

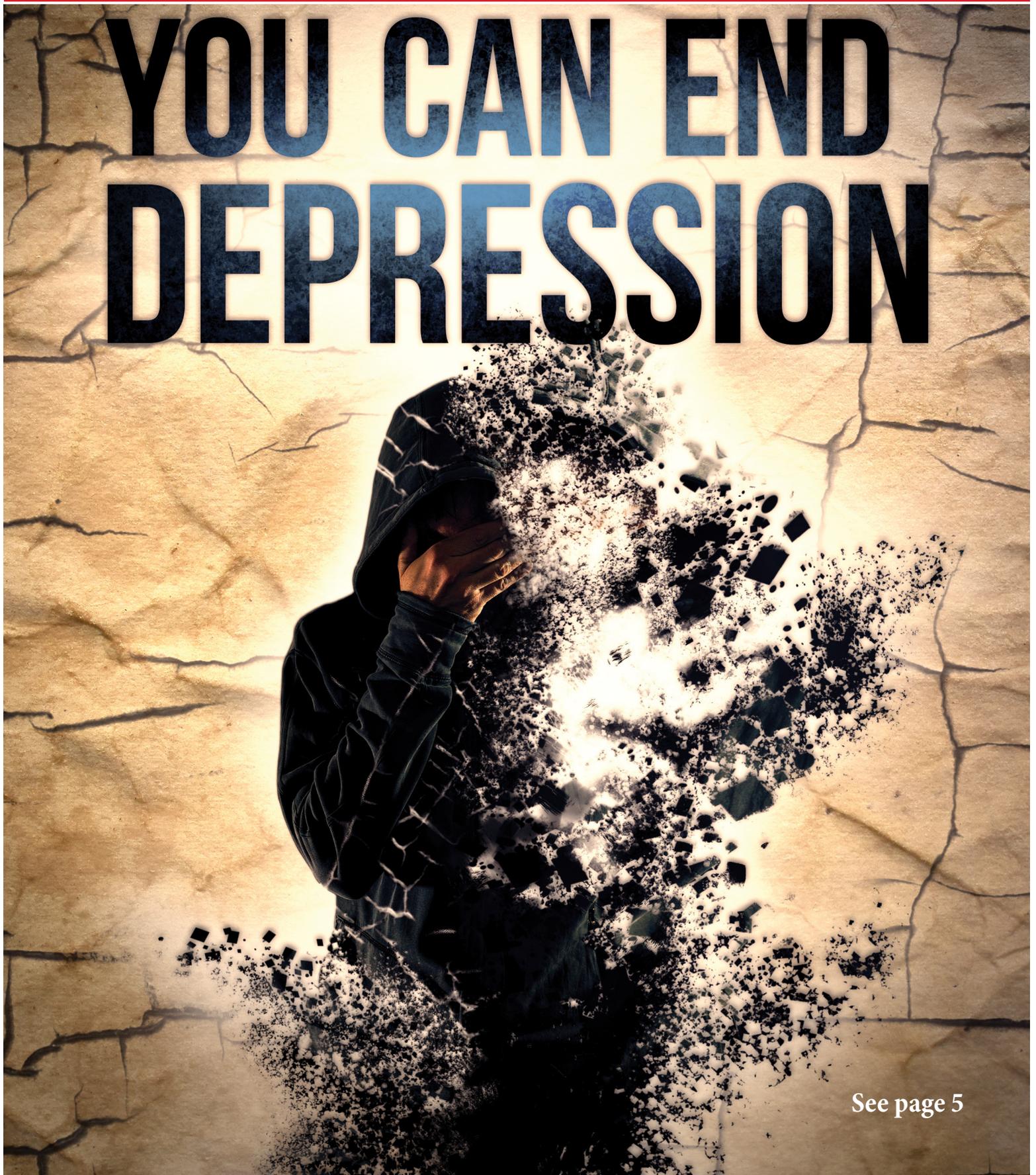


# *Stop Suffering!*

Edition 308 • From 30 May 2021 - 12 June 2021

FIND A UCKG CHURCH NEAR YOU. GO TO [uckg.org.za](http://uckg.org.za) OR CALL OUR HELPLINE: 0861 330 320

# YOU CAN END DEPRESSION



See page 5



Marcelo Pires

# MIRACLES NOT MAGIC

have happened to the blind man? Definitely, he would have remained blind.

In other words, although the son of God anointed the blind man with the mud mixed with His own saliva, if there was no obedience, there would not have been a miracle.

It was always like this in the days of Jesus and today is no different! That is the reason why so many are praying for miracles and nothing happens for them.

They tell Jesus in their prayers everything they wish to have, but do not follow the guidance He gives them. And if you are one of those who are reluctant to obey, it is very unlikely that you will see miracles happening in your life.

Let me give you a practical example. Jesus said: *“But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you”* Matthew 5:44

Now, if you choose instead to hate your enemies, to curse those who curse you and to do bad to those who hate you, you will be directly

disobeying the guidance He has given you. As a consequence of this, your prayers will go unanswered.

A miracle is neither magic nor the fruit of good luck. It is rather a partnership between God and mankind and it depends on faith and obedience.

*When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Therefore, the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, “Is not this he who sat and begged?”* John 9:6-8

Observe then what happened! Jesus used the soil to make mud to anoint the man's eyes and said, go and wash your eyes. Jesus acted and gave him the instruction, go and wash! And he went and did as Jesus had told him and the man came back seeing.

What if the man had not obeyed Jesus? What if, instead, he had replied ... no, I am not going that far. What do you think would



## IF THERE WAS NO OBEDIENCE, THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN A MIRACLE.



Therefore, if you have an enemy, love him, if someone has cursed you, bless him, if someone hates you, do good to him and to those who spitefully use you and persecute you, pray for them. In doing so, you will be obeying His words and you will be able to see miracles happening in your life.

**God bless you all.**

**Marcelo Pires**

**mp@mpires.org**

I am  
SOUL  
PRECIOUS



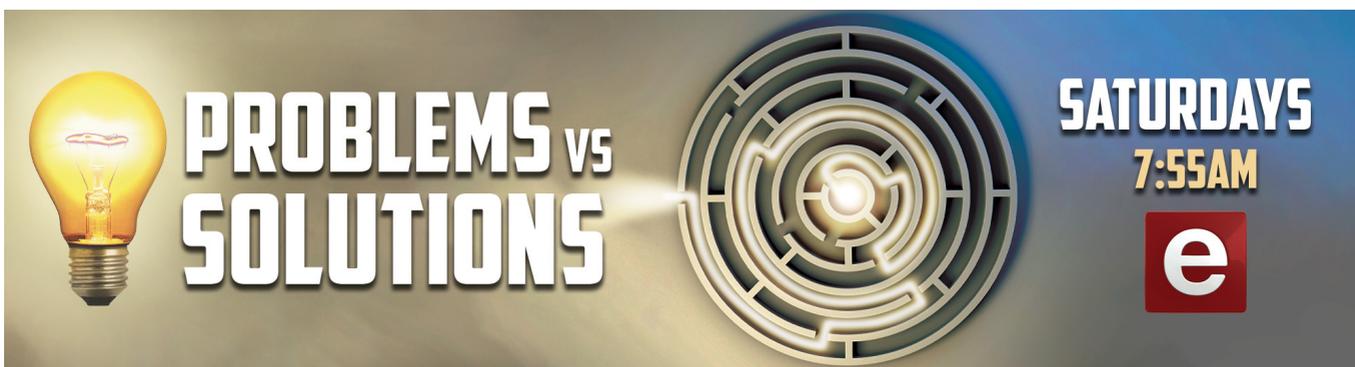
EVERY SUNDAY

6:00AM



And simultaneously on

e|africa



# DESPERATE ACTIONS RUINED ME

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

**B**eing raised in a poor family with a mother who only earned a domestic worker's wage was very challenging for Margaret. We depended on our neighbours and they sometimes gave us stale food. I was unable to concentrate at school and sometimes instead of going to

**I was only able to find temporary jobs and my suffering forced me to do the unthinkable**

"I was raised in a very poor family and my mother was a domestic worker. We often slept on empty stomachs and we would go to school without food. My mother tried her best to make ends meet but nothing was working out. school, I would go with my mother to work," she said. Because of their circumstances, Margaret was forced to drop out of school to look for a job but things did not improve as she could only find temporary jobs.

"I was only able to find temporary jobs and my suffering forced me to do the unthinkable. I remember one day being with my friends and they told me that they were going to see their boyfriends. They said they were going to get money. I was then introduced to a man who was older than my father.

I slept with him for food and I took that food to share with my family. I did not enjoy that kind of lifestyle," said Margaret.

She was invited to the Universal Church by a friend who witnessed her suffering. In the church, she was taught to use her faith and she engaged in chains of prayer to

fight for her life to change. "It was not easy and things did not change overnight but I persevered. I eventually found a job and my life began to change.

Today I am a transformed person and I do not have to sleep with anyone for food. My children are working and have their own cars. I have my own place to live and I got married to a wonderful man. I have the Holy Spirit and He gives me the strength to never give up," said Margaret.



EVERY SUNDAY

7:35AM



GAME

STRUGGLING WITH DEPRESSION OR BIPOLAR?

GET HEL

## TREMENDOUS CHANGES IN A LIFE I WANTED TO

By Albertine Chitswa | [uckg.org.za](http://uckg.org.za)

**G**rowing up in a family where almost everyone was an alcoholic played a negative role in Given's life.

"At family gatherings, our elders gave us alcohol in glasses to drink. I began drinking from then on. I used to steal alcohol from my aunt's shebeen because I used to help my cousin to sell alcohol after school.

When being drunk was no longer enough, I turned to drugs and cigarettes. I was addicted to dagga, cocaine, crystal meth and rock," he said.

To feed his addiction, he turned to crime. "Later on, when I had my own tuck shop, I made bad friends and they used to hide stolen goods and firearms there. They paid me by giving me some of the stolen goods to sell. Since I was afraid to go with them to do crime, I robbed those who were close to me.

I bought alcohol with the money I made. I often spent the whole weekend drinking with my friends and girlfriends. I separated from the mother of my children and she refused to allow me contact with my children because I was not providing for them," said Given.

When some of his friends were arrested, things became tough for Given and he sold his furniture and borrowed money from loan-sharks. When he was unable to pay them back, they took whatever they

wanted from his house and he was forced to close down his business.

With everything that was happening in his life, he became temperamental. "I remember one day when I was at the filling station and a man took a bottle of alcohol from my car. I pointed an unlicensed firearm at him. He opened a case against me and when the police came, I had to flee to my aunt's place.

**I WAS ANGRY AT MYSELF  
AND I WANTED TO  
DESTROY EVERYTHING  
AROUND ME.**

I stayed at my aunt's place for a year and things escalated because I had free access to alcohol. I tried committing suicide because the drugs were no longer effective. I would pick fights with anyone and that led me to almost losing my life. I picked a fight with the wrong person and I was stabbed in my ear and left eye.

I tried to stop drinking but I was only able to do it for a couple of weeks. I could not be sober because I could not handle all that was happening in my life. I was angry at myself and I wanted to destroy everything around me," he said.



In the week he planned to commit suicide, he was invited by his sister to the Universal Church and she assured him that he would be helped. "I attended the service in the church and when the pastor preached, it felt like he knew what I was going through.

I realised that I was in the right place and I continued attending. I engaged in chains of prayers for my deliverance from alcohol and drugs," said Given.

Given is now free from drugs and alcohol and he no longer lives a life of crime. He is no longer angry at himself and is not temperamental. He has two businesses and his own place to stay. He got married to Sindiswa whom he met in the church. He now has contact with his children and provides for them even though they do not stay with him and he is able to conduct himself well.

"I have inner peace and I include God in everything I do," he said. 🙏

# CHANGERS

HELP NOW

HELPLINE: 0861 330 320

## FELT BROKEN INSIDE

By Albertine Chitswa | [uckg.org.za](http://uckg.org.za)

**G**rowing up in a family where fights were very common proved to have dire consequences in Nomsa's life.

"There were always fights at home because my father was an alcoholic. He used to drink every weekend and when he got drunk, he beat up my mother. That made me a very bitter and angry person and I started beating up other learners at school.

I used to cry myself to sleep because the situation at home was very unpleasant. To numb the pain, I drank alcohol and became promiscuous," she said.

Nomsa was already a member of the Universal Church but she was not committed. She still drank and slept around. "It was very difficult to



“ I ALWAYS PUT ON A FACADE OF BEING HAPPY EVEN THOUGH I KNEW THAT I WAS BROKEN INSIDE ”

change on my own. I always put on a facade of being happy even though I knew that I was broken inside. I wanted to commit suicide because I was tired of my life. Even my mother told me that she wished that there was a toilet where she could flush me away," said Nomsa.

Nomsa eventually decided to stop living a bad lifestyle and she was baptised in water. She engaged in chains of prayer. "I read my Bible and I sought the presence of God because I wanted peace.

Today, I am no longer the person I used to be. My family is very happy and my father is no longer drinking. I got married to a wonderful man. I do not need to drink alcohol or be promiscuous to be happy. My happiness comes from God," she said.✉

## I BROKE THE CYCLE OF ABUSE

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

Seeing her mother suffer physical abuse at the hands of her father caused Khothatso to develop a strong sense of anger.

"Every Friday, my father used to come home drunk and he beat up my mother to the point that she started bleeding. That made me desire revenge against my father. When we were older and tired of the situation, my siblings beat him whenever he tried to beat my mother," she said.

Khothatso later started dating a man and all went well after they had their first child. Things were still going well until the birth of their second child.

"I then found myself in a similar



situation to that of my mother. My boyfriend would disappear for weeks and he told lies when he got back. He started to verbally abuse me and I thought I was useless. My mother advised me to remain in the abusive relationship as she had done.

My children asked me where their father was and I had no answer. Whenever my boyfriend was at home, he would tell me that I was nothing and that no one would love me nor accept me with the children that I have. I never believed that my life would change," said Khothatso.

Khothatso was invited to the Universal Church by her mother and was reluctant to attend because of the life her mother was living. "I decided to

attend services in the church and the pastor spoke about faith. He encouraged us to use our faith.

I engaged in a chain of prayer on Fridays to fight for my deliverance. I was taught about the importance of forgiveness and I was able to forgive my father and the father of my children," she said.

“

MY CHILDREN ASKED ME WHERE THEIR FATHER WAS AND I HAD NO ANSWER

”

Khothatso is now a blessed woman of God and her family is also in the church with her. "There is no more abuse in my home and there is peace in the family. I do not hold grudges against the father of my children. I do not have anger or low self-esteem," she said. **S**

## FEAR ROBBED ME OF HAPPINESS

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

Suffering sexual abuse at the hands of a family friend who she lived with caused Pretty severe trauma. "He touched me in inappropriate places and always watched me when I took a bath.

At night, when everyone was asleep, he touched me in inappropriate places. I was always afraid that other men would try to take advantage of me as well. I tried several times to tell my family about the abuse, but my mother did not believe me. She thought I was making things up and that caused me a lot of heartache," she said.

The abuse in Pretty's home soon became more physical but this time her sister was also on the receiving end. "The man promised to kill me and I was afraid because I knew he meant it. I constantly lived in fear until

“HE PROMISED TO KILL ME AND I WAS AFRAID BECAUSE I KNEW HE MEANT IT”

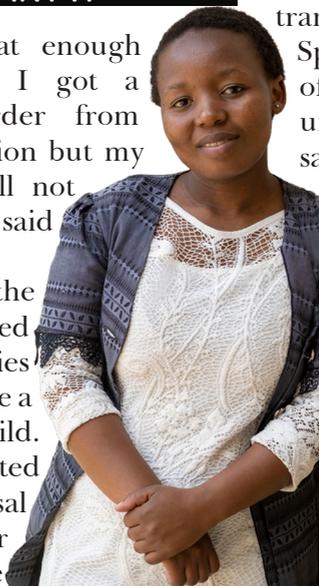
I decided that enough was enough. I got a protection order from the police station but my family was still not supportive," said Pretty.

To numb the pain, she turned to her studies and she became a very lonely child. Pretty was invited to the Universal Church by her aunt. "In the

church, I was introduced to the chains of prayers. I received counselling from women who went through similar experiences as me. They allowed me to open up about how I was feeling.

I was told that my life could transform if I received the Holy Spirit. I sought the presence of God with everything in me until I received Him," she said.

Pretty is now a different woman and she no longer lives in fear. She has a good relationship with her family. "The Holy Spirit gave me freedom and security that I never had before and I know that He is by my side through it all," said Pretty. **S**



# N E A R - D E A T H EXPERIENCE FORCED ME TO CHANGE

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

The passing of Champ's father when he was still very young caused strain on his family. "My mother had to leave us to look for work because there was no food at home.

She only visited once a month to bring food for my siblings and me. Sometimes she did not visit and we had to ask our relatives and neighbours for food. Things were so bad that I had to look for temporary jobs while I was still in grade nine.

I washed people's cars and worked as a petrol attendant to pay my tuition fees and buy clothes," he said.

Champ eventually matriculated and enrolled at a tertiary

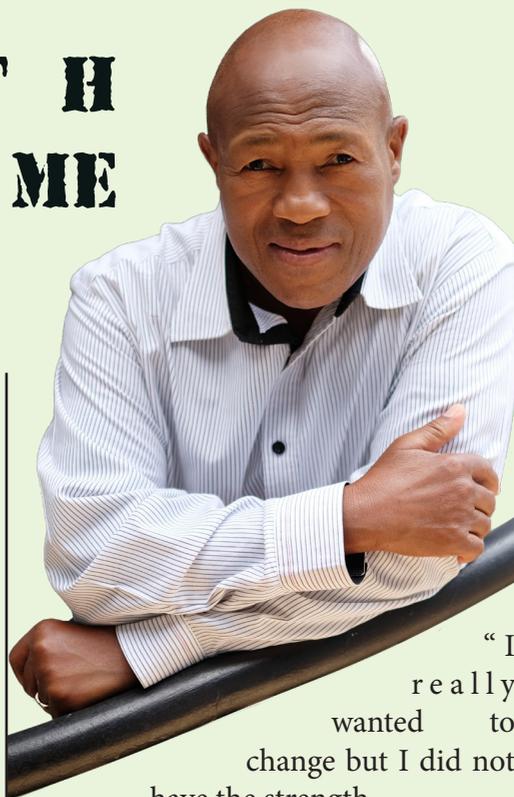
institution where he studied business administration. He found a job the following year and started selling car parts. Things seemed to be heading in the right direction until he made friends with the wrong crowd.

**“ I WASHED PEOPLE'S CARS AND WORKED AS A PETROL ATTENDANT TO PAY MY TUITION FEES AND BUY CLOTHES ”**

"I bought alcohol after work and I went from one shebeen to the next, spending all the money. I stole money from work to buy alcohol. I always arrived home late and that negatively affected my relationship with my family,"

he said.

Champ realised that he had to stop living the way he was when he almost lost his life after being stabbed close to the heart.



"I really wanted to change but I did not have the strength.

One day, I walked past the Universal Church. I was given a pamphlet and invited to attend a service. I made chains of prayers and I used my faith to fight for my deliverance from alcohol and cigarettes.

Today I am married and blessed with a house and cars. I have my own business and I have a great relationship with my family. I am filled with the Holy Spirit and I have peace inside of me. My only desire is to help others who are in the same situation I was in," said Champ.

SUNDAY  
1PM

**ADDICTION**  
HAS A **CURE**



# WORKER'S PRAYER

How do you start a busy day?



MONDAY-FRIDAY  
**5:55AM - 6AM**



# BE FREE FROM DEPRESSION

NO PRESCRIPTION, NO REHABILITATION, NO CHARGE



**FRIDAY - 12NOON**  
ALSO: 05:30AM | 6AM | 07:30AM | 10AM | 3PM | 5PM  
TIMES MAY VARY AT DIFFERENT BRANCHES  
**AT EVERY UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

**DISCLAIMERS:** The contents of this publication reflect the opinions of the interviewees. This publication is for information purposes only. Opinions and advice expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the Universal Church of the Kingdom of God. The Universal Church does not claim to heal anyone, but believes that through the power of faith in the name of Jesus, a person can receive healing. Those under medical treatment are advised to continue taking prescribed medication and following their doctors' instructions.

## Find your nearest UCKG

For more addresses - HELPLINE: 0861 330 320 | WEBSITE: [uckg.org.za](http://uckg.org.za)

### GAUTENG

- Park Station: 25 Plein Street, Johannesburg**
- Alexandra 1: 740 Pretoria Main Road, Cnr Link Road
- Benoni: 70 Cranbourne Avenue (Next to ABSA)
- Carletonville: 4 Ada Street
- Daveyton 1: 9397 Eislen Street (Next to Engen Garage)
- Diepsloot: Ext 4, (Opp. The Bridge)
- Dobsonville: 4337 Main Road
- Ebony Park: 476 Twenty Ninth September Road
- Eldorado: Sirkel Road, Ext 5 (White tent, Next to Shell Garage)
- Evaton: 348 Bodea Road, (next to Mmali's Shop)
- Fine Town: 10 Fontaine, Grasmere, Golden Highway
- Germiston: Cnr Voortekker Street & Railway Road, (Opp. Total Garage)
- Hillbrow: Highpoint, 60 Pretoria Street
- Kagiso: Cnr Ngalonkulu & Thulandivile Drive, Hillsvie
- Kempton Park: 13 Pretoria Road (Next To Caltex Garage)

- Kwa Thema 1: Cnr Nkosi and Hintsa Streets, Highland, Kwa Thema (next to the Post Office)
- La Rochelle: 18 Geranium Street, Cnr Prairie Street
- Lenasia 1: 1 Station Place, Ext 1, Former Apsara Cinema (Next to Apsara Supermarket)
- Merafe: 2231 Moliwa Street, Moletsane (Behind Pick'n Pay)
- Mohlakeng: 2186 Nhlapo Street
- Nigel: Shop 1, Gazelle Street, Alra Park
- Orange Farm 1: Falcon Road, EXT 6A, (Near Spar)
- Randburg 1: 4 Dover & Bram Fischer, (Opp. Garden Mall)
- Refengkgotso: 41 Refengkgotso
- Sebokeng: 392 Moshoeshoe Street, Zone 10 (Formerly Freddie's supermarket)
- Soweto: 24456 Cnr Immink Road & Kokwane Street, Zone 6, Diepkloof**
- Spruitview: 23 Cnr Brickfield & Moagi Road
- Tembisa 1: 87 Kestrel Street, Mathole, Difateng
- Thokoza 1: 1838 Rakoma Street (Opp Shell Garage)
- Tsakane 1: 2745 Mabaso Street, Cnr Shandu
- Vanderbijlpark: Shop No. 4,

- C R Swart Street (Next to OK Furniture)
- Vereeniging: Shop 1, 8 Kruger Avenue (Opp Sassa)
- Vosloorus: 12710 Beirman Road, Vosloorus Square (Former Nandy & Nice)
- Pretoria: 175 Nana Sita Street (old Skinner Street), Pretoria Central

### WESTERN CAPE

- Cape Town**
- Cape Town: 9 Buitenkant Street (near the Grand Parade)
- Khayelitsha: 54 Ntsikizi Street, Ilitha Park
- Phillipi: 427 Landsdowne Road (Next to Tesco)
- Bellville: 16 Kruskal Avenue, Bellville - Cape Town, Opposite KFC
- George**
- George: 121 Cradock Street

### EASTERN CAPE

- East London**
- East London: 5 Gladstone Street
- Umtata: 36 Owen Street (Next to Botha Sigcau Building)
- Port Elizabeth: 45 Norongo Road & Cnr Sopazi Street, New Brighton

### NORTHERN CAPE

- Kimberley**
- Kimberley: 44 Sidney Street
- Upington: Rosebuds Shopping Centre, Leeukop Street, Cnr Drakensberg Street

### KWAZULU NATAL

- Durban**
- Durban: 465 Anton Lembede Street (Opp. Durdoc Centre)
- Empangeni: 7 Chrome Crescent Street
- Pinetown: 28 Mdoni Centre, Crompton Street
- Port Shepstone: Bisset Street cnr Mandela Street
- Pietermaritzburg: 399 Church Street (Opp. Capital Centre)

### FREE STATE

- Bloemfontein**
- Bloemfontein: 60 Oliver Tambo Road
- Aliwal North: 63 Somerset Street
- Thaba Nchu: 11 Jan van Riebeeck Street

### Welkom

- 4 Kort street - CBD
- Mario's Taxi Rank Complex

### LIMPOPO

- Mokopane**
- 102 Mandela drive. Next to Chicken Licken.
- Polokwane**
- Polokwane: Shop 3, 20 Jorrisen Street

### MPUMALANGA

- Nelspruit**
- Nelspruit: 34 Brown Street, Next to Truworths (Close to Nedbank)
- Witbank: 8 Arras Street, Witbank CBD

### NORTH WEST

- Rustenburg**
- Rustenburg: 134 Kloppe Street
- Potchefstroom: 3680 Lekhele Street, Ikageng (Next to Post Office)
- Mahikeng: 28 Robinson Street, Cnr Main Street (Next to the Library)

