



United Pentecostal Church Intl December 2025



Praise Him in Advance By Stacey Shaw



God has a soft spot for the broken, lost, and bound. They are the reason He came. Jesus spoke to this in Luke 15 in the parable of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. The lost sheep was important enough for the shepherd to leave the ones that were safe. Although the coin was lost in the house and was unaware it was lost, it still had value and needed to be found. Finally, the prodigal who willfully got lost, knew he had to get home and was warmly received by his father. Time and again we have witnessed His great love as He reaches for and restores the fallen.

God is in the restoration business. Restoration, by definition, means to return to one's former condition and standing in God. Jesus embraced his role of restorer when He applied Isaiah's prophecy to Himself: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim

liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18, ESV). This "recovering of sight" Jesus is speaking of is giving back spiritual *and* physical sight to those who have lost their sight. Peter wrote, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (II Peter 3:9, ESV). This includes those who have lost their way.

Therefore, the church must be in the restoration business as well! Most know someone who needs to be restored. It is time faith arises in our prayers and that we, "look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen" (II Corinthians 4:18). Can you see through eyes of faith? Can you see your lost children, friends, neighbors, and loved ones in the altars? We must continue reaching and never give up, remembering, "Such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus" (I Corinthians 6:11, ESV).

Note: Stacey Shaw is the senior pastor's wife at New Life Austin where she has served alongside her husband for more than three decades. She is the mother of two adult children, Taylor and Brooke (husband, Jake), and Mimi to two grandchildren. When she is not serving the church she loves to go hiking with her husband.

When Prayer Becomes Personal

By Abigail Ampomah



As of the age of eight, I grew up in church learning that we serve a God who hears us and answers prayers. During services, fellowships or just a get together, I would hear about the great things God had done in people's lives. I would rejoice with them, weep with them, pray with them and intercede for them. That is what we do. That's who we are.

It is easy to have great faith for somebody else, because either all your needs have been met or you are satisfied with where you are at. I've seen the hand of God move upon my life whenever I faced a closed door. And each time I had to learn that God was calling me deeper. As if He wanted to see if I had the faith, to believe that what He did for another, He could do it for me. I had to get personal.

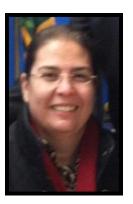
I had to get vulnerable in front of my Father. I had to let go of what I thought what was possible and allow the Word of God to tell me what is possible.

When prayer becomes personal, it's not about my insecurities, flaws or shortcomings. It's about the One Who is Faithful, Perfect and Wonderful in all His Ways. And for Him nothing is too hard and His arm is not too short that it cannot reach out. I had to believe that the miracles I had read in His Word is still happening today!

James 5:13-16 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Jeremiah 32:27 Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me? Isaiah 59:1 Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear

Note: Abigail Ampomah is from the Netherlands and is a licensed minister with the VPGNL. She pastors the church called Freedom Church in the city The Hague. She is also a fulltime math teacher in High school and has a degree in Psychology and Neuroscience.

Spotlight on Translators



Nina Van Luvan is Ladies Prayer International translator for the Portuguese language. She is a Brazil native. She and her husband are home missionaries to the Portuguese speaking community of the Boston area. They have one daughter, Joy, and a 6 months granddaughter, which grandpa graciously named Chayil (Hebrew for "virtuous"). Joy and her family lives and attend an Apostolic church in South Korea.

From the Editor
Debbie Akers Robbins



God is doing mighty things!

God is opening many doors and this newsletter is now available in: English, Arabic, Chinese simplified, Chinese traditional, Czech, Dutch, Fijian, Filipino, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Romanian, Spanish, Sri Lankan, Swedish, and Thai.

Please help us pray for more translators!

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Who we are . . . Since 1999: Ladies Prayer Intl. is made up of women worldwide, who meet on one day in the first week of each month to unite in focused prayer for our children and the children of the local church and community. Pick a day that work for your group,

Our Mission . . . We are committed to the spiritual preservation of this generation and beyond and the spiritual restoration of previous generations.

Our Need . . . Committed women who will join together on the first Monday of each month and pray focused prayer for their children.

Three Priorities of Prayer...

- The salvation of our children (Isaiah 49:25; Psalm 144:12; Isaiah 43:5-6).
- That they take ownership of the faith at an accountable age (I John 2:25-28; James 1:25).
- That they enter into the ministry of the Lord's harvest (Matthew 9:38).