

EASTER 4 SUNDAY
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Weekly
Manna
8 May 2022 Issue

66

My Sheep Hear My Voice, I Know Them and They follow Me

24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." 25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, 26 but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me,[a] is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one." - John 10:24-27 ESV



Today's Question

Am I really willing to listen to what Jesus has to say?

Reflection

Scripture readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Listen to the Voice of Gentle Love

—Henri Nouwen,
<https://henrinouwen.org>

Listen to your heart. It's there that Jesus speaks most intimately to you. Praying is first and foremost listening to Jesus who dwells in the very depths of your heart. He doesn't shout. He doesn't thrust himself upon you. His voice is an unassuming voice, very nearly a whisper, the voice of a gentle love.

Whatever you do with your life, go on listening to the voice of Jesus in your heart. This listening must be an active and very attentive listening, for in our restless and noisy world God's so loving voice is easily drowned out. You need to set aside some time every day for this active listening to God if only for ten minutes.

PRAYER

of the week

**Lord Jesus,
grant that I
may be willing
to listen,
unedited. Amen**



Ten minutes each day for Jesus alone can bring about a radical change in your life. You'll find it isn't easy to be still for ten minutes at a time. You'll discover straightaway that many other voices, voices that are very noisy and distracting, voices that do not come from God, demand your attention. But if you stick to your daily prayer time, then slowly but surely you'll come to hear the gentle voice of love and will long more and more to listen to it.



your personal
PRAYER ALTAR
determines
the **LEVEL** of
Your strength

Suzette Hallingh

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[Voice in the city](#)

**"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you,
ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for
you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear
much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."**

—John 15:7-8, ESV

**LET YOUR
LOVE SHINE**





Scripture readings: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Building the Family Altar

—Dr. Suzette Hattingh

Adapted from:
<https://saltandlight.sg/faith/the-2-minute-prayer-that-can-transform-your-family-suzette-hattingh-at-momentum-2018/>

The family altar is the strength of a nation, and what happens within families will determine where the next generation goes.

“The family altar is the place, after the personal altar, that has to be restored if we want a national revival,” she said. But the family altar is not just a prayer meeting between fathers and mothers; children must be involved too.

And while many are intimidated by the idea of bringing the family together in prayer, Dr Hattingh sought to demystify the process for anyone wishing to start building the family altar. All it takes is for the whole family to just pray for two minutes. That’s it!

A 2-minute prayer unites families and restores family prayer altars. Children pick up the habit of praying at home, then start praying in their schools – releasing a spirit of prayer in their land.

Dr Hattingh, who began her ministry interceding for Reinhard Bonnke's evangelistic rallies in Africa, said she had seen the power of 2-minute prayers within families transforming nations she had ministered in.

A 2-minute prayer unites families and restores family prayer altars. Children pick up the habit of praying at home, then start praying in their schools – releasing a spirit of prayer in their land.

3 STEPS TO RESTORE YOUR FAMILY ALTAR

1. Meet To Pray As A Family

Husband and wife, along with children (if any), must come to an agreement, as a family, to pray. There's no need to set the bar unrealistically high. Just agree to pray together for two minutes a day.

“In that two minutes, you pray a Scripture, you pray over your children, over the family and then you are done!” said Dr Hattingh.

For those whose children are not staying under the same roof, she suggested calling them or even praying over a photo of them. “Then let God make your discipline into a passion.”

2. Teach the Importance of the HOLY Communion & Take it Together in Church

Teach the importance and meaning of Holy Communion, and take it together as a family in church.

This simple act of speaking a blessing has the power to change destinies

3. Speak Blessings Over Your Family

Lastly, speak a blessing over each family member. “Every time Abraham prayed a blessing over Isaac and Jacob, that blessing went from generation to generation,” Dr Hattingh said. “We, as mothers and fathers, have forgotten how to speak a blessing over our children. The same goes for children speaking blessing over their parents.”

An example of how this might sound: “I bless you today with wisdom, guidance, revelation, the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Christ lives in you, the Hope of Glory today will use you. In Jesus’ name, go into your day and be blessed.”

Bless your wives and children. The blessings of a husband and father are powerful, thanks to your God-given authority as the head of the household. (Ephesians 5:23)

The power to change destinies

This simple act of speaking a blessing has the power to change destinies, said Dr Hattingh.

She shared her personal experience of how she made sure to call a child, who was struggling with anger and aggression, to speak a blessing over him every day at 7am, no matter where in the world she was. Daily, she prayed Psalms 23 over him.

This simple act of speaking a blessing has the power to change destinies

After three months, she noticed a change in him. His violent tendencies stopped. The child, who had viewed himself as a problem, began to recognise and declare that he is a beloved child of God.

During that 2-minute prayer, don't focus on problems – negatives – but instead speak forth the destiny of each family member. ***“I changed the destiny of a child, in 2 minutes every morning. I learned the power of the family altar.”*** All this happened by speaking the blessings of God's Word over the child's life.

What about singles? Single parents? Absent parents? With the above testimony, it may come as a surprise to learn that the 61-year-old prayer warrior has never been married, nor does she have any kids of her own.

“But,” she said, “I take up the responsibility of the family. Although I'm not married, wherever I am, I create a family.” This means that anyone who comes under her authority – whether she is their spiritual parent, or if they step into her home – she treats as her family. And she prays over and blesses them as she would her own children.

Those without children of your own could also consider looking at the families around them, and come alongside them to bless and pray for the children in their midst.

In the case of families where a parent is absent, Dr Hattingh encouraged the family members who are present to lead by example.

This means in situations where a husband/wife is not a follower of Christ, he/she should not merely resign themselves to a household without prayer. Instead, without bitterness or resentment, he/she may take on that responsibility.

The same goes for single parents. Acknowledging that the demands on a single parent could be tough, consider reaching out to your church community for help, support and prayer.

Why the family altar is so important for the next generation

At the family altar, children can see first-hand their parents' relationship with God, said Dr Hattingh. "Are their parents praying? Fasting? Healing the sick? Evangelising? Loving people? What the parents do, the children will mirror." What a child sees in his parents must give him the passion to love God. This cannot be achieved by coercion but only by example, lest he appears to obey but, in his heart, he rebels.

Which is why parents and even grandparents must rise up in boldness to restore their family altars. While some might say it is not part of their culture to speak a blessing over their family, she countered: "But it is Bible culture!"

She also acknowledged that the building of family altars will not take place overnight. Many will find resistance from their family members, or face discouragement and be derailed in the process.

Restoring the family altar will take time, stressed Dr Hattingh. But this prayer altar must not be ignored. "The family altar is vital for the outflow into being effective in the church and in the nation," she said.



**Intercession is always
about the land.**
(c.f. Ezekiel 22:30)
Suzette Hattingh

The Church (Body of Christ)

Father, we acknowledge You as Lord and King over our lives and actively seek first Your kingdom and all Your righteousness, In our relationships with each other, let love be our priority. May we make all effort to be united as one Body in Your plans and purposes and the bond of peace.

Your voice we will hear and not the voice of another. At all times, teach us by Your Spirit to walk in obedience to You, serving You with a clear conscience to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God. Your kingdom come, Your will be done. In Christ Jesus, we declare. Amen

Justice & Truth

for all who continues to stand and act courageously for justice and truth.

Father, may Your justice, truth, mercy and righteousness visit us as the early and latter rain and empower us as Your vessels of such. Amen.

BLC Community

Pray for healing for those are who are unwell in our community.

Pray for God's wisdom and provision of all in view of inflation.

Pray for growth in youths, children, marriages and families as they support each other in the journey of faith and knowing Christ.

Nations

World
For the hearts of people to be turned back to the Lord.

Malaysia
Thanksgiving for Malaysia's economic resilience, business recovery and wisdom with regard to the rising cost of living.
For Malaysia's education system - for restructuring from roots upwards to prioritize truth and righteousness as its foundations.
For of the healing for the nations & the earth. Amen.

Righteousness & Freedom

For the love of God's truth, justice, mercy, righteousness and humility to be the foundations of our nation and its inhabitants.

For the Malaysia's judiciary system to remain free and committed to establishing justice and truth for both the individual and the land.
For the protection of freedom of personal choices and rights of the people; minority or at large - to be respected, upheld and honored.

LCM

Lord, we ask for Your wisdom strength and discernment, be with Bishop Thomas & all co-workers; for healing, health and provision for workers in the harvest field.

Pray for the OA Ministry's workers and their families for God's protection, provision and wisdom for building a firm foundation in their lives, faith and future.

Prayer Support

SUPPORTING YOU IN PRAYER.

Send in your requests via
WhatsApp to Bishop Thomas,
Adeline or our Council.

Announcements

Wishing all Mothers,
Godmas, Grandmas - Happy
Mother's Day! 8th May 2022.

Love you always - from the
community of Bangsar
Lutheran Church

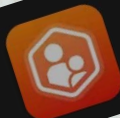
Tuesday Bible Study
8:30pm weekly
Speak with Janelle if interested.

MEM
8.30pm, Wednesdays
May 19 & Jun 2, 16, 30

Giving Tree @8.15pm,
Fridays
Speak with Larry if interested.

Friday Bible Study
For more info, please speak
with Ling Ling.

Good stuff: Prayer App for Families
Tap icon below for more info.



Lectio for Families
24-7 Prayer

Tithes & Offerings

Account Details

BANGSAR LUTHERAN CHURCH
RHB BANK Acc No.

2142 77 0000 6185

Please specify area of giving in the e-transfer, e.g. Tithe, General Offering, Mission* or Agape Fund.

*The BLC Missions Collections supports the following:

- Batu 20, Orang Asli (OA) Congregation
- United Voice - Moh Foong
- Bible Translation Researchers
- Alongsiders (<http://alongsiders.org>)

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**THE
FATHER'S
HOUSE
WELCOMES YOU**

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