# DEAR FRIEND,

Women throughout the world face challenges that are incomprehensible for many of us. Some walk many hours every day just to get water for their families. Others spend their nights hiding from bomb attacks in caves with their children. Many suffer repeated physical and emotional abuse with few opportunities to receive help. They often don't even know the unconditional love and eternal salvation available to them through Jesus Christ.

These women need our prayers. Thank you for taking the time to learn how to pray for seven women around the world and others in similar circumstances. We invite God's mercy as we join together in praise and petitions to the One who is faithful to meet every need.

Blessings,

Cissie Graham Lynch





## SUNDAY-KENYA

Providing for her three children is a daily struggle that Esha Moti cannot take for granted. When she was four months pregnant with her last child, her husband died of pneumonia. However, Esha refused to let these circumstances hold her back. She is one of eight widows in Chifiri, Kenya, who received training on every aspect of a Samaritan's Purse water project in her community. Not only is she working hard for the betterment of her family and village, but she has also inspired other women to do the same. "The God you are serving is a God who cares for the orphans and the widows," she said.

Pray for women in Kenya, especially the widows, who walk for hours to find water or are unable to reach a clean water source. Pray that God would protect their family's health and show Himself as their Provider.

"The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price" (Rev. 22:17, ESV).



## MONDAY-VIETNAM

Ma Thi Ay grew up in a poor Vietnamese family, with a lack of food and education. She belongs to an ethnic minority group, of which many are unemployed or under-employed due to strong prejudice. As a young adult, Ma felt pressure to find a husband. But when her sick mother encouraged her to pursue educational opportunities, she decided to enroll in the Hoa Sua Vocational Training School. Samaritan's Purse provides funds for this special program for ethnic minority young people, ages 16-25. "What I desire the most is that I will study hard and have good results so that I can get a good job to help provide for my parents—especially for my mother to get medicine to help her recover from diseases," she said.

Pray for Ma and other young women to acquire a skill that will help them break the cycle of poverty caused by a lack of resources and discrimination. Pray that they would learn not only literacy and trades, but also the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ through programs that share the love of God and help believers grow in their faith.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10, ESV).

### **TUESDAY—SOUTH SUDAN**

When our staff met Faluda, her six-month-old daughter was clinging to her neck while she held the hand of her three-year-old son. She had no idea if her husband was still alive. Thousands of women like Faluda are fleeing the Nuba Mountains of Sudan alone with their children. They escape constant bombings from their own government and fear of starvation as they trek across the desert in hope of a better future in South Sudan. Our staff at the Yida refugee camp in South Sudan provides life-saving

food, medical care, and other aid to these hurting people, while sharing the hope of the Gospel.

Pray for the women such as those in the Nuba Mountains who face persecution and other hardships. Ask God to restore families like Faluda's, and for the Gospel to sustain those who have lost almost everything else.

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all" (2 Thess 3:16, ESV).



# WEDNESDAY-BOLIVIA

Filomena Mamani used to always stay at hometo help care for her children and cattle. In the Altiplano of Bolivia, women usually aren't given opportunities to learn how to do anything else. But Filomena has been attending Samaritan's Purse sewing classes for three years and is now the president of the local association. Most of the women in her class walked more than an hour and a half across freezing terrain to learn how to tailor clothes and make business plans. They hope to eventually sell the clothes they are making. Although Filomena's husband was resistant to the idea at first, once he saw that she was able to save the family money by making clothes, he became supportive.

Pray that women around the world will learn that they have valuable capacities and talents. Pray that they would feel like vital parts of their own families, and also that they would know their worth as children of the Living God.

"That according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith" (Eph. 3:16-17, ESV).

### THURSDAY—HAITI

When Johanne first brought her newborn girl, Christmine, to our maternal and child health clinic in Haiti, the infant was showing signs of malnutrition and dehydration. They live in a tent city just outside of one of the largest slums in the Northern Hemisphere. Johanne had been hospitalized shortly after giving birth due to tuberculosis and was unable to breastfeed. Little Christmine was becoming weaker. A nurse at the clinic immediately started Christmine on a free nutrition program. Over the next few months, she gained weight and became a healthy infant. During one visit, the nurse also shared the Gospel with Johanne, who accepted Jesus as her Savior. "It is because of God's grace that this clinic is here," she said. "If we would not have gotten this help, my baby would have died."

Pray for mothers like Johanne who need access medical treatment for their infants. Ask the Lord to look after their little ones and reach them with His compassionate care.

"O Lord, be gracious to us; we have waited for You. Be their strength every morning, Our salvation also in the time of distress" (Isaiah 33:2, NASB).

#### FRIDAY-ETHIOPIA

Living alone as a 12-year-old on the streets of Ethiopia, Almaz Egiziabher never imagined she would get stuck in the cycle of prostitution and drug-abuse that robs the childhood of too many. "Deep inside, I was searching for God," Almaz, now 27, said. "I was asking where He was." Desperate and lonely, Almaz finally arrived with her son at a shelter run by Samaritan's Purse. There she not only found the counseling and treatment that she needed, but she also experienced the healing power of Jesus Christ. Today, Almaz is addiction-free and runs her own small business. "I praise God for the support I got," she said. "My life has completely changed, not just for myself, but for my son."

Pray for vulnerable girls living on the streets, that God would protect them from exploitation and that He might open doors for educational and job training opportunities.

"Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me" (Psalm 50:15, NASB).

## SATURDAY—CAMBODIA

Sophan Son's two-year-old son, Yai Hong, was weak and sick when Samaritan's Purse nutritional staff first visited her family in Cambodia. She was barely able to provide for her five children with her job selling snacks in the nearby capital city of Phnom Penh. Our team evaluated Yai and determined that he was malnourished. We gave Sophan's family a ration of food and the tools and training to maintain a home garden. She and her five children are now growing their own healthy fruits and vegetables, and Yai is at an appropriate height and weight for his age. "No one has ever helped us like this before, and I would like to say thank you," Sophan said.

Pray that Sophan and her family will trust in Christ for salvation. Pray also for other mothers whose husbands have died or abandoned the family as they struggle to provide for their children, that God would meet their physical and spiritual needs.