

# June

YOUTH MONTH

I RECENTLY COACHED A YOUNG SOUTH AFRICAN, PREPARING HIM FOR THE JOB MARKET. HE RECEIVED 521 REJECTIONS IN HIS JOURNEY. AFTER A WHILE HE ONLY READ THE OPENING LINE. THE MESSAGES TOOK A TOLL ON HIS IDENTITY AND SELF- WORTH. I WILL NEVER FORGET HOW WE CELEBRATED WITH RELIEF, THE DAY THAT HE EVENTUALLY FOUND A JOB. MY LEARNINGS COINCIDED WITH A WORKSHOP THAT I FACILITATED FOR A NUMBER OF MINISTERS OF A WELL- ESTABLISHED DENOMINATION. THE RESULTS WERE STAGGERING – AVERAGE BUDGET SET ASIDE FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY WAS BETWEEN 1 - 2%. MEANWHILE A RECENT BARNAS RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT MORE THAN TWO THIRDS (77%) OF FIRST- TIME COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST ARE MADE BEFORE THE AGE OF 21. YET IN SOUTH AFRICA THIS AGE GROUP IS THE MOST NEGLECTED GROUP, FACING THE HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES OF ALL TIME. I HAVE BEGUN TO EXPERIENCE A SENSE OF HOPELESSNESS AMIDST OUR YOUTH.

I AM SO GLAD TO SAY THAT THIS TARGET MARKET CONTINUES TO REMAIN AT THE CENTER OF THE MINISTRY OF SCRIPTURE UNION. IT IS ONE OF THE REASONS THAT I REMAIN COMMITTED TO THIS MINISTRY. JESUS SAID SUFFER THE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME AND PAUL REMINDS EVERY YOUNG PERSON THAT THEY ARE OF VALUE IN OUR VERSE OF THE MONTH. (1 TIMOTHY 4: 12) IT IS IRONIC THAT FATHER'S DAY FALLS INTO THE SAME MONTH AS YOUTH MONTH. THE WORLD NEEDS GREAT FATHERS – CERTAINLY THE YOUTH DO.

TO ALL THE SU FATHERS – WE CELEBRATE YOU - HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

DARYL HENNING

*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*

*1 Timothy 4:12*

Monday, 1 | We commence the start of our new financial year with a heart of gratitude for all those who generously give into the work of Scripture Union. The results are not finalised yet, but we thank the Lord for the ways that he has provided. In the light of the resources, we also celebrated with the SU Western Cape team, their commissioning service for their Holiday Club leaders which took place yesterday. What a joy to hold our resources in tandem with the joy of enabling ministry.

Tuesday, 2 | Staying with the theme of gratitude, SU Eastern Cape is most grateful today for the successful training workshops conducted by Peter Nutall for Holiday club leaders, as well as Children's ministry leaders, over the past two weeks. What a joy to have seen those maturing and being equipped for ministry.

Wednesday, 3 | Please join us in prayer for the SU Western Cape team setting off for George over the next few days(3-10th June) to train and equip the local community leaders for their holiday club/s. Lord, we trust you for safe travel for the team, and for a joyous experience for both parties.

Thursday, 4 | SU Western Cape are strategically building their connection with the local church. This past month, besides the Holiday leaders commissioning service, they also hosted a successful Holiday club coordinators dinner. We give thanks for these initiatives and pray for many more church partnerships through these community outreaches

Friday, 5 | Last Friday we bade farewell to Jody Potts, a mission enabler in the SU Western Cape region. We give thanks for the contribution he has made within the region over the past 6 years and trust the Lord for his next season at Pinelands Baptist church. Jody has been particularly instrumental in setting up our Youth Leaders training program.

# June

Saturday, 6 | We thank God for our Resource Centre and the immense value of Christian literature. We pray that you will lead us as we put the right resources together, and that you will have your hand upon Grant Griffiths and his team, O, God.

Sunday, 7 | The week ahead is focussed on our work within SU KZN. As Sunday is considered a rest day, we pray for Garland Sam our Regional Director in his period of Sabbatical. May he enter the Sabbath Rest that the book of Hebrews speaks of, and may he return refreshed and rejuvenated.

Monday, 8 | Schools work - SU KZN are grateful to the Lord for opening new doors at Natest and Brairdene Primary schools. Their request for today reads as " We also thank Him for the amazing work being done by the Reservoir Hills team at these schools through hosting prayer spaces and leading assemblies. We pray for continued growth, impact, and meaningful connections with both learners and educators"

Tuesday, 9 | SU KZN are very grateful for the hard work of both Neo and Peter Nutall within the broader Pietermaritzburg area. They have been equipping children's ministry teachers in creative and effective ways to do ministry. Both of them, recently also led two very successful school assemblies in that part of the world.

Wednesday, 10 | SU KZN has requested specific prayer for Neo as he hosts the SU Global Sports ministry program. Please pray that God will grant him wisdom, clarity and confidence in all of his responsibilities. May he lead under the guidance and unction of the Holy Spirit.

Thursday, 11 | We give thanks today for the 20 new students who have joined the SU KZN Izotsha Primary School Bible study. Along with Lesleigh our staff member, the Lord used two students to create a special poster inviting others in their school to attend. We give you thanks God for the passion and heart of our Christian learners at our schools.

Friday, 12 | SU KZN has asked that we continue to hold them up before the Lord in their fundraising efforts. They are particularly trusting God for the resources required for their ministry of camps and holiday clubs this season. Lord, will you bless these activities within this region, as they experience your grace in answer to their prayers.

Saturday, 13 | Today is training and equipping day in preparation for numerous events across the SU regions of South Africa. We pray for the many holiday club leaders (all regions) , the Teen camp (SU KZN) and the Missions partners (SU Western Cape) all happening today. We also bring the leaders of our underprivileged camp i.e. Froggy Pond boys before , as they are being prepared for this challenging, yet exciting camp.

Sunday, 14 | We pray today for our National Executive, as well as our Provincial executives. May you, Lord continue to raise up the right leaders at this level, men and women of God with vision, passion, faith and full of the Holy spirit.

# June

Monday, 15 | Even as our schools take a break today, we ask for prayer for our “Year Beyond Project” in MdantSane SU Amatola. Will you God, use Sandile, as he leads the 29 volunteers under his tutelage and guidance for 2026. May they encounter Jesus in profound ways this year.

Tuesday, 16 | Youth Day

Today we celebrate Youth Day. It is a commemoration of the contribution and sacrifice made by the young people of South Africa. It also happens to be the generation that we, as a movement, strive to work amongst, the most. Lord help us to reach this group with your love and hope.

Wednesday, 17 | We are most grateful for the two campsites that we manage currently i.e. Stoneyridge and Glencairn. They have invited us to pray for the campsite bookings and staff this month. Lord, we ask for good health for those working at our sites. And we trust you for the finances to run these sites effectively -especially during the winter months. We are trusting for many confirmed bookings.

Thursday, 18 | SU Eastern Cape has requested prayer for their finances and fundraising initiatives set for the new financial year. We pray especially today for their Fundraising team, as they plan and set out their events. May they experience the favour and blessing of the Lord in this. Will you kindly remember Tracey McEwan too as she continues the Donor Management coaching.

Friday, 19 | The SU Algoa team will be conducting a team building event for the Staff of Parsons Hill primary school today. We pray for an effective event, trusting you for many “gospel” moments weaved into the program for the day. We give you thanks God for these strategic events which not only raise financial support, but also allow us to be present as Christians.

Saturday, 20 | As we gear up for the end of the school term and ministry, Lord we ask for you to examine our hearts. Help us to be in right standing with you, ministering out of the overflow of our walk with you God.

Sunday, 21 | Father's Day

Sundays are when we visit our local churches to worship God. Please pray that each of our team will be locked in well with a local church, enjoying this space of worship, prayer and the support that a local faith community brings.

We also take this opportunity to celebrate all the SU Fathers today - You play a vital role in our world. Happy Father's Day!

Monday, 22 | We lift up our Gauteng region before you today and particularly June Thekiso as she spearheads this vast region. Strengthen her and lead her to the right doors, O God.

Tuesday, 23 | Please pray for a special two day even being planned for SU Gauteng in the month of July. Our hearts desire is to build the work within this region.

# June

Wednesday, 24 | We bring our funding model before you today Lord. We pray for the National fundraising committee and for the networks to open for Samkelo Blom. Bless the applications that have been submitted for funding including the “ask” for the Haggai Institute once again.

Thursday, 25 | We give thanks for the role that our SU ambassador and chaplain Daryl Henning plays within the movement. Thank you, Lord for his legacy and influence. And we give you thanks for the six years of faithfully putting this prayer guide together.

Friday, 26 | Today our schools will close for the end of their second term as the holiday period commences. In the light of this, we give you thanks Lord for each teacher and especially Christian teacher. May they enjoy a good break, returning renewed and refreshed in three weeks' time. Bless this period with their families O, God.

Saturday, 27 | We give thanks for Mariska de Beer our General director today. Thank you, Lord for how quickly, she and her family have settled into the Gauteng region. We are grateful too for the base that the Stoneyridge campsite has offered us. May Mariska find new strength as you grant her fresh vision for the movement and for the days to come.

Sunday, 28 | Many holiday club and camp leaders will be gearing up for their first week of ministry today. We pray for strength, wisdom and blessing upon them and the teams they will be leading over the next few weeks. Enable them to pace themselves well and to be used mightily of God in the days to come.

Monday, 29 | We draw our month to a close with a commencement. Today marks the start of our SU Western Cape Froggy Pond boys camp. This is a significant event run for young boys who would never be able to afford our usual program of events. We pray for the team to connect well, as they “earn the right” to offer the hope of the gospel to the campers.

Tuesday, 30 | In the light of ministry, the months of June and July are exceptionally busy for both staff and volunteers. We are trusting for a rich harvest of souls, both within the lives of our leaders and within the communities of this marvellous nation of ours. Especially, as we close out Youth Month.