

World Vision

SPRING 2019

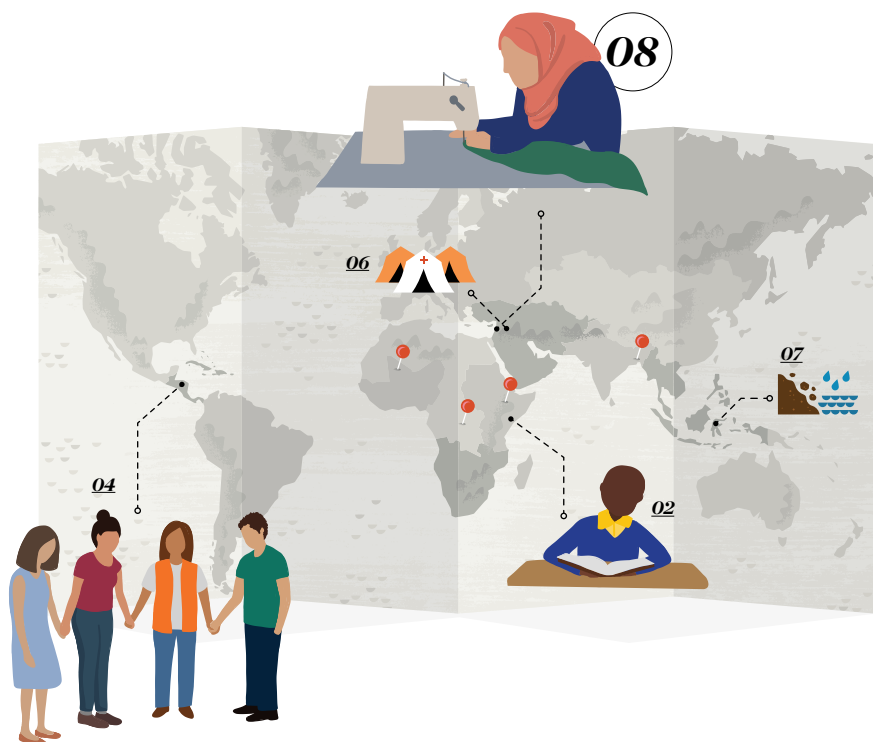
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HOPE FOR
WEARY
WARRIORS

The Church is a
driving force for hope
in Lebanon

8
*CHRIST IN
THE CRISIS*

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World Vision

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World Vision, a free quarterly publication, affirms people responding to God's call to care for the poor by providing information, inspiration, and opportunities for action, linking them with children and families in nearly 100 countries where World Vision ministers. In an effort to be careful stewards of our resources, this publication costs 44 cents a copy to produce.

We welcome your comments or address changes. Contact us at: *World Vision* magazine, P.O. Box 9716, Federal Way, WA 98063-9716. Email us: wvmagazine@worldvision.org. To request to be taken off our mailing list, email us or call toll-free 1.877.596.0290.

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MOSES MUKITALE/WORLD VISION

World Vision U.S. President Edgar Sandoval Sr. meets with young South Sudanese refugees in a World Vision child protection tent in Uganda.

Expect miracles

By Edgar Sandoval Sr.

I LOVE THE STORY of Louis Zamperini, told in the best-selling book *Unbroken* and two movies. Louis was an Olympic athlete and soldier in World War II who endured unimaginable torture in a Japanese war camp. He survived, only to have personal demons threaten to destroy his life.

One day, he found himself sitting under a big tent, listening to the stirring words of Billy Graham, which were calling him to a new life in Jesus. Louis fought the invitation. He wanted to get out of there. But after an intense internal struggle, he started to yield. He surrendered to Christ. And then, everything changed. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Louis turned his life around and forgave his former oppressors.

That day in the tent, Louis experienced a “Damascus road” moment. Like the dramatic conversion of the Apostle Paul, it was a turning point. As Christ followers, we all have some version of this moment. Mine was at a Promise Keepers conference in 2002. I had the same reaction as Louis—I wanted to get out of there! But then I started to yield, and I never stopped.

What about you? Even if you have been blessed to know the Lord intimately your whole life, there was surely a point when Jesus became real to you, and you made him the Lord of your life. I don’t believe you need to be like Paul—struck by the audible voice of Jesus while persecuting Christians and blinded for three days—for your experience to count. Christ will meet you where you are.

God has a clear purpose for these turning points. It’s not changing our

direction without reason. It’s turning us *toward* something—toward a mission he has prepared for us.

For Paul, it was to spread the message of salvation through Christ to the gentiles. For Louis Zamperini, it was to embody the forgiveness we can only achieve through faith. For me, it was transformation: of myself, my family, and now, with World Vision, joining a global movement to transform the world in the name of Christ. As a World Vision supporter, you are part of this mission too.

The challenges affecting vulnerable children around the world are numerous and immense. The work of removing obstacles is unending and intense. I could spend all my time executing strategies and examining reports. I would be busy, but would I be effective? Not if I rely on my own strength.

Friends, we can never get too far away from our “Damascus road” moment. We can never forget that we are surrendered people. And we can never stop allowing the Holy Spirit to transform us, more and more, into the image of Christ. “Be transformed by the renewing of your mind,” Paul says in Romans 12:2. As the Holy Spirit transforms us, all we need to do is yield willingly and expectantly.

And what can we expect? Nothing short of miracles. You see, when we yield to the Spirit, the Miracle Worker takes over!

When enemies become friends and cultural barriers come down in the Middle East (see page 8), we know why—the Miracle Worker has taken over.

As you read, think about your own “Damascus road” moment and journey of transformation. Ask yourself, “Are my eyes open to what the Miracle Worker is doing in and through my life?” +



Edgar Sandoval Sr.
is president of
World Vision U.S.
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Kenya

World Vision formed school Bible clubs in Kalawa to provide spiritual nurture for children throughout the week. The program will expand to include all 40 Kalawa schools.

When the club meets, children reach for Bibles supplied by World Vision. "They know where Habukkuk is," laughs Bernard Kivuva, a manager for World Vision's child sponsorship and local church programs in Kalawa. And they know the importance of prayer.

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION



• **Embark**

Honduras

For some children in Honduras, gangs offer more than a way to make money. Gangs substitute for family. That's why World Vision projects like youth workforce development are critical for children and their families. In Tegucigalpa, this project is preparing more than 200 youth for the job market. Each session begins and ends in prayer.

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION





● In the field

GEORGE MGHAMES/WORLD VISION



Syrian refugee crisis

Internationally recognized as the largest refugee and displacement crisis of our time, the Syrian refugee crisis will enter its ninth year in March.

Since the Syrian civil war officially began March 15, 2011, families have suffered under a brutal conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people, torn the nation apart, and set back the standard of living by decades.

Despite a relative decrease in

UPDATE

Crises around the world

By Chris Huber

FROM MONSTER STORMS and tsunamis to civil wars and droughts, natural disasters and man-made crises impact children, their families, and economies around the world each year.

“In 2018, the sheer scale of humanitarian need around the world was immense and growing,” says Lawren Sinnema, a senior program manager for humanitarian and emergency affairs at World Vision.

Learn how World Vision is responding to some of today’s worst disasters.



East Africa hunger crisis

At least 28 million people in East Africa—more than half of them children—needed humanitarian assistance in 2018. Millions of them are experiencing chronic hunger and the threat of famine. Conflict, recurring severe drought, and high food prices are to blame.

But not all hope is lost. Between October 2017 and September 2018, World Vision staff were able to reach more than 2.7 million people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and South Sudan. Interventions include life-saving food, clean water and sanitation services, medical assistance, livelihood skills training, educational programs, essential relief supplies, and child-protection programs.

Behind the scenes in disaster response

When disasters strike, a lot happens behind the scenes to get the right supplies exactly where they need to be to help survivors — all while communications and transportation routes may be down.

That’s why World Vision is grateful for corporate partners like Radiant Global Logistics Inc., which supports World Vision’s response to disasters in the U.S.—including hurricanes Florence, Michael, Irma, Maria, and Harvey—and response missions worldwide.

“Wherever we need them, they can find a way to do it,” says Kevin Horrocks, a logistics manager for World Vision.

Because of Radiant’s assistance, more than 50,000 people in the U.S. received relief supplies in 2018.

“Radiant doesn’t operate in terms of delivering freight from A to B,” says JP Deenihan, Radiant’s Director

of Marketing and Communications. “We deliver on relationships.” Adds Wiley Knight, Radiant’s Director of Humanitarian Aid, “That relationship is what drives us: It’s about helping our partners solve problems and anticipating their needs.”

Radiant also donated warehousing, transport, and delivery of supplies for the second annual Give-back Gift Shop in New York City that celebrates Giving Tuesday.

“Working with a company and partner that gives back to the community really defines the Radiant culture,” says Arnie Goldstein, Radiant’s Chief Commercial Officer.

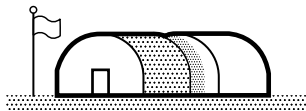
“The opportunity to participate in bringing the World Vision mission to life at the Give-Back Gift Shop enables us to underscore our own commitment and to make a true difference for others.” +

—Heather Klinger



MARK NONKES/WORLD VISION

Learn more online
at [wvmag.org/
disasters2018](http://wvmag.org/disasters2018).



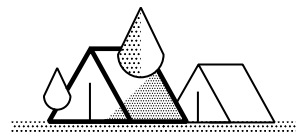
hostilities nationwide in 2018, another 160,000 people fled Syria as refugees. The total number of refugees now sits at more than 5.6 million. About 6.2 million Syrians are displaced within the country, and about 13.1 million people in Syria—almost three-quarters of the population—need humanitarian assistance.

World Vision has helped more than 2.5 million people with healthcare, psychosocial support to women and children, supplies for cold winter months, education programs, food aid, and clean water, sanitation, and hygiene since 2011.



MIDJIBUR RAHMAN RANA/WORLD VISION

Myanmar refugees in Bangladesh



Because of extreme violence, more than 730,000 people from Myanmar have fled to Bangladesh as refugees since Aug. 25, 2017. More than half the refugees are children.


World Vision staff in Bangladesh have helped more than 264,000 people with supplies including food, shelter, hygiene kits, household supplies, and nutrition services for children and pregnant and breastfeeding women. World Vision also constructed more than 1,500 latrines and over 80 deep tube wells, providing access to clean water and sanitation facilities for 154,000 people.



Indonesia earthquakes and tsunami

A magnitude 7.5 earthquake struck Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province Sept. 28, 2018, triggering a tsunami and landslides that caused widespread destruction and loss of life. About 1.4 million people in Central Sulawesi were affected, and more than 2,100 people died. With about 68,000 houses damaged or destroyed, hundreds of thousands of people were rendered homeless.

The earthquake occurred less than two months after a series of temblors hit Indonesia's Lombok island. The strongest of those quakes struck on Aug. 5. More than 500 people were killed, and nearly 1,500 were injured. About 220,000

people remain displaced. World Vision has helped thousands of people—providing clean water and hygiene supplies, food, household items, and Child-Friendly Spaces where children can play and recover. Staff are also helping repair schools and providing training in disaster risk reduction. 



WORLD VISION STAFF/WORLD VISION



Ebola, hunger, and conflict in Democratic Republic of the Congo

What was already considered one of the world's largest and most complex humanitarian crises got worse progressively from 2017 to 2018. On top of new violence in Kasai, Tanganyika, and South Kivu, Ebola briefly broke out in May. Then the deadly virus resurfaced in August, killing 271 of 458 people infected. Overall, the deterioration in stability displaced more than 2.1 million people.

Since August 2017, World Vision staff have reached more than 535,000 people with life-saving humanitarian assistance—food, cash, prevention and malnutrition treatment, Child-Friendly Spaces, and education supplies.

JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

LOVE
BREAKS
THROUGH
IN
LEBANON

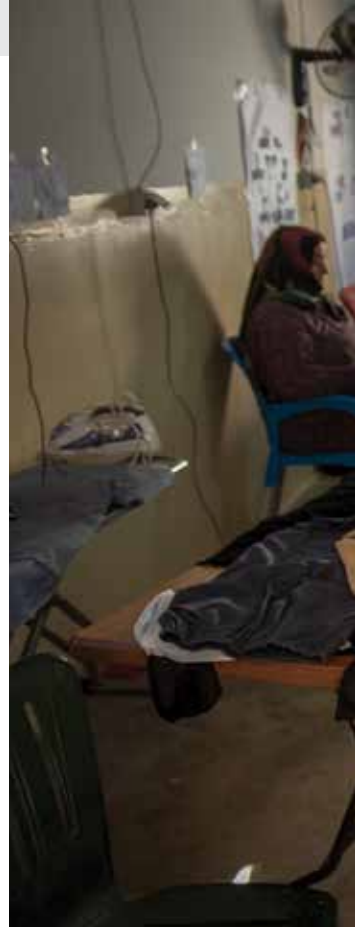




BY JANE SUTTON-REDNER

PHOTOS BY LAURA REINHARDT

Churches and ministries in the Middle East are embracing Jesus' call to welcome the stranger, as more than 5.6 million Syrian refugees seek safety outside their war-torn home country. In Lebanon, despite a history of resentment and conflict between the neighboring nations, many Lebanese churches are providing critical social care and a powerful witness to the inclusive and transforming love of Jesus Christ.



W

When Fatima*, 41, and her children arrived in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley in 2013, she felt defeated by the sight of small, shabby tents and detached latrines lined up alongside agricultural fields. "Who would live here?" she wondered aloud. Her taxi driver answered dispassionately, "You are going to live here."

Back home in Syria, Fatima had run a successful tailoring business, which she'd started in her mid-20s after her husband's death left her to provide for three young children. As a child, she dropped out of school to care for her siblings, but as an adult, she studied alongside her son for a ninth-grade entrance exam—and she passed. However, her most brutal trial has been surviving the horrors of war in Syria.

Two years into the conflict, militants attacked Fatima's village of Idlib, killing eight of her relatives. They shot and killed her 14-year-old daughter—as she watched in helpless terror—then set her house ablaze. Fatima fled with her two surviving children and only the clothes on their backs.

For the past five years, Fatima has lived in a tent with her now 15-year-old daughter, 19-year-old son, and her son's wife. She sleeps on cushions covering the cement floor and tries to keep rain from leaking in under the tarpaulin walls. It is a drastic downgrade from life in Idlib, where her family owned three houses.

And yet she radiates cheerfulness. "Even though I live in a tent in

poor conditions, I am happy," she says. "Anytime people come, they say, 'Why are you happy?' and I say, 'It's the church.'"

Churches easing the burden

The Bekaa Valley, just over the border from Syria, became a destination for fleeing families like Fatima's soon after the Syrian civil war began in 2011. One pastor, Miled, rallied his congregation to reach out with food, diapers, and blankets. Today, with support from World Vision, his church provides ongoing care for families in nearby tent settlements and runs two learning centers for refugee children.

Fatima heard there was a church helping refugees, but she was reluctant to go visit. "I had heard all bad things about Christians," she explains. Instead, Miled visited her with a food parcel and an invitation to come to church. Once there, the Christians she met were caring and



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MILED

compassionate. Their help came with no strings—only a welcome mat.

Miled and his congregation have come alongside Fatima in practical ways, such as providing food and helping her start a sewing class to share her expertise. But they've also extended hospitality, friendship, and acceptance. The church is now a vital part of her life.

“Here in Lebanon, Muslims come to us, and we don't hesitate to help them,” says Miled. “As a church, you can't build walls around you. You have to reach out to the community.”

He continues, “A lot of the people served by the church asked, ‘What do you get from caring for us?’ We said, ‘Our only goal is to ease your burden.’ We never told anyone, ‘You have to go to church.’”

As Fatima got to know church members, cultural barriers broke down. She and Miled became close friends. He now calls her “my sister.”

Love never fails

A few years ago, Fatima expressed a desire to start a sewing class to train other refugee women. With support from Miled's church,



— Previous spread: The setting sun lights up an informal tent settlement in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Above, left: World Vision partners with churches to better support Syrian refugees. Above: Fatima's smile brightens the room where she offers sewing classes to refugee women. Above, right: Pastor Miled walks alongside Fatima in her journey as a refugee.

— *Right:* Maher El Hajj stands on a rooftop overlooking Beirut's Bourj Hammound community—an impoverished neighborhood that's home to Armenians, Palestinians, Kurds, Iraqis, Syrian refugees, and Lebanese. *Below, right:* Refugee children eagerly respond to the lessons they learn at Resurrection Church Beirut, a World Vision partner.

along with World Vision and MERATH, the relief arm of the Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development, she outfitted a one-room tent with sewing machines, tables, and chairs, and began teaching two groups of women: one in the morning and another in the afternoon. Some students started with no skills at all, but collectively the women became so proficient that they secured a contract to sew school uniforms for local children.

Through this business, Fatima is able to support her family, including her grandson named after Miled. She has a purpose. And thanks to the church, she also has peace.

“The pastor reinforced the idea that we must pray for our enemies,” says Fatima, who now prays for her daughter’s killers. “I learned the meaning of love and mercy,” she says. “He taught me to forgive others. Now I have peace.”

Fatima also has the support of a church full of Christians who love her. “Love never fails you,” Miled says. “If you love honestly, an enemy will turn into a friend.”

Welcoming the stranger

Fatima’s story is only one example of how Lebanese churches and ministries are following Christ on the front lines of the Syrian refugee crisis. Since 2016, World Vision has partnered with churches and Christian groups in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, and Iraq through an initiative called Equipping Churches to Serve Refugees.

These partners witness to God’s love through the simple acts Jesus spoke of in



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“
CHRIST IS
REVEALING
HIMSELF
IN THIS
CRISIS.
”
—

Matthew 25: feeding, clothing, comforting, and caring. But following Jesus’ call to welcome the stranger hasn’t always come easy.

In the beginning, the refugees’ presence was emotionally overwhelming for Christians like Maher el Hajj, Youth for Christ’s national director in Lebanon. Many Lebanese regarded Syrians with distrust and resentment. Following the Lebanese Civil War from 1975 to 1990, Syrian military dominated the peacekeeping force that remained in the divided country until 2005. Most Lebanese objected to what they regarded as a Syrian occupation.

Maher clearly remembers the years when Syrian soldiers roamed Lebanon’s streets, even beating and jailing his friends. “I wasn’t ready to deal with the hate, the anger, the bitterness I had from when I was growing up,” he says. “But the reality of the gospel is very black and white.”

He couldn’t deny Jesus’ words in Matthew 5:44—“love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” As he



struggled and prayed, the Holy Spirit began to work in his heart. In 2013, he persuaded the ministry's leadership to intentionally engage refugee youth, launching a groundbreaking program to serve Lebanese and Syrian youth together.

With funding from World Vision, Maher opened a new youth center in Bourj Hammoud, a densely packed, ethnically mixed neighborhood in Beirut. The center is called *Manara*, meaning lighthouse in Arabic, and it is that—a bright spot amid narrow streets and shabby buildings, some still marked with bullet holes from the war. The center provides recreation, informal education, psychosocial support, performing arts, vocational training, and special holiday events, all in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Bible studies are also available for those who express interest.

Maher says the programs were designed in response to a United Nations report on Syrian refugees that found high percentages of youth out of school, feeling unwelcome and unsafe, and considering suicide. “We know as Christians, our hope is in Christ. If I have hope in Christ, I have a goal, a purpose,” he explains. “The main purpose is reconciling the youth to God and reconciling to each other.”

Life in Christ

“There is something happening,” says Rev. Hikmat Kashouh, pastor of Resurrection Church Beirut. “Christ is revealing himself in this crisis.” Churches can be a driving force in what God is doing, he says, if only they embrace the opportunity.

Ever since Syrian refugees began flowing into Lebanon in 2011, Resurrection Church has provided food vouchers,





— Left: After fleeing Syria, the future for 10-year-old Yana looks sunnier because of the classes she attends at the learning support program run by Resurrection Church Beirut.

counseling programs for adults, and education classes for children. The church helps newcomers feel like they fit in this community, despite their different backgrounds. Now, 70 percent of the people in the congregation are refugees.

One Sunday, Hikmat preached on Psalm 23, describing a loving Shepherd who helps us through our trials.

“If you hear a voice that says you are useless, it’s not the voice of Jesus,” Hikmat said. “You are most precious. The Shepherd gave his life for you. You are the guest of honor at a feast that never ends.”

After the service, Adnan*, a young Syrian father, says, “I met God in this church.” He fled Aleppo with his wife and two daughters about five years ago, and now they live in a small apartment in Bourj Hammoud. His wife started attending church services first, and he followed, intrigued by the changes in her. “This is the life in Christ,” he says with wonder.

Unconditional love

Adnan’s children attend Resurrection Church’s learning support program, which is partly funded and equipped by World Vision. The classrooms abound with cheerful color—seasonal decorations, children’s art tacked to the walls, and a padded floor mat with a multicolored jigsaw pattern. Four teachers and several church volunteers work with 60 students, ranging in age from 5 to 12, as they study math and learn to read and write in Arabic, English, and French.

In Lebanon, churches help fill a worrisome gap in refugee children’s education. More than half of school-age Syrian children in Lebanon aren’t attending classes. Some of this is due to capacity; refugees make up roughly one-quarter of the population, and the strain on infrastructure is intense. Some is due to hostility: many kids drop out because of bullying, and others don’t meet language requirements since Syrian schools don’t teach in the same languages as Lebanese schools. Some children already weren’t in school when the war broke out, and in the chaos of displacement, they’ve fallen further behind academically.

Adnan’s daughter Yana*, 10, attends education classes five days a week at the church. She had to drop out of a local school because the extra fees were too much for Adnan, who doesn’t have consistent work.

“My day would be harder without school,” Yana says. “At home, there’s nothing to do.” She enjoys playing at the center, learning from the kind teachers, and studying multiple languages. The Bible stories, values-based teaching, and Hikmat’s model are teaching her one of the most important lessons of all. “I learned to love all people and help them,” says Yana.

Unconditional love is a breakthrough theme that reaches people of all backgrounds and faith and redirects their lives. +

**Names changed to protect identity.*

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Every one of us is an answer to someone else’s prayer. You can help children’s faith grow and empower the local church. To give, complete and mail the form between pages 8 and 9, visit wvmag.org/give, or call 1.866.332.4453.

Hope for weary warriors

By Marilee Pierce Dunker

THERE IS NOTHING like physical pain to drive you to your knees in prayer. For 20 years, I was plagued by crippling back pain and sciatica. Time after time, I cried out to God for his healing power on my body, but nothing improved. Even as a prayer warrior, I grew weary in going to God about the same thing day in and day out.

One of the hardest challenges of the Christian walk is waiting for God to answer our prayers when we urgently need him to intervene in circumstances that are breaking our hearts, testing our faith, and robbing us of peace and joy. I have been on my knees many times with my Bible in hand, tearfully reminding God of his promises when my husband and I were in a financial crisis, a friend was stricken with a life-threatening disease, or one of my children was in trouble.

And for years, many of my prayers have been centered on my own need for a miracle. In 2017, after 20 years of pain, I had back surgery to un-pinch my spinal cord, replace deteriorated discs, and straighten my back. The surgery was the answer to my prayers in many ways. However, the trauma to the nerves in my back is taking much longer to heal, and I continue to cry out to God.

Of course, compared to the suffering in many parts of this broken world, my pain is nothing. My heart is often broken by stories about the ongoing hunger crisis in East Africa, the Syrian refugee crisis, and the hatred and violence that seems to affect so many. These are problems that only God can solve by changing people's

hearts and minds. But he calls us to participate by giving what we can to those in need and praying without ceasing, because prayer is our greatest weapon against the powers and principalities of this world—that Paul talks about in Ephesians 6:12—which are at the root of today's suffering.

Like the healing of my back and other situations I've faced, some prayers take time to fully materialize. As Psalm 40 says, sometimes we have to wait for God's timing, and it's not unusual to experience what I call "intercession fatigue" when we are faithful to pray, but nothing seems to happen.

So, if you tire as you continue crying out to the Lord, here are a few suggestions that have helped me continue to expect my miracle even when all God seems to be saying is "wait."

1. Take time to remember how much God loves you and those you are praying for.

God's love is at the root of all hope and, when we truly love someone, we will do anything for them. This is how God cares for us. Humans are created in his image, which means we get our capacity to love and feel compassion from him. In Matthew 7:9-11, we read that God wants to give us good things. So, we can be confident when we pray that God hears us and wants good things for us, those we love, and for all his creation.

2. Remember all the ways God has been faithful in the past.

Faith is a living expression that grows as we dare to put it into action. So, if we take time to remember all the miraculous ways he has answered our prayers in the past, we will find new courage and hope for the future—and our faith will grow.



JON WARREN/WORLD VISION

• Inspiration

3. Pray the Word.

Scripture gives us the authority to claim our miracle, whether it is physical healing, reconciliation with a loved one, financial provision, wisdom at work, or even something as seemingly impossible as world peace. Every situation imaginable has an applicable promise in the Bible. Hebrews 4:12 tells us that the Word of God is alive and active, so let God's own words be your argument before his Throne of Grace.

4. Be comfortable not knowing what to pray.

One of my greatest frustrations when I pray is that, while I can identify the problem, I have no idea how to fix it. So, I am uncertain how to pray. That's when I claim Romans 8:26 which says, "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." God doesn't need our words to know our hearts, and he is faithful to answer even our unspoken requests.

5. Invite others to pray with you.

We all have times when we are just too tired or discouraged to keep praying, and we need others to come alongside to support us. Even Moses—who led the Israelites out of Egypt—needed a little help from his friends. Exodus 17 tells us about a time when the Israelites were in a great battle. As long as Moses held up his hands, they won. But when he let them down, they began to lose. When Moses' arms grew tired, Aaron and Hur brought a stone for him to sit on, and they each held up an arm. We all need Aarons and Hurs in our lives. My family prayed for 15 years before we saw a loved one delivered from drug addiction. And I have to say, there were times when I just laid on the floor and let my tears do the talking. I needed trusted friends to pray when I could not. Together we fought the battle and won!

Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

—ISAIAH 40:31 (NASB)

6. Find peace in surrendering to God's will.

When we feel like we are running on spiritual fumes, and our spiritual life is beginning to sputter, it may be time to give in, not up. Sometimes we are so determined to win the battle we're facing that we forget to ask God if we are praying in his will. Paul gives us a great example of this kind of spiritual surrender to God's plan in 2 Corinthians 12:6-8. Three times he prayed about a "thorn in the flesh" that bothered him. God eventually answered, saying that his grace "is sufficient," and this weakness stayed with the apostle. It brought him to a point of recognizing that God's power works through our weaknesses. I have to confess that there have been times when I realized that while I was waiting for God to answer my prayers, he was waiting for me to "give in" to his will.

7. Worship God.

I will end with the best medicine I know to combat intercession fatigue: Rejoice in the Lord, always. I will say it again: Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4). The journey is just as important as what we're praying for, so while we wait, we should praise God for who he is and all the good things he has, is, and will do. 🙌



ADAM ARKIN/WORLD VISION

Marilee Pierce Dunker is an ambassador for World Vision, which her father, Bob Pierce, founded in 1950.



Among the nations

I CHERISH EVERY opportunity to worship Jesus with fellow believers in other parts of the world. Since my late 20s, God has been revealing his heart for the nations to me through brothers and sisters from many tribes and tongues—from China to Lebanon; Alaska to Zambia.

That's why this photo from a church in Bamako, Mali, is so special.

King David says it well in Psalm 67:4: "May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the nations of the earth."

Mali, a country of roughly 18 million people, is predominantly Muslim. About 2.4 percent profess Christianity.

Worship and preaching at this Assemblies of God church are in French, so specifics were difficult to discern. But when we're family, we understand enough. I wanted to capture the essence of this church family's life together.

The worship band led in with another upbeat song halfway through the service. People organically left their seats to dance and sing near the stage. What I love about this moment is the worshippers' abandon. Regardless of their week, their raised hands and dancing feet proclaim: God is always good and worthy of praise.

I revel at this moment. I might be moving through the crowd, camera to my face. And I might not understand all the words of the song. But I'm smiling, I'm singing, I'm worshipping, too. This moment reminds me of what the Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 1:5, "God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through his son Jesus Christ."

This means that we can worship Jesus even when we can't understand the lyrics. 🍷

Written and
photographed
by Chris Huber
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P. O. Box 70172
Tacoma, WA 98481-0172

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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