

September 2013



Dear friend and prayer partner,

Why do I write a monthly letter encouraging you to keep praying along with intercessors in 124 countries? Firstly, the need before us is too great! No one can do this work alone. Project Hannah's teams around the world need strength, wisdom, stamina, protection, determination, persistence, patience, much love, and compassion to accomplish their work. These things can't be ordered "online." We can't get them from governments or borrow them from any NGO. They are found only in God's heart. And prayer is the currency to acquire them, enabling us to embody Christ's message to hurting women all around us.

Secondly, I hope this monthly letter is an encouragement to you to keep doing this magnificent work of prayer that turns tears into joy and losses into gain. And this transformation occurs even when the issues we pray for are too difficult or too foreign for us to understand. Know that there are very simple needs that God is meeting through this concerted worldwide prayer! Oh, I pray that you feel connected, energized, and blessed as you follow our prayer calendar. And as you faithfully do so, you sense the honor of being a world changer.

I love to hear from you, too. Some time ago I received an email that blessed me tremendously:

Dear Marli, I had to write and tell you of the blessing I am getting for being "linked" with others praying for women who need to know Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

You wrote in your letter, "I pray you might be energized and blessed today and every day of the month by the very exercise of prayer on their behalf as you participate in this worldwide wave of intercession." That hit it right on target. I am blessed and energized (that is the feeling I couldn't identify!). This is the armor wearing, sword swinging battle that touches your "inward parts" for sure.

I feel as if I'd finally hit on the reason that makes me feel "used for Jesus' cause."

I praise God for showing me a niche in which I am equipped to do battle while having true understanding. I know what the empty, raw hurt feels like that these women are experiencing and can really pray from my heart for them. So encouraged when I hear that God is answering our prayers.

My friend, as we pray for women in the poorest countries of Europe this month, let's do it with this same mindset: of partners with God in His mighty saving work as hearts come to Him. The truth of the Gospel exposes the enemy's lies; and as the Hope of Christ changes lives, let's lift its banner convinced that healing and peace will take place not only in the lives and situations we pray for but also in the intercessors' own lives.

Serving joyfully with you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marli Spieker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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Reports and Listeners' Letters:

Turkish:

Project Hannah's Turkish *Women of Hope* producer was born in Mardin and grew up in a Syrian family. She lived 12 years of her childhood in Mardin and afterwards moved to Istanbul. After the loss of her father she got very angry with God and blamed him for the loss. She tried to kill herself but then she met a Christian woman at the hospital who brought her to Christ. Now she is serving in churches, having an effective role in children's ministries. She is also a leader of a women's group where she is teaching the Word of God. Sometimes she also visits older women in hospitals to pray for them. She writes, "Please pray that I know God better in my life, so that I can teach women about His love. Please pray for my family, my mother and my brother who are not in Christ yet. Please pray especially for my brother who has a speech kind of illness. Please pray that God provides me a helper, I'm still single."

There are 100 intercessors praying through the Turkish monthly prayer calendar. Pray that many others will join them.

Albania:

The huge problem of girls and women in Albania is the fast changing of culture stereotypes: girls are open to sexual freedoms resulting in a high number of abortions. Albanian parents (raised in a traditional society, with more clear moral norms) are losing the authority inside the family. Violence in the home is a huge problem. Even Christian women are suffering from unbelieving husbands who are addicted to alcohol, gambling, and other bad habits. Pray for healing, restoration, redemption, cleansing, and deliverance from social issues such as abortion, trafficking, gambling, drug addiction, alcoholism, and prostitution.

"I am married and I live together with my husband, my mother-in-law and two nephews of my husband. My husband is not Christian. And most of the time I am as a servant in that home. My mother-in-law commands me to do all the things in the home and to take care of the nephews, which are 14 and 16 and they often use violence against me. The conditions I live in are extremely hard. Sometimes they do not allow me to go to church. Your *Women of Hope* radio program has helped me with the advice I have heard. It is hard, but I'm trying to put into practice what I hear. Thank you."

"In my village there is no church. Radio is my daily food. I live with my mother and brother. My father passed away two years ago and now he is with Jesus. I am so happy that sometime ago, before he died, he had accepted Jesus listening to your programs. I listen to the prayer calendar of Project Hannah and pray every day according it. I am so blessed also by the *Women of Hope* program that you broadcast. Thank you for every lesson of this program."

"I came to Christ through my daughters. They talked to me often. One of them came to Christ through your programs. She suffered a lot from depression and only through your programs is now free. I noticed a change in their life and began to listen to your *Women of Hope* program. Is a very beautiful program with useful advice. I am so happy that Jesus has found us and has used different people to bless us so much. God bless you all who work in radio for bringing us such wonderful programs."

"I am a new believer. I stay home all the day. I live in a small village and we do not have many activities to do. I go to church once a week in the city. Recently a friend in my church gave me a solar radio. I began listening to your programs. I heard your *Women of Hope* program and I thought this would be a great program to share with my neighbors. So, I invited them to my home at the time of the program, two of my friends who are not Christian. So we had a time of coffee while listening to the program. The ladies enjoyed the program and they thought it was a great idea to gather together every time this program is on the air. Thank you for being a tool to share Jesus with others."