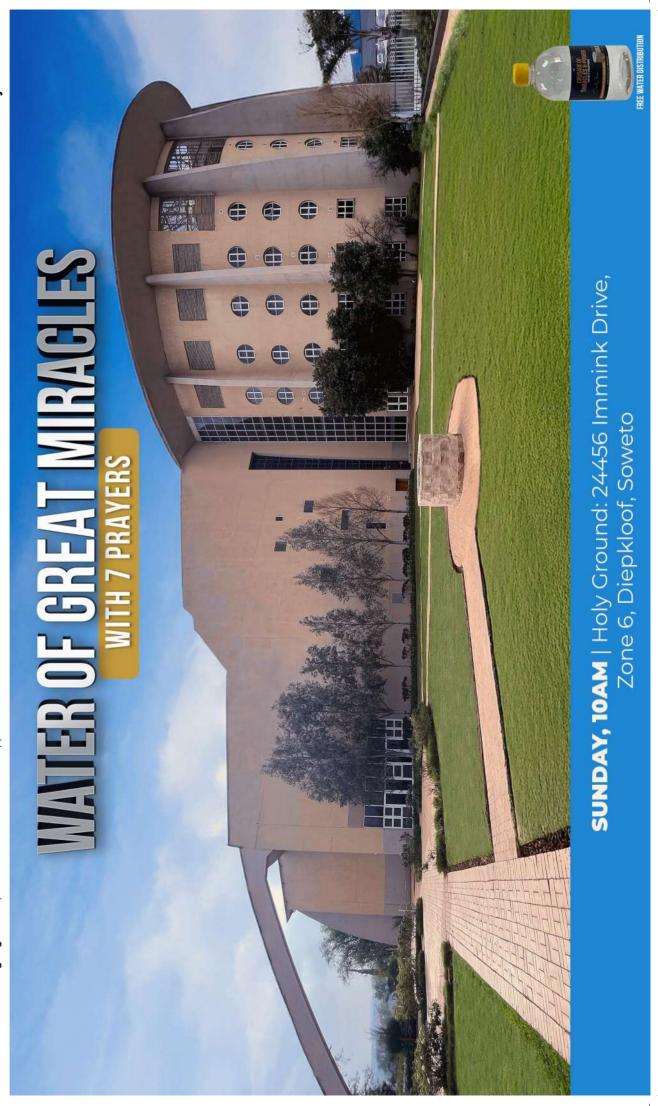


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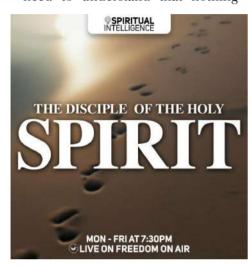


THE TRUTH THAT STRENGTHENS

Message by Bishop Macedo

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

When I embrace the truth -which is embodied in Christall things become possible. You need to understand that nothing



can prevail against truth, and everything good comes through the truth. Jesus is the truth and the devil is the father of lies.

I have learned that this power of truth is not automatic or instantaneous. It is not a simple "give and take" relationship where telling the truth one day leads to immediate rewards. Instead, it requires my consistent commitment to living in the truth. When I embrace the truth completely and make it part of my character, I gain the strength to overcome evil, the devil, and life's challenges.

True strength comes from my genuine commitment to the truth, not from occasional faith. God sees what is in my heart, so living in lies while pretending to be honest will not work.

However, choosing the truth often requires a sacrifice from me. I might lose friends, jobs or opportunities when I choose the truth over lies. Yet, just as Paul learned to be content in all circumstances through Christ's strength, I have found that living in the truth provides me with deeper peace and strength, which compensate for worldly losses.

Understand that by fully embracing the truth -which is inseparable from Christ- we can overcome any obstacle, just as Paul declared that he could do all things through Christ who strengthened him.

WHO REALLY CARES ABOUT YOU?

The hard truth about life is that most people do not care about you at all. In fact, many people are indifferent to your problems, and some might even derive some sinister pleasure from watching you struggle because they think that your loss is their gain. This reality check is not intended to discourage you but to rather help you focus on the One who truly cares for you and will never disappoint you: God.

While family and friends might care and try to help you, they also have their own burdens and will not always be able to support you fully.

Most people cannot or do not care to help. Many so-called friends disappear when you need them the most. So, who can you trust to be there for you when you are in need? Only God.

Despite your past rejection of Him, God offers unconditional acceptance. Your struggles with addiction, crime, depression, suicidal thoughts, or the worst of sins, do not disqualify you from His love.

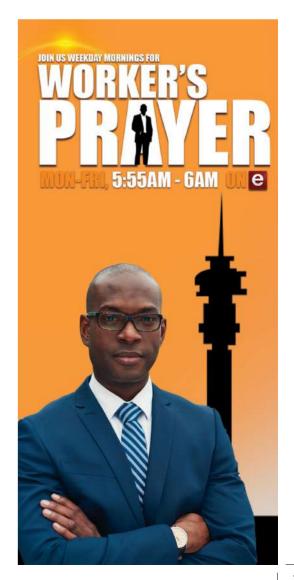
"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert..." Isaiah 43:18-19

God can create a way out for those who feel alone and afflicted in the vast desert of life. If you are tired and in need of help, trust in His mercy and power to transform your life, because He is the only One who truly cares for you.

God bless you,

Bishop Marcelo Pires mp@mpires.org





My anger held me captive

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

I harboured a lot of hatred inside me and was filled with deep anger because I witnessed my father being abusive towards my mother. Although I never expressed my feelings directly to him, I resented him deeply. That anger started controlling me and started showing in my behaviour at school.



I fought a lot in school and used violence as an outlet for the pain and anger I felt inside.

Even though I grew up attending services in the Universal Church and knew what was right, the hatred in my heart led me astray. I cried often, but kept my emotions hidden from my family. I isolated myself from them and bottled everything up. My anger held me captive and I became someone I didn't even recognise, especially when I had outbursts.

However, because I had grown up attending church services, I knew there was another way. I had learnt about God and His power to change lives. I started asking myself, "Why am I living like this when I know God can bring healing and transformation?"

That realisation forced me to make a decision. I started attending church services again, especially on Wednesdays to learn about the Holy Spirit and on Fridays for deliverance. I turned to God for help.

As I grew in faith, I started meditating on the Bible and committed myself to having a godly conduct and walking in God's ways, not merely attending church services. Through Him, I found the inner healing I so desperately needed. He showed me that nothing is impossible, that I didn't have to live in anger or pain any more. I also joined

the youth group where I learnt to fight spiritually and stand firm in faith. I also learnt how to rise above my struggles and to face life's battles with courage.

Now, I am a completely changed man. I have

the Holy Spirit
within me, and He has given me peace
and taught me how to be temperate. I
forgave my father and I'm no longer
defined by anger, hatred or pain. I
am longer violent and I don't bottle
up my emotions. I even started my
own business and I'm moving forward
with confidence and strength.God has
transformed me and I'll never look
back," said Isaac.



started attending services in the Universal Church from a very young age. However, during my teenage years, I stopped attending services because I felt like I was restricted from doing certain things that I wanted to do, and I decided to leave.

When I went to high school, I met friends who introduced me to drinking alcohol and smoking. We also used to eat muffins laced with drugs. At first, I felt happy and carefree, but deep down, I wasn't happy at all. I didn't enjoy doing those things, but I did them to please my friends. I started feeling depressed, so I turned to romantic novels for comfort.

I thought they would fill the emptiness I felt, but the more I read them, the worse I felt. It was

as though there was a deep hole inside me and no matter what I did, it wouldn't get filled.

One day, my neighbour invited me to attend services in the Universal Church again. He handed me the Stop Suffering newspaper where I read testimonies of people who had overcome their struggles through the power of faith, and I decided to attend a Sunday service. When I got there, I was introduced to the chains of prayers. I attended services on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Through my perseverance in the chains of prayers, I was delivered from depression. By diligently following the teachings of faith, I found peace and was delivered from my old habits.

Now, I am no longer the person I used to be. I don't drink or smoke, I don't associate with bad friends and I've been delivered from depression. The emptiness I once felt is gone because God has filled that void. I am free and happy, and I live a life that's fulfilling and honours God," said Nomibongo.



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7 YEARS WITH STRONG MIGRAINES

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

 ${}^{66}\mathbf{M}{}^{\mathrm{y}}$ life was miserable. I was constantly sick and frequently took time off work until I eventually lost my job. My struggles were severe. I suffered from migraines for over seven years and often consulted with different doctors seeking help, some of whom even suggested that I smoke to relieve the pain. I used to be very resentful and would harbour grudges over the smallest things.

I was constantly sick and frequently took time off work

My mother invited me to the Universal Church. I was reluctant at first, but when I eventually came, everything started to change.

I learned how to use my faith in God and was healed from migraines, and I committed myself to the chains of prayers every Wednesday and Sunday to learn more about the Holy Spirit. I learned that I would only be able to live a complete life and have the salvation of my soul when the Spirit of God dwelled in me. I vividly remember the moment I received the Holy Spirit—I was overwhelmed with gratitude, love, joy, peace, strength, and wisdom.

Now, I'm happy, free and at peace. I no longer hold grudges, and my heart is filled with love. My finances were also restored. Three years after losing my job, I got the same job back. I was able to pay off the bond on my house fully within five years. God has given me many blessings, but above all, I have a renewed sense of happiness and strength because of the presence of the Holy Spirit in me.

In everything I do, I seek God's wisdom first. I thank

I WAS STARING **DEATH IN THE FACE**

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

46 I was very sick for a long time and I constantly felt pain. I went to many places trying to understand what was happening to me. They gave me medications and remedies, but nothing helped.

One day, I went to the hospital, and after some tests, I was diagnosed with stage 3 cancer and then referred to another hospital for further checks. They gave me a date to return for treatment.

During that time, I was overwhelmed by pain and despair. I had tried everything, but nothing had worked. I didn't know what else to do. I already knew about the Universal Church. I was hesitant, but I realised I had nothing to lose because I was dying, and nothing else had helped, so I decided to go there.

In the church, I received a prayer and was advised to follow the doctor's instructions and to also use my faith for my healing. I followed this advice and I believed that God would heal me. The operation went smoothly and I completed all my treatments successfully. During this time, I started attending church regularly and engaged in the chains of prayers for my complete healing. I kept praying, seeking God and trusting Him. Eventually, I was completely healed from cancer.

Now my life changed I live pain-free, and I found happiness and contentment in the presence of God," said Duduzile.





THE HOSPITAL WAS MY SECOND HOME

By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

Was sick, suffering from a heart disease which led to four strokes that affected the left side of my body. I was constantly in and out of the

hospital and I sought help in many places, but nothing worked. I felt hopeless and believed nothing would change my situation.

One day, I was walking past the Universal Church on my way to a hospital for a checkup. I was invited to enter the church to receive a prayer. Desperate for a solution to my suffering, I accepted the

invitation. I left the service with renewed hope that my situation could change.

From then on, I started attending services in the Universal Church. I committed myself to the chains of prayers on Tuesdays for healing and on Fridays for deliverance. Over time, my health was restored and I was no longer sick.

Now, my life is completely different. I thank God for giving me a second chance. Today, I sleep peacefully at night and feel happier. I am no longer suffering from a heart disease. The left side of my body is now healed and I no longer have to go to the hospital frequently. My life is filled with peace and joy. I'm truly grateful for the life God has given me, and I am enjoying it to the fullest," said Cynthia.



Freedom On Air Online Radio

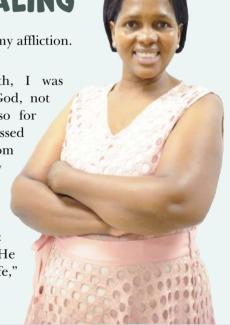


MY PAINFUL JOURNEY BEFORE HEALING By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

I was filled with unbearable pain. I suffered from severe chest pains and relentless headaches, especially when I was upset. The pain was constant, and doctors eventually diagnosed me with TB, after I had already spent years battling the pain on my own. Despite undergoing medical treatment for years, I never had complete the relief. I endured migraines and chest pains for nearly 10 years, with no real hope of recovery.

My sister, who had been attending services at the Universal Church, invited me to join her. I was introduced to the chains of prayers held on Tuesdays and Fridays, where I learned how to use faith to be delivered from my affliction.

Through the power of faith, I was completely healed. I thank God, not only for my healing, but also for transforming my life. He blessed me with a loving man to whom I am happily married. My message to those who live in suffering as I used to and have tried everything with no hope or solution is simple: Come to God, because only He can truly transform your life," said Nomusa.





SATURDAYS 8:25AM



Nothing Fulfilled Me By Albertine Chitswa | uckg.org.za

Although Sihle grew up attending services in the Universal Church, he only went there to please his mother and never put what he was taught into practice.

"At school, I was a bad influence on my friends and I was disruptive in class. I disrespected my teachers

and made fun of them.

My mother was called to the school several times because of my bad behaviour. There was even one stage when the principal almost expelled me because of all the trouble I caused. I drank and became involved with women. Despite all of this, I felt a gaping emptiness inside me.

"...every time I saw a woman, my first thought was about sleeping with her"

> Things got worse after I finished matric. I started looking for a job but couldn't find one. I applied at different tertiary institutions but wasn't accepted anywhere. During this time, I became addicted to and pornography unhealthy relationships.

I felt empty and unfulfilled.

I started objectifying women and every time I saw a woman, my first thought was about sleeping with her and moving on. This realisation scared me. I worried that if I



continued down this path, I might even end up doing something as terrible as sexually assaulting someone.

I decided that I wanted to change. I didn't want to feel the way I felt any more. This time, I went to church, not because of my mother, but because I wanted to seek God for myself.

I wanted a fresh start, a true transformation, and I wanted God in my life. As I kept attending church services and practising what I was taught, I started seeing changes in my life. I stopped watching pornography, quit drinking alcohol and also ended the relationships I had.

I got baptised in water and sought the Spirit of God with all my heart. I participated in a fast from entertainment to fully dedicate myself to seeking the Holy Spirit. When I received the Holy Spirit, the void I had felt for so long was finally gone. I was filled with peace and no longer needed bad habits or validation from women. I started seeing women as souls deserving of respect, not mere objects.

My life started progressing in every way. I was even admitted to university. Now I'm at peace and my life has completely changed. I might not have everything I want yet, but I have everything I need, especially and most importantly, the Spirit of God. My life now honours God and I am truly fulfilled," said Sihle.



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Y father committed suicide when I was 18, leaving a gaping void in my life. It felt like he had abandoned me. I turned to alcohol for comfort, drinking with friends on weekends and sometimes during the week. After losing my job, I drank to relieve my feelings of worthlessness.

My turning point came when my youngest child had an accident. While she was in the hospital, I prayed to God and vowed to stop drinking if He healed her —and

Drowning in my pain

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

He did. Although I didn't stop immediately, I eventually quit drinking and I blocked all my friends because of their negative influence and distanced myself from my old lifestyle. However, I realised that I needed to have a relationship with God for me not to regress, because my willpower could only do so much. And, even though I had stopped drinking, I still felt empty inside and did not

have the fulfilment I yearned for. My sister invited me to the Universal Church, where I learned how to use my faith, and that was when God started changing my life and I was able to find inner peace.

I continued taking part in the chains of prayers and my finances were restored.

I no longer feel the urge to drink to feel comforted or worthy because God's presence is sufficient for me.

I am complete and fulfilled, and I live a life filled with joy, peace and purpose," said Chuma.

□



EIGHT YEARS IN THE GRIP OF MULTIPLE ADDICTIONS

By Tania Nguanda | uckg.org.za

teachings, I left my old way

of living. God delivered me from addiction and

Growing up in poverty and facing Constant discrimination as a result, I struggled with multiple addictions to cigarettes, marijuana and alcohol. Working temporary and low-paying jobs in retail and construction, I often resorted to stealing from family and friends to support my habits. I impregnated a girl and felt overwhelmed by the responsibilities, but I became hopeful when I started attending services at the Universal Church.

By embracing God's

destructive behaviour. After getting baptised in water and receiving the Holy Spirit, I started living a new life with God and had the assurance of my salvation. I found inner peace and received spiritual strength.

I have stepped up and assumed my responsibilities as a father and take care of my child. God blessed me and I am now happily married and we have a loving and blessed family. God also opened my vision for my finances, and now I own several businesses. I experienced a profound life transformation through faith and a personal commitment to God," said Nqobizitha.

FOR MORE ADDRESSES:

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Kagiso: 3362 Cnr Ngalonkulu

Thulandivile Drive, Hillsview **Park Station:** 25 Plein

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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)

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

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01 Temba, Kudube

Mabopane: 2733 Block B (Next to Tlamelong Clinic)

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

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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

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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

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