

You are Not Forgotten!

"Why are you crying, Mom?" asked little Manu as she watched her mom hug her friend. "Saying goodbye is harder than I thought," her mom replied. "My friend and I have made so many memories together over the years, I'm having a hard time letting go."

The little one seemed to know just how to comfort them – she opened the drawer in front of her and, to the women's surprise, she gifted the friend with a fun photo of her mother. Quickly tears gave way to laughter. The little girl with such a sensitive heart added, "Now you will always remember her!"

Goodbyes can be heartbreaking. They also provoke uncertainties and questions. "Will we ever see each other again? What will our days be like without that person around?" While we may be brave enough to utter those questions out loud, we may try to hide our deepest fear: Will I be forgotten?

Little Manu needed an answer to that disturbing question in her heart. "Auntie, you won't forget my mother because now you have a picture of her, but will you forget me?" Auntie smiled and said, "How could I forget you? I knew you before you were born!" Little Manu's eyes lit up, expressing the joy of a girl who knows she is loved

This beautiful, innocent child dared to ask a crucial question: "Am I important enough to be remembered?" Her question takes me to Psalm 13:1-2, which gives us an insight into the psalmist soul: "How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart?"

The psalmist was feeling forgotten, but as he pours out his soul before the Lord, he is encouraged. He ponders on his steadfast love: "But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing the LORD's praise, for he has been good to me."

I just came back from Africa where I had the wonderful opportunity to visit our Xhosa listener group in a remote village. A man from the community was as brave as little Manu and openly expressed that he was astonished at our coming to visit that "forgotten" place. His eyes lit up at the thought that there were people out there who cared for them. These men and women were encouraged to know God sees them.

I am blessed by the privilege we have to share the message that they are seen, loved and cared for by the creator of the universe – not only on special occasions but every single day. I smile at the thought the same holds true for us.

"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me" (Isa. 49:15-16).

In his amazing love,



Susie Pek
Global Director for TWR Women of Hope

JULY 2024 Prayers for East and Southern Africa

1. Lord, help victims of human trafficking to understand they are being exploited. May they be identified early in their abuse and get connected with those who can help. (Luke 4:18)
2. Lord, protect and provide for the widows in the Eastern Cape, South Africa who are mistreated by their families and struggle to survive. (Phil. 4:19)
3. We pray, God, for women in Burundi who have given birth to only girls because they are blamed for ending the family lineage. (Gen. 1:27)
4. Father, we pray that you will help the TWR Women of Hope establish a ministry team in Eswatini. (Rom. 12:6-8)
5. God, we pray for employment for the young men and women in Tanzania who will complete their university studies this July. (Prov. 16:9)
6. Lord, young girls in Somalia suffer as child brides as they encounter complications and even death while giving birth. We pray for cultural change that protects girls from early marriage. (Ps. 138:7)
7. Sovereign Lord, we pray for the Amhara region of Ethiopia to have rest from war. May your peace be upon those living there. (Isa. 2:4)
8. God, shield women and children in Zimbabwe from the trauma caused by alcohol and drug abuse arising from men turning to these out of hopelessness. (Prov. 23:18)
9. God, we pray that more women in Botswana would choose Christ and have a deeper relationship with him so that they live purpose-driven lives. (Eph. 2:10)
10. Father, thank you for the solar-powered audio players given to women in rural areas of South Africa. May those listening to the Women of Hope programs grow spiritually. (2 Pet. 3:18)
11. Lord, protect autistic children in Burundi who are misunderstood and often beaten. Please help the parents understand why their children are not doing well in school. (Ps. 46:1)
12. God, we look to you to provide rain in Eswatini, especially for those that make a living by farming. (Lev. 26:4)
13. Heavenly Father, we ask for the eradication of harmful traditions like female genital mutilation in Tanzania. (Col. 2:8)
14. Father, thank you for opening the door for the gospel to be shared in Somalia. Use TWR Women of Hope to minister there in Jesus' name. (Mark 13:10)
15. God, we pray for safety for women and children in the cities and townships of South Africa where many are killed by gang members. (Ps. 18:2)
16. Lord, there is serious poverty in Ethiopia because of the economic crisis. Please provide aid for poor families, widows and widowers who cannot afford to feed their families. (Luke 3:11)
17. God, please give strength and provision to the aged in Zimbabwe who see their retirement earning dwindle from inflation and who are neglected by their families. (1 Tim. 5:8)
18. Father, give men and women in Botswana the desire and strength to remain chaste and choose marriage rather than cohabitation. (1 Cor. 7:2)
19. Father, we pray that you would give strength and courage for women in abusive relationships in South Africa. (Deut. 31:6)
20. God, may the Women of Hope program be aired in Burundi so that women can be educated and gain knowledge on child development. (Prov. 18:15)
21. Lord, we pray for the girls in Eswatini who have completed their college and university studies. Please help them find jobs so they can support themselves. (Eph. 3:20-21)
22. Father, we ask for peaceful local government elections in Tanzania when they occur this October. (Matt. 5:9)
23. Lord, may women in Somalia be protected from violence and persecution within their homes. Bring change to the hearts of those who do not value women and cause them harm. (Ps. 140:1)
24. Father, we surrender TWR Women of Hope Zimbabwe to you. May the intercessors be filled and refreshed by the Holy Spirit. (Ps. 42:1)
25. God, protect women in Ethiopia against robbers that are killing them. May these criminals be caught and punished. (Prov. 18:10)
26. God, we pray that more men in Botswana would come to Christ and become spiritual leaders in their homes. May they be faithful to their spouses. (Eph. 5:23)
27. Father, we pray for women living in extreme poverty in South Africa. Grant them access to jobs, government aid and support systems to provide a way out of poverty. (Ps. 34:6)
28. God, we pray that the Church leaders in Tanzania would encourage their followers to continue to support the TWR Women of Hope ministry. (Phil. 4:15,17)
29. Father, many women in Burundi are jobless and illiterate. Please provide employment so that women can feed their children and families. (2 Cor. 9:8)
30. Lord, we ask that the Holy Spirit bring repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation to unite broken families in Zimbabwe. (Eph. 4:31-32).
31. Heavenly Father, we ask for the women in Botswana to renounce idolatry and ancestral worship and worship you as the one true God. (Lev. 26:1)