

PRAISE and PRAYER

DECEMBER 2020

PROMISED HEAVEN

"We know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven."

2 Corinthians 5:1

There is an infinitely holy Spirit within this fallen flesh, and He makes us groan with longing. It's a holy longing that feels the burdens of this world and craves heavenly clothing. Under the weight of the world, heaven calls. We know we were not born to be clothed in fallen flesh forever.

Eternity is in our hearts. We were crafted for it, and deep down, the heart knows it. And when the Spirit fills our lives, we can taste it. The yearning becomes conscious and the desire grows more intense. Our deep needs have been confronted with a promise: Heaven waits for us.

Unless you are in peak form and full of vigour, you have already experienced frustration with this earthly tent. If you haven't yet, you will. It grows old and weary eventually, and then it dies. The great and precious promises of God have not forgotten that. The provision has been made. When hope in this life proves futile, when bodies ache and souls cry out, we can count on the glorious promise of resurrection. There is an eternal house fitted just for us.

We often forget to live in this world with an eye on eternity, but tragedy and hopelessness remind us to look ahead. One of the greatest gifts God has given us in His Son is an incorruptible eternity with Him. In eternity, bodies will not ache and tears will be wiped away. Trials will be forgotten and joy will be made full. When that time comes, the groaning will stop.

Does the thought of the heavenly Kingdom influence your life today? It should. Your life should be anchored in a future hope. That doesn't mean you avoid living the Kingdom life right now; it only means that the Kingdom life will be assaulted by trials and tribulations for a time. Unless you have your heart set on heaven, the trials and tribulations will become unbearable. That's why the Spirit has guaranteed what is to come. Eternity changes everything.

Chris Tiegreen: Worship the King

BLOEMFONTEIN

"... Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation." Psalms 100:4-5

PRAISE:

- For a difficult but amazing year.
- For getting to know each and every one of our precious ladies in a different way through shared hardship.
- For His Hand and blessings upon us during a year of challenges.
- For our National Office, our Trust members, PMB YW and CT YW.
- For our Committee and Prayer Partners.
- For the amazing rain we are getting.
- For God's Will, Heart and Word for everyone at The YW in Bloemfontein.
- For a full house for 2021.

PRAYER:

- That God will send the right ladies to our House, He knows exactly who they are.
- That we will learn from each other the lessons God wants us to learn.
- That our waiting list for the 2021 academic year will grow.
- That our girls will have an amazing and blessed Christmas and that they will have fun but be very wise.
- That each and every one of The YW family will have a time of relaxation and a blessed time with friends and family.
- For our farmers to be safe during an increased time of violence against farmers.
- For the leaders of our country.
- For our cleaners, Mittah and Adelina, to have a safe holiday and an awesome time with their families.
- For a deeper and fresh revelation of God's Love for us and the real reason why we celebrate Christmas.

Staff: Almarie, Mittah & Adeline

CAPE TOWN

PRAISE:

- We praise God for His continued protection over this House, for His mighty provision and for all who live and work here. We thank God for His protection too from the virus.
- We praise God for the Residents we have had this year. About half of them left for lockdown and did not return although all are returning next year. We praise God for that and we praise God for those who have remained in the House and the way that God has touched the lives of so many.
- We praise God for the applications received thus far for 2021.
- We praise and thank God for our Committee and our Staff.
- We praise God for Delia who has volunteered to be our Life Coach for 2021.

PRAYER:

- We pray for our Residents and those who have left for the year. We are down to 10 ladies on the property. We pray for them as many are still busy with examinations which will go into late December. Many are uncertain about their future and when studies will commence in 2021.
- We pray for Shaq and Claire, Pastors at the Red Harbour Church in the city bowl. That God will lead and direct them as we have initiated discussions on the way forward and how they can become part of our ministry here at The YW. We pray for Delia, mentioned above, for God's leading as she joins us on a part time basis in 2021.
- We pray for our building. We need to replace our roof but there are legal matters which we
 have needed to attend to for Heritage purposes. The process has been rather lengthy and the
 permit has still not been issued. We need to commence replacing the roof in January. We
 therefore trust God to provide for us.
- We pray for our Committee. That He will protect them and their families. We pray for wisdom and understanding of the situation we find ourselves in and how best to manage the House going forward. We pray too for a replacement for Anne, that God will call the right person to join us. We will be advertising this post, again, shortly.
- We continue to praise God and thank Him for Malcolm and Amanda who have been so willing
 to assist us during this time so that we may take much deserved time off from time to time.
 We thank God for their family overseas, and in particular for Lyzer's (their grandson's)
 progress.

Staff: Distone, Terenia, Joshlin, Annie, Alice, Nikki, Heathia, Megan and Wayne

"Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge Him." Hosea 6:3

PIETERMARITZBURG

PRAISE: Isaiah 49:15b-16: "I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands."

- For our Father who is so faithful, who has seen us through this year.
- For each of our ladies who continue to put in the hours of work online learning demands of them.
- For the continued protection of God!
- For a very different and strange year that has taught us to rely on God alone.
- For the work that we have been able to do even through lockdown.
- For each of our ladies who brings their own special personality into the 'House'.
- For the wonderful rains which continue to fall. May the entire country be blessed with good rainfall this season.

PRAYER: Haggai 1:4b "Be strong all you people of the land, declares the LORD."

- For perseverance and strength for each lady as they prepare for and write their exams during December.
- For our end of year evening to be a fun time of de-stressing and good Christmas fare.
- For each of our ladies who we will be sending into the workplace to remember their lives need to be solidly grounded on Jesus Christ, our only Hope.
- That this Christmas season will be a turning point for many to see who Jesus really is.

 For the Holy Spirit's anointing of peace over South Africa to stop those who would seek to destabilise this land.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas. Thank you for your support over the years.

Staff: Fikhile, Japhet, Zodwa, Penny & Fred

NATIONAL OFFICE

PRAISE:

- We praise and thank God that each of our Managers, their Staff and Residents, have not succumbed to the COVID-19 illness. Jesus is our Jehovah Rapha (God our Healer).
- We praise God for the internet facility of Zoom and similar communication programmes which have enabled the EXCO, Trustees and our Local Associations to continue to be in contact with one another, especially for meetings, throughout this year.
- We thank God for our National EXCO members and The YW Trust Trustees who all fall into the "more susceptible" group of people, during this pandemic.
- We thank the Lord for the rains that have fallen across South Africa, filling the dams.

PRAYER:

- For continued protection over Residents, Staff and Management as the year draws to a close, and also over our Houses, especially during the holiday season.
- For all the 2020 residents in each House; that as the year closes and they depart for home, that they will experience the peace of God as they do so.
- For Campus Outreach's women staff and the young ladies they have ministered to this year; that they too will each know the presence of the Lord Jesus in their lives.
- For **Kathy Chetty** (Durban) who recently found out she has cancer. For strength and courage and continued faith in our Lord Jesus.
- Please continue to pray for each of our <u>Retired Workers</u> around the country, our <u>YW</u>
 <u>Missionaries</u> (numbers are dwindling); and for those of our East London, Jo'burg & Pretoria "YW family".
- All our National Council and in particular, our Directors: Margrit Temple, Mark Baisley, Alice Mathew & Noreen Hallam.

For HEALING: For all those who are suffering with the COVID-19 virus, throughout all of Africa, as well as any within our YW family. Pray also for: Jean & Henri Pienaar (Jhb); Brian Wood and Denise Atkins (CT); Mollie Webb (EL); Norma Green (PE), Lorna Jackson and Kathy Chetty (Dbn). *"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him."* Nahum 1:7.

HARARE (CRA Bromley House)

Hebrews 12:1 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

PRAISE:

 All praise to the living God for His continued blessings and hand of protection over the house, residents and staff.

- Praise that the final formal Chapel Evening was well attended, and for the love amongst residents and staff.
- Praise that the Thanksgiving Breakfast was appreciated by those who attended.
- All thanks to the Lord through Jesus Christ for the faithful prayer warriors of the Prayer Union.
- We praise the Lord that all the rooms are occupied and all residents have remained healthy.
- Thanks that emergency repair work was done well by ethical contractors.

PRAYER:

- Pray the Lord brings the right person in 2021 to be the General Secretary.
- Pray that the Lord continues to keep the residents safe from the COVID-19 threat.
- Pray for safe travelling and happy reunions with families over the Christmas and New Year holidays.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and wisdom in the interviews of residents who are reapplying, and new applicants for 2021.

Bromley House staff

PLEASE ENJOY A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS SEASON. KEEP SAFE AND HEALTHY.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE <u>WILL NOT</u> BE A PRAISE & PRAYER LEAFLET FOR JANUARY 2021.

It will resume again in February.