



Strong on the Outside, Broken on the Inside - Read more on page 4

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Miracles Today

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**THEY TRIED TO
BURY US
THEY DIDN'T REALISE
THAT WE WERE A
SEED**

2 AUGUST • 7AM • SUNDAY OF THE FIRST FRUITS

| IN THIS EDITION |

There Is Still A Way Forward

Some people have questions they rarely speak about. Others carry pain, disappointments, trauma, or the silent desire to begin again. This edition was prepared for those who may be looking for something more practical than mere information.

Inside these pages, you will find words of faith, real stories of transformation and reflections that speak to everyday battles. You will also read how people who once felt trapped by the past found guidance, support and the strength to move forward.

Whether you are searching for healing, direction, a fresh start, or just one reason to keep going, do not rush through these pages. Somewhere in this edition, a story, a message, or an invitation may speak to where you are today — and help you take the next step.

MT Team 



THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A TREASURE HIDDEN IN A FIELD...

Message by Bishop Edir Macedo

There is a difference between receiving a physical blessing and taking possession of the kingdom of God.

Physical blessings—health, finances, family—are conquered by faith, but entering the kingdom of God is something else entirely.

Consider the ten lepers: all ten were healed by faith, yet only one returned to thank Jesus. That one represents Mount Zion, the mountain of the new covenant.

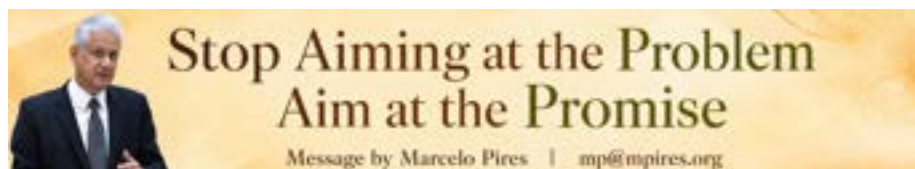
Of the millions who left Egypt and witnessed God's wonders in the wilderness, only Joshua and Caleb entered the Promised Land; the rest died in the desert because of their unbelief.

Those who are born of the flesh may even receive blessings, yet they do not truly know the Lord. But those

who are born of water and the Spirit form part of *"the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven"* (Hebrews 12:23, NKJV)—just as Jesus told Nicodemus, *"You must be born again"* (John 3:7, NKJV).

An infant is an innocent being, so when it dies, its soul goes to God, but once a person reaches the age of understanding, he is counted among sinners and therefore needs salvation.

Salvation cannot be bought. To obtain it, you need to surrender your all to God, like the man who sold all that he had to obtain a hidden treasure. *"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."* (Matthew 13:44-46, NKJV). Salvation is a very personal matter. 



Let's talk about faith: what makes it work, and what doesn't.

Picture a police officer facing a robber. He draws his weapon, aims, and shoots... but misses. He probably knows how to shoot but not how to aim. Faith works the same way. You believe in God, and you know that He is great, but if you don't know how to aim your faith at His promises but fix your eyes on the negative side of life instead, your faith, which is tainted by fear and doubt, won't work.

Sanctification occurs when one decides to obey God. It is a powerful weapon against the spirit of darkness, and darkness can never

be overcome with darkness but with the light of God.

Now think about it: if it was possible for many people's broken marriages and shattered lives to be restored and transformed, why would this be impossible for you? God has the power to change any life, but He doesn't do it when one's heart is unwilling.

As the angel told Mary in *Luke 1:37 (NKJV)*, *"For with God nothing will be impossible."*

So don't focus on the problem but on the promise of God; then what has been impossible for you until now will come to pass in your life. 

FAITH. LIFE. DIRECTION.

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS?

Start with the right book.

The Holy Ground Cathedral has a resource-filled and well-stocked bookshop, offering a wide range of inspiring Christian literature to help you grow, heal and build a more meaningful life.



Bookshop at the Holy Ground

Would you like to date wisely or improve your relationship?

Read **Bulletproof Dating**



Would you like to know about the signs of the end of the world?

Read **The World will Burn**



Having problems in your marriage?

Read **Bulletproof Marriage**



Do you want to know how to distinguish the voice of faith from doubt, fear, and wrong opinions?

Read **The Voice of Faith**



Feeling lost, with no way forward?

Read **21 Days That Can Change Your Life**



Visit the Bookshop at the Holy Ground Cathedral for more Christian and faith-filled material. 📍 24456 Immink Drive, Zone 6, Diepkloof, Soweto

NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

Do you have problems but no one to talk to?

Do you need counselling or guidance?

Would you like to know more about the Universal Church or find an address near you?



Call our 24h toll-free Helpline:

0800 330 320

A servant of God is available to listen to you, pray for you, and give you a word of faith and encouragement. You are not alone.



— THE — FAST OF DANIEL

SEEK GOD. DRAW NEAR.
RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.

THERE IS

Still time for a New Beginning

One week remains in the Fast of Daniel and many have already received a new life through this fast.

YOU CAN STILL JOIN US

Did you miss the first part of the Fast of Daniel? God is still calling you today.

In this fast, we separate ourselves from secular entertainment to seek God with sincerity and faith. It's never too late to draw near Him.

Turn away from what has held you back and seek the Holy Spirit earnestly..

"Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near." — Isaiah 55:6 (NKJV)

He is ready to meet you, renew you, and give you a new beginning.

It's not about being perfect but about your repentance and surrender. There is still time.

Visit the nearest Universal Church branch for more information on this fast.



STRONG ON THE OUTSIDE, BROKEN ON THE INSIDE

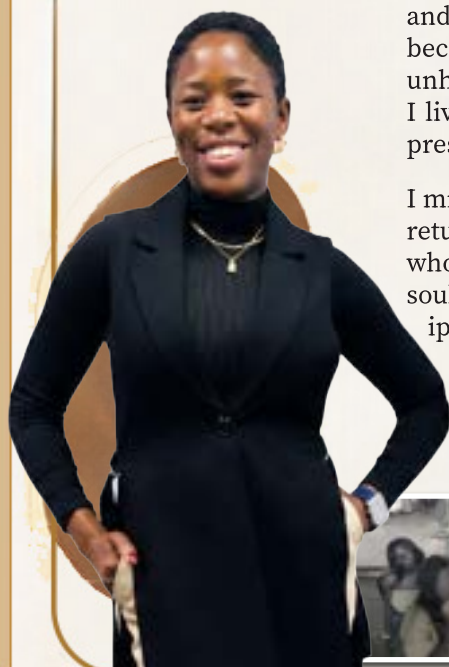
By Nomsa Masengemu | uckg.org.za

"I was bullied at school, so I decided to protect myself by becoming a bully. That made me feel powerful and in control, but it was emotionally exhausting and left me feeling empty. I read books with dark and morose content, which deepened my despair. *I started cutting my wrists and thighs because I learned about self-harm in one of those books. I thought to myself, 'If my life doesn't improve, I'll end it all!'*"

My brother brought a copy of the Universal News home, and when I saw the HELPLINE number on the newspaper, I called them and received counselling and an invitation to attend a service.

After some time in the church, I took part in the Campaign of Israel, during which I surrendered my past to God. I also joined the Fast of Daniel and sought the Holy Spirit daily. One night, while I was seeking the Holy Spirit, He came upon me and immediately filled the emptiness I'd had for years. I no longer self mutilate, I stopped being a bully and now I am filled with His presence and peace inside of me," said Precious. 📖

“ *I felt unwanted and rejected because of the physical and sexual abuse I experienced.*



FROM REJECTION TO PEACE

By Nomsa Masengemu | uckg.org.za

"Though I grew up going to church, I felt unwanted and rejected because of the physical and sexual abuse I experienced. I made friends with people who seemed carefree and happy, but their lifestyle had a bad influence on me because I started drinking alcohol, smoking, and having unhealthy relationships. I slowly drifted away from God. I lived recklessly and fell pregnant as a result. I was depressed, felt empty and developed suicidal tendencies.

I missed the peace I had felt in the church and decided to return to God and change my ways. I forgave the people who had hurt me and surrendered every burden in my soul to God. During the Campaign of Israel, I also participated in the Fast of Daniel and sought the Holy Spirit earnestly until I received Him. God gave me a sense of belonging, which has given me immense peace. I also received inner healing and now live a fulfilled life in His presence," said Kamogelo. 📖



Kamogelo surrounded herself with bad friends, drinking, smoking and living recklessly. She ended up depressed and suicidal.

ng

FAST OF DANIEL

from 13 July to 2 August

Journey to Mount Zion



2 AUGUST
THE DAY TO
CRY OUT

**Bishop
Edir Macedo
will be at
Mount Zion**

with other bishops
and pastors, to cry
out for all those
who took part in
this Campaign of
faith and are
seeking to receive
the Holy Spirit or
to be renewed.

Broadcast available at
Universal Church branches.

*“For the LORD
has chosen Zion;
He has desired it
for His dwelling
place.”*

Psalms 132:13 (NKJV)

I EXCHANGED MY GUNS FOR GOD’S PEACE

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

“I spent years believing that alcohol could help me and guns could protect me. After leaving home at the age of 18, I soon became addicted to drinking, carried firearms, and lived in depression and fear, plagued by suicidal thoughts. Even after I came to the church, I still clung to my guns because I trusted in them more than I trusted God.

Hearing the Word of God in church and participating in the Campaign of Israel helped me surrender my life completely on the altar, where I cried out to God for a new beginning. When I received the Holy Spirit, the emptiness that had tormented me for years disappeared. Now I live in peace, I am happily married, and God has blessed me with a successful business. I exchanged my guns for the greatest protection of all—God’s presence,” said Gilbert. 📺



“I suffered years of abuse and developed deep-seated anger as a result. I resorted to dangerous behaviour and even had a relationship with a violent gangster.

FROM A NAME OF SHAME TO A LIFE OF PEACE

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

“My life began with rejection. My mother was turned away from her home when she was pregnant with me, and I was given the name Nogate because my mother and I were refused entry into the family home. I suffered years of abuse and developed deep-seated anger as a result. I resorted to dangerous behaviour and even had a relationship with a violent gangster. I blamed God for all my pain.

Everything changed when I accepted my mother’s invitation to attend services in the Universal Church. Through the teachings from the word of God, I learned how to forgive those who had hurt me, and I surrendered my life to God. I took part in the Campaign of Israel because I desperately wanted God to give me a new identity. Soon after that Campaign, I received the Holy Spirit, and the emptiness I’d had was immediately filled. Now my life is joyous and peaceful,

I have a happy and blessed family of my own, and I have the greatest treasure, which is the Spirit of God. My name no longer represents rejection because the Holy Spirit opened the gate to a blessed new life for me,” said Nogate. 📺





FREE TRAUMA COUNSELLING FOR WOMEN

Women in Action is a group comprising pastors' wives trained in trauma counselling to support women in the church and in the communities the church serves. The group offers a safe and **judgement-free** space to speak openly about pain, abuse, anxiety, and past trauma.

Every session is **confidential**. Many who once felt broken have walked away restored and full of hope.

By Nomsa Masengemu | uckg.org.za

How counselling helped me FORGIVE

Lucia had deep bitterness within her for many years as she struggled with emotional pain.

At the Universal Church, she received counselling, biblical guidance, and support that helped her confront her past and move on from it.

Encouraged by the pastor's wife to seek God sincerely, Lucia decided to forgive her family, let go of the bitterness, and surrender her life to God. She found lasting healing, peace, and a transformed life. 📖



Lucia

How counselling helped me HEAL

Oluhle blamed God for her suffering until she began attending services at the Universal Church with her mother.

After hearing the pastor's wife share her testimony of overcoming sexual abuse through faith in God, hope was kindled inside her.

Oluhle sought God's healing and forgave those who had hurt her.

When she received the Holy Spirit, she experienced complete emotional healing, peace, and lasting joy. 📖



Oluhle

How counselling helped me HEAL

After years of harbouring childhood trauma, anger, and rejection, she found support at the Universal Church.

The assistants welcomed her warmly, and the pastors advised her to forgive her relatives for mistreating and rejecting her after the death of her grandmother. She made chain of prayers in the church

used her faith till she was able to forgive and overcome her pain. She sought the Holy Spirit as she wanted to be filled with the Spirit of God.

Through following this guidance she received inner healing, surrendered her life to God, experienced emotional restoration, and overcame her pain. 📖

Every woman deserves to be heard, supported, and reminded that she is not alone.



Keletso

National
Woman's Day
09th August At 2PM
HOLY GROUND | SOWETO

For an appointment with a WiA trauma counsellor, call our toll-free helpline 0800 330 320



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to join the
I Am Soul Precious Telegram channel
and receive **daily motivational messages**.



@IAMSOULPRECIOUS

Daily Motivation
Start your day
with inspiration.



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that cares and helps you grow!



Be inspired. Be motivated.

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Park Station: 25 Plein
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Pretoria: 175 Nana Sita
Street (Old Skinner Street),
Pretoria Central

Mamelodi: No. 1 Dobolwane
Street, Cnr Tsamaya Road,
Mamelodi West (Next to
Denneboom Station)

Vanderbijlpark: Shop No. 4,
C R Swart Street

Vereeniging: Shop 1, 8
Kruger Avenue (Opp. Sassa)

WESTERN CAPE

Cape Town: 9 Buitenkant
Street (Near the Grand
Parade)

George: 121 Cradock Street,
CBD

EASTERN CAPE

East London: 5 Gladstone
Street

Mthatha: 36 Owen Street

Port Elizabeth: 45 Norongo
Road & Cnr Sopazi Street,
New Brighton

NORTHERN CAPE

Kimberley: 44 Sidney
Street, (Opp. The Library)

Upington: Leeukop Avenue,
Rosebudes Centrum,
Rosedale

KWAZULU NATAL

Durban: 465 Anton
Lembede Street (Opp.
Durdod Centre)

Pietermaritzburg: 399
Church Street (Opp. Capital
Centre)

LIMPOPO

Polokwane: Shop 3, 20
Jorrisen St

FREE STATE

Bloemfontein: 60 Oliver
Tambo Road

Phuthaditjhaba: Midtown
Shopping Complex, Shop
No. 2

Welkom: Mario's Taxi Rank
Complex, 4 Kort Street, CBD

MPUMALANGA

Nelspruit: 6 Samora Machel
Drive

Witbank: 8 Arras Street,
CBD

NORTH WEST

Rustenburg: 134 Kloppe
Street

Mahikeng: 20-22 Martin
Street (Old DR Church)



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to find more UCKG
addresses across
South Africa.

Visit the nearest Universal Church for free counselling and prayers or call our
toll-free helpline:

0800 330 320

I FOLLOWED THE CROWD

AND LOST MY WAY

By Nomsa Masengemu | uckg.org.za

GROWING UP

Although I grew up attending church with my family, I was never consistent or committed to God. I allowed peer pressure at school to influence me in the wrong way.

I yearned to be accepted by my peers, so I made friends with girls who led an immoral lifestyle—drinking, partying, and smoking.

TURNING POINT

Everything changed when my mother passed away. Her death left a deep emptiness in me, and I realised that I needed God.

I became committed in the church and started taking part in chains of prayers and obeying God's word. I left my destructive habits behind

and cut ties with those friends. However, I still harboured resentment in my heart against my relatives and this hindered my spiritual development.

During a purpose of faith, I decided to surrender my bitterness on the altar and seek to do the will of God. I stopped the wrong life I was living, drinking, smoking and partying. I asked Him to fill me with His Spirit and help me understand His will for my life.

MY LIFE TODAY

One day, while I was seeking the Holy Spirit, God filled me with His Spirit. Now, I have His presence in my life, I am assured of my salvation and filled with peace and confidence," said Thuli. 📖

“
*Resentment
remained in my
heart, making it
difficult to move
forward.*



HOLY
GROUND
Cathedral

2 August - Sunday of the Firstfruits

Join us
7AM

WHERE TO FIND US:

24456 Immink Drive,
Zone 6, Diepkloof,
Soweto