



Stop Suffering!

Do not
only sponsor it,
read it and share it
with someone else

Website: uckg.org.za • Helpline: **0800 330 320** • WhatsApp: **063 471 6997**

Edition: **401** • Date: **9 February 2025**



Join us on **Sunday, 10am** | Holy Ground: 24456 Immink Road,
Zone 6, Diepkloof or at a Universal Church near you

Learn from the
**greatest
example**
that ever walked the earth

JESUS

All episodes
AVAILABLE



UNIVERVIDEO.COM



Those whom God chose

Message by Bishop Macedo

God desires for everyone to be blessed, but many do not acknowledge Him as Lord. Despite this, God patiently waits for each person to turn to Him. Unfortunately, many only turn to Him when they reap the consequences of their wrongdoings and hit rock bottom. If they will remember Him and call upon His name, then they will be answered.

If you're feeling desperate and considering ending your life, remember that there is hope. Humble yourself before God; He doesn't judge your past. He values your sincerity to change and your willingness to depend on Him.

“But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty...

and the things which are despised God has chosen...” 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

Regardless of your past or what people think of you, God is the Almighty God, He accepts you and is willing to change your life.

“When Jesus heard it, He said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”” Mark 2:17

Jesus resurrected so you could have a new life. God chooses those who feel like nobodies. Accept His hand and His help; He desires to manifest His glory in your life. You don't need to deserve it—just walk with Him, humble yourself, and witness His power in your life

Do you say, ‘I hate God - He does not care about me’?

Nowadays, many people are against God and those of the faith. They blame God for all the wrongs in their lives and in the world.

Some people see belief in God as oppressive because they want the freedom to act as they choose. They forget that God is the source of our freedom and guidance for living a good life. However, He cannot intervene when we make harmful choices.

Many people face the consequences of their choices, leading to feelings of hatred, emptiness, depression, and frustration. Understand that if you choose to continue hating God and living your current lifestyle, He will not interfere with your choices.

Yes, you are free to hate God but He will never hate you, on the contrary, He will always love you. However, remember that your decisions and way of life will have consequences.

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” John 15:16

God has chosen you, regardless of your past or current situation. He will always keep the door open for those who wish to come to Him and change their circumstances.

However, you cannot view God as a servant who must fulfil your desires. He is a supreme Being—the Creator. If you obey Him, He will provide you with the tools you need to overcome challenges in life.

However, everyone wants to overcome but not everyone wants to choose to do what God guides us to do.

God bless you,

Bishop Marcelo Pires
mp@mpires.org



I am
SOUL
PRECIOUS
WITH MARCELO PIRES

@MARCELOPIRES_RSA
 @MARCELOPIRES
 @BPMARCELO
 @IAMSOUAPRECIOUS

**MON TO FRI - 6:30AM
& SATURDAYS - 9:30AM**

I wished I was dead

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

“My life revolved around nightclubs, alcohol and an endless search for validation. Losing my grandparents and being evicted by relatives unleashed deep depression, leading to passive suicidal thoughts. Though I wanted death, I couldn’t act on it.

Everything shifted when my uncle’s wife noticed my struggles and introduced me to the Universal Church. I was initially reluctant, but the night when my family feared that I would kill myself became my turning point. In the church, through

counselling and participating in the chains of prayers, I was set free from my destructive behaviour.

After my water baptism in water and with the Holy Spirit, I found complete transformation. Now I help others overcome similar battles, standing as living proof that, with God, even the darkest paths can lead to the light,” said Thabang.



Trapped in pain and desperation

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

“From the age of 10, I struggled with severe migraines. Although I tried praying for healing, fear, anxiety and despair took over my life. The excruciating pain, sensitivity to light, sound and smells, and constant fatigue controlled every part of my day. Almost anything could trigger an attack.

My academic life suffered. I went from being an A+ student to barely passing because I missed many days of school due to the pain. I couldn’t even study without triggering an attack. My final year of high school was the worst and I had to write exams without studying. I felt helpless.



I visited doctors repeatedly and was diagnosed with chronic migraines, with attacks lasting from 4 to 72 hours. I tried various solutions like migraine glasses and a daith piercing, which provided temporary relief but didn’t cure the problem. Some family members suggested that I use harmful remedies, which I refused because I

believed that God would heal me one day.

I started attending services in the Universal Church for my healing but, in the beginning, I still struggled with the pain because I had not learned how to use intelligent faith. I started seeking God earnestly and I prayed for my complete healing. Slowly, I started to experience a transformation. Though migraines still occurred, my approach had changed. I prayed from a place of faith, trusting in God’s promise. I committed to attending services frequently and using faith for my healing.

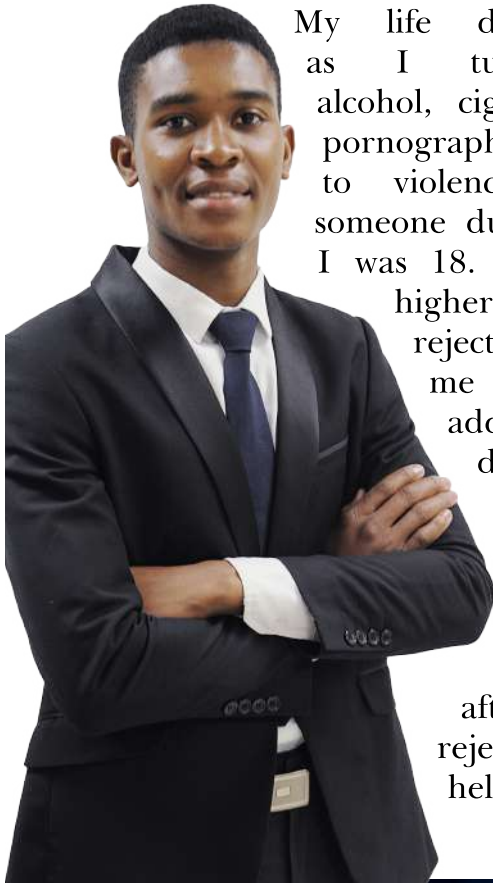
One day, after enduring a particularly severe migraine, I cried out to God and thanked Him for healing me, even though I still felt pain. Two hours later, God honoured my faith; I was pain-free.

Today, I am healed from migraines. I can do the things I love, like reading and working out, and I now enjoy life without any pain. I no longer live in fear or despair and I am no longer riddled with anxiety. By faith, God’s healing power has transformed my life,” said Nhlamulo.

My mother's tears were my wake-up call

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

“From a young age, I was a troubled child. It started with stealing small amounts of money from my mother’s wallet and escalated to stealing phones and laptops. This destructive behaviour ultimately affected my studies and led to me failing all my subjects.



My life deteriorated as I turned to alcohol, cigarettes, weed and pornography. I was prone to violence, nearly killing someone during a fight when I was 18. In 2020, repeated higher education rejections pushed me further into my addictions and destructive lifestyle.

when I found the Universal Church and learned how to use my faith to overcome my challenges.

I felt intense guilt from smoking, so I burned all my drug paraphernalia and start praying fervently for deliverance. I started attending church services, joined chains of prayers for my finances and spiritual growth, was baptised, and eventually received the Holy Spirit.

The turning point came when I saw the pain in my mother’s eyes after another college rejection. I sought help, and that was

My life has transformed completely. I have a good relationship with my family, I passed my matric rewrite and I’ve been accepted into college. I find peace in my new faith, guided by Isaiah 51, and am grateful for how far removed I am now from my troubled past,” said Elton.

FREEDOM ON AIR TELEVISION
 FREEDOM ON AIR TV, CHANNEL 1161 HD | FREEDOM ON AIR TV, CHANNEL 1162 SD

GRAB YOUR DECODER & UNLOCK THE POWER OF INTELLIGENT FAITH!

Get your Freevision Decoder at your nearest Universal Church

Left to fend for myself

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za



“Although I grew up attending services at the Universal Church, my world changed drastically when I was 11 years old and my parents separated. During this time, my father, who was gravely ill, required my care, while my mother left with her new partner. This upheaval led me to live with my paternal relatives, who treated me unfairly and blamed me for the separation. Their harshness included depriving me of basic necessities like food and making me feel less valued than my cousins, which deepened my emotional struggles.

Those early experiences severely impacted my self-esteem and confidence. The situation worsened during

my high school years, as my father spent all his money on alcohol and could not support me. After my grandmother passed on, my cousin and I were left alone and I had to take on the responsibility of providing for us. This increased my sense of burden and resentment towards my family.

Everything that happened made me realise the need to surrender my life to God. I learned that only He could give me a complete transformation. Initially, I struggled to fully surrender because I was held back by all the disappointment and rejection I'd suffered for very long.

I started seeking the Holy Spirit wholeheartedly and when I received Him, I experienced profound healing and restoration. The love I had yearned for was abundantly fulfilled by God, and it resolved my emotional wounds, restoring my confidence and mending my relationships with my family. Now, I no longer seek validation from others because I have found complete fulfilment in the love and confidence that God provides,” said Refilwe.✍

I believed God had forsaken me

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

“I grew up attending services in the Universal Church, but I distanced myself after my father passed away. I was too young to understand my mother's grief so, although I witnessed her struggle with depression, I didn't grasp the seriousness of her condition.

I started watching pornography and drinking alcohol. Although I still attended services in the church occasionally, I suffered from nightmares and was terrified of falling sleep. At school, I faced severe bullying and this led to suicidal thoughts.

I felt rejected and abandoned. I believed God had forsaken me. Despite this, I joined the church's youth group and longed for the peace I saw in others' lives. I committed to the chains of prayers to overcome my nightmares and addiction to pornography and alcohol. With time, I learned about the importance of receiving the Holy Spirit. I knew that I could only receive true peace

and a fulfilled life if I had God's Spirit. I participated in the 21-Day Fast of Daniel, where I abstained from entertainment and sought the Holy Spirit with all my strength. In one Sunday service at the Holy Ground, I prayed and asked God to fill me with His presence. I was determined to receive the Holy Spirit because I didn't want to live without Him anymore. Finally, I received God's presence within me. He reassured me that He had always been with me and reminded me that He is my Father and I am His daughter.

Now, I am free and at peace. I am not addicted to pornography or alcohol anymore. I am not suicidal and I sleep peacefully at night. My mother is no longer depressed. I no longer react to insults at school, and I trust in God's guidance and protection,” said Edorwaye.✍





**SATURDAYS
8:25AM**



I appeared cheerful, but inside, I was dying

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

“I grew up as an angry, bitter and empty person because, at the age of 8, I was repeatedly abused by someone hired to help at home. I didn’t understand what had happened to me or what abuse was because no one had ever explained it to me.

As I entered my teenage years, I started comprehending the reality of what had occurred. This realisation filled me with immense anger and bitterness. At times, these anger outbursts made me fight with my mother. During one such argument, I grabbed a knife intending to hurt her, but came to my senses just in time.

Later, I was diagnosed with ovarian cysts. Doctors discovered that my womb was not in its proper position and said that I would never be able to conceive or give birth. This devastating news forced me to revisit my childhood trauma and deepened my depression and bitterness. At home, I appeared cheerful, but inside, I was dying. I knew that my physical pain could be treated with medicine, but I didn’t know where to turn for the pain in my soul.

One day, I received an invitation to attend services in the Universal Church. During the service, the pastor spoke about letting go and forgiving. I questioned how I could forgive someone who had hurt me so deeply, but I realised I had a choice: either continue living in pain or forgive.

I kept attending services and eventually decided to surrender my pain to God. I was baptised in water, seeking a fresh start and the peace I’d only ever heard about. One early morning during prayer, I sincerely asked God for His Spirit and peace. In that

moment, I felt embraced and filled with indescribable peace. God confirmed His love for me and my heart was transformed.

My demeanour changed completely. I became kind and pleasant. I no longer felt the need to argue or be bitter. Now, I am free, at peace, and healed emotionally and physically. I have reconciled with my family. I married a godly man and we are blessed with a child. I am deeply thankful for God’s inner healing in my life,” said Saleni. 📖



Shadow of Resentment

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

“I held grudges and developed a deep resentment towards men because of a painful relationship I had. I ended up feeling hurt, alone and left with a child in my arms. Just seeing a man would trigger those negative feelings, leading me to believe that all men were the same.

However, after being invited to the Universal Church and participating in the chains of prayer, my perspective changed. I no longer hate men or hold onto grudges. I began praying on Thursdays for my love life because I knew that God wanted me to have this blessing.

I understood that I had to take care of myself and my relationship with God first. That required me to forgive those who had hurt me. So I decided to forgive the man who hurt me and gave my life to God.

God not only healed me from the inside, giving me inner peace, but He also blessed me with a man of God whom I started dating. Things progressed positively and now I am happily married. I am truly grateful to God for blessing me with a caring and loving partner. I have peace and joy inside of me,” said Thelma. 📖

Struggled with miscarriages and addictions

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

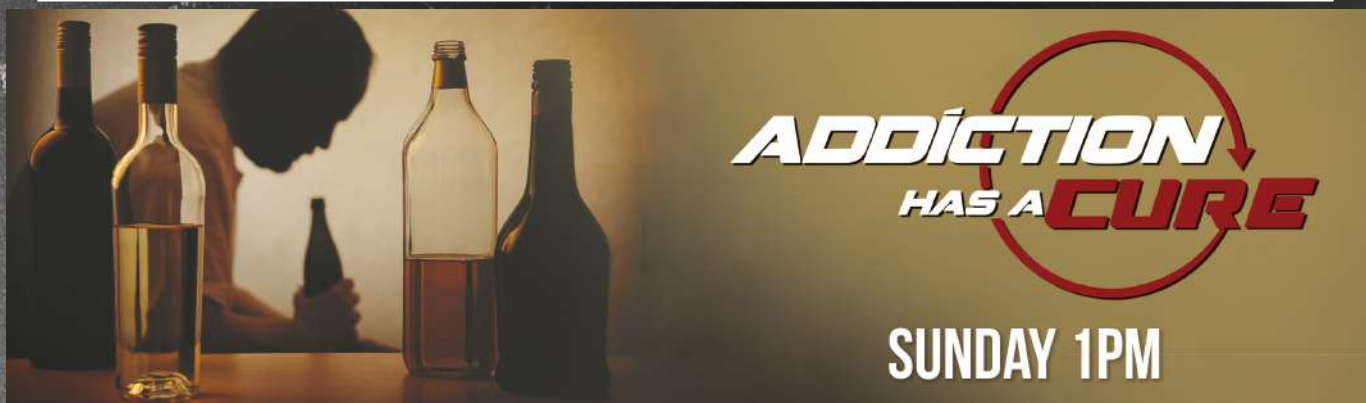


“I was invited to the Universal Church by a friend at a time when my life was in turmoil. I had experienced multiple miscarriages and was battling a serious alcohol addiction. Despite attending church services, I wasn’t fully committed to God. I eventually gave birth to my first child and got a good job, but I continued drinking and drifted further away from God. Then I suffered two strokes.

One day, on my way home from the hospital, I felt the need to pass at the church for prayer. It was a Tuesday. During the service, the pastor called those who were not feeling well to the front. As I stepped forward, I was delivered and healed from the effects of the stroke.

That moment changed everything. I made the decision to commit my life to God. I learned to use my faith, stopped all the wrong things I was doing, and was baptised in water. Then I received the Holy Spirit.

Now I am completely transformed. I am happily married and have three beautiful children. I am no longer addicted to alcohol. I have been completely healed and, most importantly, I have the Holy Spirit guiding my life. I am deeply grateful for God’s mercy and for the chance to live a life filled with His presence and blessing,” said Ana.✉



20 Years of Crime and Addiction

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

“For twenty years, I lived a wretched life consumed by substance addiction. I brought constant shame to my family, with police regularly arriving to report my arrests for robbery. Local community members would storm our home, demanding retribution for my thefts.

The turning point came after I was shot, leaving me with a broken jaw and arm. During a clinic visit for pain relief, I met a pastor distributing church newspapers. Desperate for a change, I attended a service at the Universal Church and experienced my first peaceful night’s sleep in years. Through prayer and dedication, God healed my physical wounds and freed me from



addiction. After leaving my old lifestyle behind and forgiving those who hurt me, I received the Holy Spirit, who filled me with overwhelming joy.

Though my family had tolerated my criminal past, they unexpectedly rejected my newfound faith, eventually forcing me out of the house. Now I’m transformed - addiction-free and at peace. My sister now attends church services with me and I believe my entire family will eventually experience a similar transformation. I am grateful to God for delivering me from 20 years of misery. I urge those who are addicted and involved in crime to know that there is a way out. For God, nothing is impossible,” said Joel.✉

FOR MORE ADDRESSES:
HELPLINE: 0800 330 320 | WEBSITE: UCKG.ORG.ZA



SOWETO CATHEDRAL HOLY GROUND

SUNDAY 10AM | 24456 Immink Drive, Zone 6, Diepkloof, SOWETO



Scan QR Code for directions

GAUTENG

Alexandra 1: 698 Pretoria Main Road, Cnr Link Road

Benoni: 70 Cranbourne Avenue (Next to African Bank)

Dobsonville: 4337 Main Road

Kagiso: 3362 Cnr Ngalonkulu Thulandivile Drive, Hillsideview

Park Station: 25 Plein Street, Johannesburg

Randburg 1: 4 Dover Street & Cnr Bram Fischer, (Opp. Garden Mall)

Tembisa 1: 87 Koti Street, Lifateng, Tembisa, 1632

Thokoza 1: 1838 Rakoma Street (Opp Shell Garage)

Pretoria (Tshwane)

Pretoria: 175 Nana Sita Street (Old Skinner Street), Pretoria Central

Hammanskraal: 4411 Unit 01 Temba, Kudube

Mabopane: 2733 Block B (Next to Tlamelong Clinic)

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

Vaal Triangle

Vanderbijlpark: Shop No. 4, CR Swart Street

Sebokeng: 392 Moshoeshoe Street, Zone 10

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

WESTERN CAPE

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

Khayelitsha: 54 Ntsikizi Street, Ilitha Park

George: 121 Cradock St CBD (Next to Golden Harvest)

EASTERN CAPE

East London: 5 Gladstone Street

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

Umtata: 36 Owen Street (next to Botha Sigcau Building)

NORTHERN CAPE

Kimberley: 44 Sidney Street

Upington: Rosebuds Shopping Centre, Leeukop Street, Cnr Drakensberg Street

KWAZULU NATAL

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

Newcastle: Shop 13/14 LOT 627 - 64 Allen Street

Pinetown: 40 Kings Road, Above Chester butcheries, Pinetown.

Pietermaritzburg: 399 Church Street (Opp. Capital Centre)

FREE STATE

Bloemfontein: 60 Oliver Tambo Road

QwaQwa: Shop #2 Midtown Shopping Center Phuthaditjhaba

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

LIMPOPO

Polokwane: Shop 3, 20 Jorrisen Street

MPUMALANGA

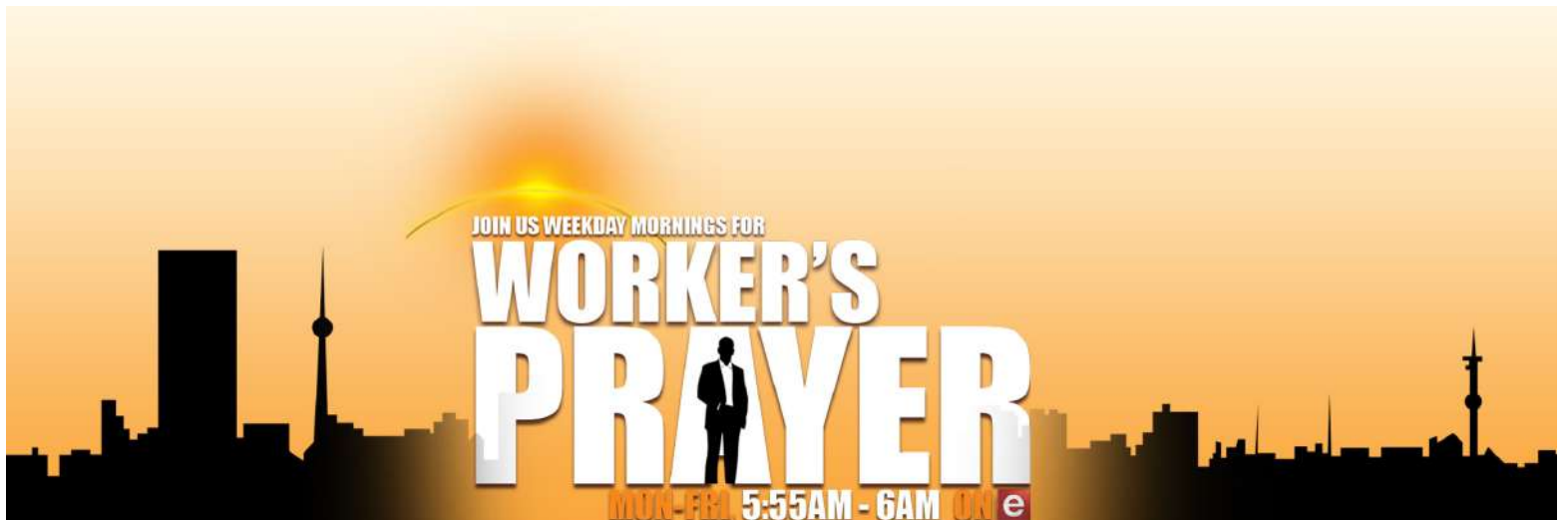
Nelspruit: 40 Bester Street, next to Home Choice

Witbank: 8 Arras Street, Witbank CBD

NORTH WEST

Rustenburg: 134 Klopper Street

Mahikeng: 28 Robinson Street, Cnr Main Street (Next to the Library)



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.