

Weekly Prayer Strategy

7 May – 12 May 2018

This week's prayer strategy is based on the sermon by Paul Nyamuda entitled: The Effects of Prejudice & Stereotypes.

Prayer Point 1 - Discrimination

- Have you discriminated someone because of their race, gender, nationality or ethnic group, etc? Repent of your actions and pray for grace to see them the way God wants you to see them.
- Have you been discriminated against because of your race, gender, nationality or ethnic group, etc? Forgive and release the perpetrator(s) and pray for them that God will work in their hearts to embrace diversity.

Prayer Point 2 – Violence

Hebrews 13:2

Do not forget to practise hospitality toward strangers. Some did so and entertained angels unaware.

- Pray that we would become a Church and nation that practises hospitality toward strangers (foreigners) as opposed to ridiculing them.
- Pray for peace in our nation and against every form of violence.

Prayer Point 3 – Psychological Impact

- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any feelings of shame, anger, sadness and low self-esteem in you that may have been caused by prejudice. Pray for healing and restoration.

Prayer Point 4 – Inner Vows

Hebrews 12:14 -15

Pursue peace with all men, as well as holiness, without which no one will see the Lord. Be careful that no one falls short of the grace of God, so that no root of bitterness will spring up to cause trouble and defile many.

- Repent of all inner vows you have made particularly in a state of bitterness or anger due to prejudice.

Prayer Point 5 – Missing out on your purpose

John 1:43-46

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Torah and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

- Pray that we will be a Church free from prejudice of all manner so that we can fulfil our destiny.

Prayer Point 6 – Missing out on Kingdom blessing

Matthew 13:53-58

When Jesus had finished these parables, he moved on from there. 54 Coming to his hometown, he began teaching the people in their synagogue, and they were amazed. “Where did this man get this wisdom and these miraculous powers?” they asked. 55 “Isn’t this the carpenter’s son? Isn’t his mother’s name Mary, and aren’t his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas? 56 Aren’t all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all these things?” 57 And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honour except in his own town and in his own home.” 58 And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

- Pray that we would be a Church that does not allow familiarity to breed prejudice or contempt toward those around us.

Prayer Point 7 – Poor Career Choice

- Pray and break any ill-perceptions around your career such as lack of confidence etc, that may have been caused by prejudice against you.

Prayer Point 8 – Poor Spousal Choice

Numbers 12:1-15

Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. 2 “Has the Lord spoken only through Moses?” they asked. “Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” And the Lord heard this. (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.) 4 At once the Lord said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, “Come out to the tent of meeting, all three of you.” So the three of them went out. 5 Then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When the two of them stepped forward, 6 he said, “Listen to my words: “When there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams. 7 But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house. 8 With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?” 9 The anger of the Lord burned against them, and he left them. 10 When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam’s skin was leprous[a]—it became as white as snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had a defiling skin disease, 11 and he said to Moses, “Please, my lord, I ask you not to hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. 12 Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother’s womb with its flesh half eaten away.” 13 So Moses cried out to the Lord, “Please, God, heal her!” 14 The Lord replied to Moses, “If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back.” 15 So Miriam was confined outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on till she was brought back.

- Pray and break any prejudice that may have affected your ideas or preference around the person you married or desire to marry.

Prayer Point 9 – Over Compensation

- Pray and break any prejudice that may have resulted in over-compensatory behavioural tendencies such as studying or taking up professions that you are actually not really passionate about.

Prayer Point 10 – Stereotype Threat (*Stereotype threat is a situational predicament in which people are or feel themselves to be at risk of conforming to stereotypes about their social group*).

- Pray that you will not be a victim of stereotype threats and that you will recognise them when they are being pushed toward you.

Prayer Point 11 – Social Groups & Cliques

- Pray that we will not be a Church that that is so “cliquey” that we begin to shun new people or unbelievers from coming to hear the word of God.

Prayer Point 12 – Entrapment by the enemy

Matthew 7:1-3

Do not judge, or you will be judged. 2For with the same judgment you pronounce, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. 3Why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but fail to notice the beam in your own eye?

- Pray that you will guard against any bitter root judgement as it will give the enemy the legal right to mess up your life.

Prayer Point 13 – Subconscious use of stereotypes (i.e desire to fall within a certain stereotype).

- Pray that your self- esteem will be so rooted in God that there will be no desire to subconsciously use stereotypes to feed your ego or insecurities.