

May

AS LEAVES TURN GOLDEN, AND TREES SHED WHATEVER IS LEFT, SOUTH AFRICA ALSO FACES A MONTH OF CHANGE TOO. OUR SEVENTH GENERAL ELECTIONS WILL PROBABLY BE ONE OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT. MANY ARE PREDICTING A SHIFT IN POWER. IN THIS CLIMATE OF POWER BALANCES, WE REQUIRE CALM HEADS AND MUCH WISDOM. IT IS ALMOST IRONIC THAT ON THE FIRST DAY OF THIS MONTH, WE CELEBRATE WORKERS DAY IN THE LIGHT OF RECORD HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES.

AGAINST THIS BACKDROP, WE ASK, "WHAT IS OUR VOICE AS A MOVEMENT? HOW DO WE PRAY? HOW DO WE INFLUENCE WHAT WE SEE TAKING PLACE AROUND ABOUT US?"

THE MONTH OF MAY ALSO HAPPENS TO COINCIDE WITH OUR SCRIPTURE UNION FINANCIAL YEAR-END. OUR PRAYER IS NOT ONLY THAT GOD WILL MEET OUR NEED, BUT THAT HE WILL BRING PEACE TO A PERIOD WHICH POTENTIALLY HOLDS VOLATILITY. THE SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS MONTH POINTS US TO HUMILITY, PRAYER, A SEEKING AFTER GOD, AS WELL AS A CALL TO REPENTANCE. MAY WE, LIKE THE PEOPLE OF OLD, FOLLOW THAT LEAD, AND PUT OUR TRUST IN THE GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES. THE ONE WHO IS THE SAME, YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER. HEBREWS 13:8

2 Chronicles 7 verse 14: If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Wednesday, 1 | Today, we pause to give thanks for the jobs that we have, providing income for our families, as well as giving us a sense of significance. We also bring those who are unemployed before you today. Encourage us and restore our hope once again.

Thursday, 2 | SU Western Cape takes a moment gives thanks for a highly successful past-staff recent event to celebrate 100 years legacy in this region. Across the ages, young and old, people left enthused about SU's vision, whilst cherishing its rich history and heritage.

Friday, 3 | SU Gauteng has requested prayer for their holiday club leaders training taking place in various areas across Gauteng. We pray that our leaders will be well prepared for the holiday season.

Saturday, 4 | Our SU Algoa team wishes to bring their children's ministry training taking place today in the heart of Gqeberha. We pray that each children's worker, church or Sunday school will be deeply impacted this day as they are reminded of their calling. We also lift up the SU Western Cape's session 3 of their Youth Leaders Training taking place today. We ask that the 35 participants will continue to grow in their faith and their calling.

Sunday, 5 | Today, as many churches gather to worship, we want to pray for our relationship with local churches, as a movement. Help us to serve your Church, Lord, and be a blessing.

Monday, 6 | Please pray for the writing of a new Teen devotional book, as an initiative from our SU Western Cape team. Bless the writing of this resource, Lord, and use it to encourage and guide our youth of South Africa.

Tuesday, 7 | We pray for SU Gauteng, as Maggie and Stacey will be leading a school's retreat for 3 grades at Loreto over the next few weeks. We pray for wisdom, and guidance as they present the good news.

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Wednesday, 8 | One of SU Algoa's mission enablers, Kwakes will be leading a lifeskills course today at Greenwood Primary School. Bless this work, Lord, and cause our children to see you in the lives of those present in their school today. We also lift up SU Western Cape's 100-year Pastors Breakfast taking place at Jubilee Church Observatory today. May the celebration bring churches together as they unite under the SU banner for the day.

Thursday, 9 | Please join us as we bring our SU campsite ministry to you. We give the Lord thanks for our bookings, good health and for the team working there. We also ask for your protection over the Kadesh Barnea and Stoney Ridge properties, committing Carine and Albert van Vuuren to you, Lord, as they settle into this space.

Friday, 10 | We pray that the renovation projects taking place at SU Stoneyridge Campsite will go smoothly. Lord help us to meet the deadlines and within budget.

Saturday, 11 | Kindly join us in prayer for Sam Otigo, Provincial Director for SU Eastern Cape, as the Algoa team plan and prepare for an educators' and principals' forum for their region. Help us to encourage and inspire our teachers, staff and school leaders, O God.

Sunday, 12 | We take the opportunity of wishing and celebrating all the mothers of our nation today. This includes all the new SU moms. We also pause to give thanks for those who are mothers to many, even though they may not have any children of their own today. You are our heroes.

Monday, 13 | We pray for more volunteers to avail themselves for schools work in the broader Gauteng region. Continue to guide our strategy as we look to grow the work in Gauteng.

Tuesday, 14 | We commit into your hands, Lord, our Nedbank and Sigma proposals that have been submitted recently. We pray that doors of favour will open for us.

Wednesday, 15 | Our SU Algoa's mission enablers, Vuyokazi Hoza, commences a lifeskills course in the township areas on the outskirts of Gqeberha. May doors be opened for her Lord, especially as they connect these courses to their camping ministry.

Thursday, 16 | SU Western Cape is hosting their second 100-year Pastors breakfast at Rocklands Baptist church Mitchells Plain today. Our prayer is that the local church will be encouraged, inspired and enthused through the SU narrative today.

Friday, 17 | We thank you, Father, for the vision and project idea of "Stationery with Purpose" that you have given us. We pray today for all the details, contacts, suppliers, and designs of implementation. As momentum builds, we ask Lord that we will build and cement the process and scope with the right building blocks and foundation. Bless Jaclyn de Kock in her role and bless this project, so that we will enjoy much fruit..

Saturday, 18 | We pray today for our SU National Executive Committee under the leadership of Anthony Ryan and Mariska de Beer. Grant them wisdom and grace as they lead us during a challenging time in the history of our nation. Help us know how to pray and respond to the numerous matters confronting the youth of South Africa at this time.

Sunday, 19 | Let us join the SU Western Cape team in praying for their Langa Sinawe schools' team. This team will be commencing their Heroes for Hope programme in two new schools this month.

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Monday, 20 | Lord, we pray for wisdom and your guidance with the properties you have entrusted to us. We particularly commit the Parkmore, Kadesh Barnea and Campground Road properties into your hands at this time.

Tuesday, 21 | Lord we are grateful for the Pact programme currently being run through our SU KZN region. We pray for our volunteers, churches and partners to work well together in meeting the targets set.

Wednesday, 22 | Lord, we commit all of our budgets and financial planning into your hands. Help us to make wise and sound decisions as these are finalised for the next finance year. We pray specifically too for Alice China, our National Finance Manager in this regard.

Thursday, 23 | Please join us in prayer for Natasha Prince (SU Algoa) as she coordinates a lifeskills course in the northern areas of the Gqeberha today. Lord, grant her desire for the right number and quality of volunteers for Republic, Astra and Linge Primary Schools. SU Western Cape will also be hosting their 3rd Pastors breakfast for the month of May at Logos Church Durbanville.

Friday, 24 | SU Algoa's teen camp is a strategic event called ReakN. We want to pray for their fundraiser events taking place, especially the 5-a-side soccer tournament happening next month.

Saturday, 25 | We pray today for the reading and Bible- reading sessions taking place today at Arries Primary School with Natasha Prince from our SU Algoa region. Open the way for her to be a witness through this programme.

Sunday, 26 | Many churches are gathering today to pray for the elections. Help us to hear your still, quiet voice amidst the noise, O Lord. Grant us wisdom as we prepare our hearts for the coming week.

Monday, 27 | The start of this week sees both our 7th general election take place, as well as our financial year end. We are trusting you, and asking you, Lord, to meet us at our point of need, over the next few days. We ask for wisdom for those with financial oversight within our ranks.

Tuesday, 28 | In the midst of all the hype, SU is grateful for opportunities which present themselves for growth. In this light we are grateful for the positive reconnections and meetings with Pastor Willie and Debbie Bruce from our George area. We pray for peace in this region, just as we pray for peace across our nation tonight.

Wednesday, 29 | We pray for peace in South Africa as many of us go to the polls today as we cast our democratic vote. We pray for a free and fair election process.

Thursday, 30 | As election numbers are tallied, we pray that the results will be received and accepted with grace and dignity.

Friday, 31 | Today marks the end of our financial year within Scripture Union. We trust you, Lord, for deficits to be met and for supernatural provision for every region and department of our work. Thank you, Lord, for your goodness to us as a movement.