2016



It's been a busy month...

It's been a busy month and again the 'Rwandan way' has been a path I need to follow and show perseverance and patience with. I have been trying to have this one meeting and we made an appointment last Tuesday at 2pm. So as good westerners we arrive at 2pm and wait patiently for two hours only to find out that he was at lunch and wasn't coming back today - come back on Thursday. So Thursday came and went and we arrived, lined up in line for an eternity, got half way through the line and he stands up, announces he has a meeting to go to and we should come back next Tuesday at 8am!!! Seems crazy to us if you make an appointment you are entitled to keep that appointment - no its not the case, no ones time is more important or less important than anyone else you just line up and wait and wait and wait and check your emails and wait some more!



Praise Points:- Psalm 27 So, with Him on my side I'm fearless, afraid of no one and nothing.

Every Friday I go to a weights class run by some Christian women as a ministry of their church and I just love it. A couple of Fridays ago as we heard about the attacks on Nice (I was standing on that beach exactly two years ago to the day), someone shared Psalm 27 as part of our prayer time. The version I have included is from the message but it's true with God on our side then who do we fear - we have no reason to fear anyone or anything.

❖ Fred and Bishop James Visa's to Australia did come through and they have both been to Australia and now have safely returned home again and shall I add are a lot warmer than they were in Sydney's winter freeze!

❖ The first and third photos here are of teams that came from Wollongong University. While I knew their team leader (and they graciously brought over some more baby things for me) I didn't know anyone on the team. They are all in red because they played a game of soccer against the Fruits of Hope P6 boys and well, like our

church team, they got slaughtered! The P6ers won fair and square and were quite serious about the challenge too I may add. After their game I spontaneously invited them around for afternoon tea - we made popcorn and ate brown nuts, tortilla chips and salsa - water and tea and coffee. Not the classiest of a spread for International guests but the spontaneity and the warmth of friendly faces from home was far more important. They decided they were too smelly to come inside my house - so the driveway it was! I praise God for the opportunities to minister to these young university students and show them a little of life in Rwanda.

❖ The third photo is of one of the University Students who is a friend of a friend from Sydney so we went out for Pizza and a smoothie - again I am thankful for the opportunities to share life with visitors.

❖ And the opportunities don't stop there, one of the girls from the team was staying on for another week post the team going home but she didn't have any plans, so she is currently sleeping in my spare room for five days and I was able to bless her with accommodation and meals and show her around Kigali a little. So all those prayers late last year about finding a house where I could show hospitality and be generous with what I have, have come to fruition and I can bless others. And I love having guests too!

❖ The photo in the middle made my heart sing, I had another guest stay with me last week and when I showed her around the school and the vocational training college, we walked into the sewing room to find the ladies making school uniforms for the Fruits of Hope School - YAY!!!! This was what our hearts desire was way back in 2012 when someone on our team donated \$350 to buy a sewing machine to train ladies in the community to make school uniforms and now it is happening - so lets give all the glory and praise back to God for His plans and purposes being fulfilled.

Prayer Points:- Romans 12: 1-2 Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

❖ I was ironing on Thursday with Flora sitting on the bed and I had some kids praise songs playing for her and as we listened I was reminded of Romans 12 verse 1 and 2 - again this is the message version but after my frustrations of 'the system' this

has become my prayer for me, to remember the bigger picture and not the frustrations of the culture.

❖ The large photo at the top was of a planning meeting I had at my place on Wednesday night for the Community Bible Church. These lads are some of the Sunday School teachers I trained earlier in the year. Next week they are running a Holiday Bible Club at the church and asked me if I could share some ideas with them for teaching crafts and games and memory verses. Um - yeah too easy! So please pray for these young leaders of Rwanda as they lead the children next week 25th - 29th July in their Holiday bible program. I will attend to help them next week for three days. They came up with the following teachings from Matthew and I just shared some ideas....

- ❖ Monday - The crucifixion of Christ
- ❖ Tuesday - Salt and Light
- ❖ Wednesday - Prayer
- ❖ Thursday - Evangelism
- ❖ Friday - Review of each day

❖ The coloured pieces of paper you can see on the wall behind the guys in my house are words in Kinyarwanda - I'd value your prayers as I continue to learn and struggle and get it wrong many times but have plenty of laughs with the locals to try and learn some more Kinyarwanda.

❖ So I have heard it said many times that house work is bad for your health! Yes - it is - last night I swept our lounge room and as I squatted down to sweep it up with the dustpan and brush something happened to my right knee and now it seems to have difficulties to bend. This makes life with an 8 month old on your own over the weekend a little difficult. Next week looks rather full but I do plan to try and see a physio and see what I may have done to this little fella! Please pray for my knee that it is nothing too serious and it will recover on its own.

❖ We would also value your prayers against malaria - there seems to be an abundance of mosquitos, as careful as we are, Flora has two bites on her face this morning. I thought the rainy season was bad for mosquitos but I am starting to believe the dry season is worse as the water out the front stays stagnant during the dry season. Whereas the rainy season it gets washed away daily. All my visitors have said that there seems to be more mosquitos here than other places they have been to.

Again thank you for your prayers and your love for us - we couldn't do it without you!