

September

DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD

I LOVE THE FACT THAT SPRING IS HERE, AND THAT WE CAN SEE IT ALL AROUND US, THE SIGNS OF NEW LIFE, NEW FRESH BLOSSOMS, AND LONGER DAYS REMIND ME OF THE NEW LIFE GOD GIVES US THROUGH JESUS. JUST AS CREATION RESPONDS TO THE WARMTH AND LIGHT OF THIS NEW SEASON, GOD IS INVITING US TO DRAW CLOSER TO HIM AND SEEK HIM FIRST IN ALL WE DO.

AS WE DRAW NEAR TO HIM, MAY HIS LIFE TAKE ROOT EVEN MORE DEEPLY IN US. MAY WE NOT ONLY RECEIVE THIS NEW LIFE, BUT MAY WE BE INTENTIONAL TO LIVE IT OUT IN WAYS THAT OTHERS CAN SEE - THROUGH OUR LOVE, OUR SERVICE, OUR FAITH, AND OUR HOPE. MAY OUR LIVES ALWAYS SPEAK LOUDER THAN OUR WORDS AND POINT CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, COLLEAGUES, AND COMMUNITIES TO JESUS.

James 4:8 "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."

Tuesday, 1 | Give thanks for God's Gift, the second-hand Christian book ministry in Rondebosch. Pray for strong connections with people and organisations that can supply books and help distribute them to those who need them.

Wednesday, 2 | Pray for open doors for SU Gauteng in Centurion and Muldersdrift. Ask God to prepare communities, schools, and churches to welcome the ministry and enable meaningful relationships to grow.

Thursday, 3 | Pray for the Western Cape TYLT Alumni Dinner taking place today. Ask God to make it a joyful time of reconnection, encouragement, and renewed commitment to serving children and young people.

Friday, 4 | Pray for SU KwaZulu-Natal's ongoing schools ministry. Ask God to protect and strengthen staff, volunteers, and ministry partners as they serve learners each week, and to make their work fruitful.

Saturday, 5 | Pray for Stoney Ridge as its busy season begins. Ask God to bless every group that visits, strengthen the ministry through the many weekend bookings, and use each stay to bring rest, growth, and lasting impact.

Sunday, 6 | Pray for the Eastern Cape Practical Leadership Programme (PLP) Camp. We trust God for the numbers of participants to increase and for this training to prepare young leaders to be equipped for faithful service in the Algoa region.

Monday, 7 | Pray for the Western Cape staff retreat taking place from 6-9 September. Ask God to give the team strength, wisdom, unity, and clear guidance as they plan for the remaining months of the year and seek to finish strong.

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Tuesday, 8 | Pray for Mervyn as he manages the God's Gift ministry and is facing some health challenges. Ask God to surround him with compassionate support, effective care, renewed strength, and hope.

Wednesday, 9 | Give thanks for the open doors SU Gauteng has in schools in Tembisa and Hekpoort. Pray that the ministry at these primary and high schools will help learners encounter Jesus and grow in faith.

Thursday, 10 | Give thanks for Rethabile Masenya on her birthday today. Ask God to bless her with good health, joy, wisdom, renewed strength, and a deep awareness of His presence in the year ahead.

Friday, 11 | Give thanks for the many contributions received for Closer to God 2027. Pray for the editorial team, Gerry Adlard, Peter Nuttall, Robyn Roodt, and Grant Griffiths as they complete the final editing with accuracy, wisdom, and care.

Saturday, 12 | Pray for today's Activate Missions Conference in the Eastern Cape. Ask God to bless Tracey as she gives a presentation and hosts the resource table, and for many people to join in prayer for SU's work in Algoa.

Sunday, 13 | Pray for strength and good health for every Stoney Ridge staff member as the campsite enters a demanding season. Ask God to give them energy, unity, patience, and joy as they serve.

Monday, 14 | Pray for the Parsons Hill Primary School Grade 6 Leadership Camp from 14-16 September. Ask God to protect the children and leaders and to use the programme to develop courageous, responsible, and compassionate young leaders.

Tuesday, 15 | Give thanks for Chicks Radise on his birthday today. Ask God to bless him as he leads the team at Stoney Ridge with good health, joy, wisdom, renewed strength, and clear guidance as he serves in the year ahead.

Wednesday, 16 | Pray for the joint SU Western Cape and SU Algoa Girls Camp from 29 September to 2 October. Ask God for safe travel, strong teamwork, full provision, and a blessed time in which every girl encounters His love.

Thursday, 17 | Pray for the planning of the KwaZulu-Natal Boys Camp. Ask God to guide Reinhardt as he seeks sponsorships and coordinates the details, granting provision, favour, wisdom, and good preparation.

Friday, 18 | Pray for sustained relationships between SU Gauteng, its partner schools, and local churches. Ask God to deepen these partnerships and call more willing people to serve children and young people through SU.

Saturday, 19 | Give thanks for Garland on his 50th birthday today as he provides leadership, wisdom, and encouragement to SU KwaZulu-Natal team. Pray for continued strength, good health, and God's clear guidance as he leads and serves.

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Sunday, 20 | Pray for Israel and Cathy as they hold the Algoa City ministry together and continue with the work that Kwakes started. We also pray that God will give the Amatola Mission Partners strength and wisdom as they visit schools each week.

Monday, 21 | Give thanks that the final year of the iVangeli Sunday School curriculum is now in print. Pray that the hundreds of churches using it across South Africa will help many children and teenagers be transformed by God's truth.

Tuesday, 22 | Pray that Stoney Ridge's midweek enquiries will become confirmed bookings. Ask God to bring the right schools and groups and to provide steady income for the campsite's ministry.

Wednesday, 23 | Pray for the Western Cape Mission Partner Connect planned for 26 September. Ask God to draw Mission Partners together, deepen relationships, renew their vision, and encourage them in ministry.

Thursday, 24 Heratage Day | Pray for today's second eThekweni Encounter and for Dan Wicks as he chaperones the event. Ask God to strengthen everyone serving and prepare each participant's heart. We also pray for SU KwaZulu-Natal's R99 campaign, for provision, favour, and more monthly partners.

Friday, 25 | Pray for the Eastern Cape team as they plan and raise funds for the Girls Camp. Ask God to guide every detail, provide the needed resources, and prepare the girls and leaders for a safe and Christ-centred experience.

Saturday, 26 | Pray for a suitable investor for the Stoney Ridge property across the road. Ask God to open the right door, grant wisdom in every conversation, and bring an outcome that supports the campsite's long-term ministry.

Sunday, 27 | Give thanks for Peter Nuttall's partnership in training churches to use iVangeli and strengthen children's ministry. Pray for more training opportunities and for churches to be equipped to serve children well.

Monday, 28 | Pray for Western Cape staff, Trendsetters, and volunteers as they prepare for the camping season. Ask God to give them energy, unity, wisdom, and everything needed to welcome and serve each group well.

Tuesday, 29 | Pray for the joint SU Western Cape and SU Algoa Girls Camp that is currently on the go. We are trusting God that every girl there will leave there having a better understanding of how Gods sees her and loves her.

Wednesday, 30 | Pray for all SU staff, Mission Partners, Trendsetters, and volunteers as they prepare for the final months of 2026. Ask God to renew their strength, provide the resources they need, and guide them as they continue serving children and young people.