

November 2015



My dear friend,

Are you ready to join us in praise and thanksgiving to God throughout this month? I hope so! Thank you for your faithful and earnest prayer for the hurting women we serve. Together we are changing their future! Like someone said, "History belongs to the intercessors who believe the future into being." Praying with expectant faith for their present circumstances changes their future! Obeying Christ's command in Luke 11:9 to ask, search, and knock will bring healing and restoration in their lives. So, God is allowing us through prayer to take hold of history and change these women's eternal destiny! But today I propose we stop asking and knocking at heaven's door. Instead, let's raise our voices in thanksgiving and praise to our God and say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits!"

I think of God's benefits in answer to our prayers in Africa: first, the successful completion and delivery of the *Healing Voice* drama series intended for victims of fistulas and female genital mutilation in Ethiopia; and second, the new Project Hannah prayer and radio ministry in Kenya. I remember the intercessors' tears and prayers for their unfaithful and abusive husbands. And in Tanzania, more than 1,000 women attended the dedication of the first Hannah's House, dancing, singing, and shouting: "The grace of God came down to us through Project Hannah."

In Europe, God called Yvonne, a passionate and dynamic Irish intercessor, to mobilize the Church to pray for the many "stolen lives" of women worldwide and to speak hope to her own country.

In Haiti, I remember launching the new prayer movement and praying along with hundreds of intercessors under the largest mango tree I have ever seen. What a faith-strengthening experience!

God is answering our prayers, blessing the well-coordinated partnership with Cru and its Magdalena film to produce a radio program called *Portraits of Hope*. Listeners will grow deeper in their faith.

And then God is opening Christians' hands and hearts so that the *Women of Hope* radio program will continue proclaiming God's love in 69 languages.

Finally, there is you, one of Project Hannah's 50,000 intercessors, asking, seeking, and knocking at heaven's door, asking God's grace to change women's lives now and for eternity. So much to be thankful for!

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget NONE of His benefits."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marli Spieker".

Marli Spieker
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Project Hannah

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“Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.”

John 21:25

The **Ethiopian** Project Hannah team had three days of prayer and fasting for peace during the Ethiopian elections. God heard their prayers. The election was peaceful. Praise the Lord!

We praise God that 24 houses where illegal drugs were sold were closed by the **Ethiopian** government. This was one of Project Hannah’s prayer requests this year, and God has answered our prayers. But there are still more such houses, so let us continue to pray for the rest to be closed.

Praise the Lord for Mama Rhoda Kijumbe, the first coordinator for the Kigoma region of **Tanzania**, where more than 200 women registered as Project Hannah intercessors.

Malawi’s president approved a law that lifts the marriage age from 16 to 18. Malawi had one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world. The law also recognizes only marriages between men and women. It also gives a widow a share in her husband’s property, ruling out the need for a will. The law also states that if an underage couple have a child, the boy’s family will be financially responsible for the baby.
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-32325177>

Give thanks for the growth of the church in **Algeria** and for the development of discipleship programs specifically for the Algerian church. Give thanks for Christian radio and TV programs that are accessible across North Africa. Pray for those who listen, that the seeds of the gospel will fall on fertile hearts open to receive Christ. Pray for Christians in Algeria, who face growing opposition and oppression. Pray for a strengthening of faith and a deep knowledge of the love and faithfulness of their heavenly Father. Acts 16:5: “So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily.”
<https://pray.interserve.org/category/region/arab-world/algeria/>

A push in **Cambodia** for a sustainable change in the justice system to protect children from sex trafficking over the past decade has resulted in huge changes. Police now proactively and reliably enforce Cambodia’s laws against trafficking, providing a credible deterrent against a criminal enterprise that seeks to profit from the rape of children. The trafficking of very young children has become increasingly rare.
<https://www.ijm.org/where-we-work/cambodia> <http://news.ijm.org/new-study-finds-significant-decrease-of-children-in-cambodias-commercial-sex-industry/>

“Do you remember me? I attended the women’s conference many years ago, and you were teaching on prayer. I asked you to pray for me because I had been married for more than six years but did not have any children. My husband’s family was very disappointed. When you prayed and laid hands on my womb, I felt heat come into my body. The year after that, I conceived and had a son! My son is grown up now, and all of us are serving in the church.” **Thailand**

“My husband left me. I had to look after my three children alone. I had so much pain and suffering. One night, while I was thinking of committing suicide, I heard your program, *Women of Hope*, saying that life has meaning because God created us in his image and he loves us enough to give his life for us. I prayed to God and found him as my personal deliverer. He saved not only me but my whole family, including my husband.” **Thailand**