

Michigan Conference Women's Ministries Prayer Initiative

The Michigan Conference Women's Ministries is launching a Prayer Initiative that will encourage all women to intercede daily for God's people.

It is the desire of the Conference Women's Ministries board to empower women to make prayer an important part of their daily life and to realize the power of a praying woman. We need to *focus* our prayers so that we may have an awakening in our churches and move God's work forward as well as praying for His leading in our lives as to how we can be witnesses for Him.

In ancient times the Lord worked in a wonderful way through consecrated women who united in His work with men whom He had chosen to stand as His representatives. He used women to gain great and decisive victories. More than once, in times of emergency, He brought them to the front and worked through them for the salvation of many lives. Through Esther the queen, the Lord accomplished a mighty deliverance for His people. At a time when it seemed that no power could save them, Esther and the women associated with her, by fasting and prayer and prompt action, met the issue, and brought salvation to their people. Ye Shall Receive Power 1995, p.270

For our prayers to have impact we must be closely connected with God.
“Remember, no time with God – no power, little time with God – little power, much time with God – much power. Prayer is power for victory, power for transformation, and power to become the witness that God is calling us to be.”

Steps to Success

1) Through the Michigan Women's Ministries board we would like to:

- A) Challenge each member to set aside a specific time and appropriate place to pray.
i.e. Prayer partners, maintain a journal, make prayer lists, be organized in our prayer and study time – studying the Bible in conjunction with E.G. White's *Conflict of the Ages* series.
- B) Choose one day each week and put aside all media —T.V., Internet, Computers — focusing on prayer and family.
- C) Contact each Women's Ministries leader in our district, introduce ourselves and specifically pray and encourage them in their ministry. One of the best ways to demonstrate care for others is to let them know we are praying for them.
“People don't care how much you know—until they know how much you care.”

- D) Conduct prayer breakfasts and training. Empowering Women’s Ministries leaders with tools for establishing prayer time as well as **providing every local leader with E.M. Bounds book, *Power Through Prayer*.**
- E) Challenge the Women’s Ministries leaders of each church to establish personal study time and prayer.

2) Through the local church Women’s Ministries leader we would like to:

- A) Get a commitment from her committee for 1 hour a day in study time and prayer.
- B) Share Prayer Initiative and tools with local church members.
- C) Establish personal study and prayer time for their church body.
- D) Encourage each woman to attend prayer meeting, bringing prayer requests and concerns. A part of our work in this world is to be sensitive to each other’s pain—weeping when they weep and praying for them in their sorrows. “A Christian is keenly sensitive to the needs of others, because he realizes that they are Christ’s property.” Ellen G. White, *The Upward Look*, 117
- E) Train and encourage her committee to take on five people to win to Jesus and five people to reclaim to Jesus. This may be accomplished through prayer, calls, encouraging and praying with them and giving Women of Spirit magazines.

3) Through the women in the local churches we would like to:

- A) Pray for leadership with each church, local and world wide conference – have pyramid prayer so that no one is missed.
- B) Have agonizing prayer for organizing in the work.
- C) Pray for evangelism – women praying before and during evangelistic meetings.
- D) Organize group of mothers to pray for children, teachers and school administration before school starts each day.

If you want to be efficient as an intercessor, treat each request shared with you as if it was for your ears only—because it is.

When you promise someone you are going to pray for them, you are making a sacred commitment and assuming a solemn responsibility.

“Prayer is the answer to every problem in life. It puts us in tune with divine wisdom, which knows how to adjust everything perfectly. So often we do not pray in certain situations, because from our standpoint the outlook is hopeless. But nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is so entangled that it cannot be remedied, no human relationship is too strained for God to bring about reconciliation and understanding, no habit so deep-rooted that it cannot be overcome, no one is so ill that he cannot be healed, no mind is so dull that it cannot be made brilliant. Whatever we need, if we trust God He will supply it-if anything is causing worry or anxiety, let us stop rehearsing the difficulty and trust God for healing, love, and power.” Author Unknown

Daily Prayer Focus

The strength acquired in prayer to God will prepare us for our daily duties. The temptations to which we are daily exposed make prayer a necessity. In order that we may be kept by the power of God through faith, the desires of the mind should be continually ascending in silent prayer. Messages to Young People 248.2

SUNDAY ~ Prayers for Family and Friends

I know of nothing that causes me so great sadness as a prayerless home. The children show the result of this neglect, for the fear of God is not before them. Parents should make a hedge about their children by prayer; they should pray with full faith that God will abide with them, and that holy angels will guard themselves and their children from Satan's cruel power. The Home Missionary, June 1, 1889 par. 9

There are homes where these principles are carried out, — homes where God is worshiped and truest love reigns. From these homes, morning and evening, prayer ascends to God as sweet incense, and his mercies and blessings descend upon the suppliants like the evening dew. The Home Missionary, June 1, 1889 par. 10

MONDAY ~ Prayers for the Michigan Conference Leadership and Programs

They cooperate with unseen, heavenly agencies, for they are willing to spend and be spent in the service of the Master. They are laborers together with God, and their brethren should bid them Godspeed, praying for them as they go forth to fulfill the great commission. No one is authorized to hinder such workers. They are to be treated with the greatest respect. No taunting word is to be spoken of them as in the rough places of the earth they sow the gospel seed. — Review and Herald, July 4, 1907.

TUESDAY ~ Prayers for Education and Children

Psalm 34:11&14 “Come, you children, listen to me, I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Depart from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it.”

WEDNESDAY ~ Prayers for the Marketplace i.e. Business, Banks & Industry

Proverbs 3:5-9 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes. Fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones. Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase.”

THURSDAY ~ Prayers for the Media

Philippians 4:8 “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.”

FRIDAY ~ Prayers for Government and Armed Services

Romans 13:1,2 “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”

Psalms 91:10,11 “No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your way.”

SABBATH ~ Prayers for Local Churches and Leaders

Romans 10:9, 10 “...if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”

“A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to come unraveled.”