



THE RETURN

South Africa

Return to Me and I will return to you...
Joel 2:12-13

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

CALLING LOCAL CONGREGATIONS
IN SOUTH AFRICA
TO 10 DAYS OF REPENTANCE

18-28 SEPTEMBER 2020

26 SEPTEMBER 2020
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND REPENTANCE

**PARTICIPANT'S
PRAYER GUIDE**

COMPILED BY INTERCESSORS FOR SOUTH AFRICA



A landscape photograph capturing a sunset or sunrise. The sun is positioned low on the horizon, creating a bright, glowing light that illuminates the sky and the foreground. The sky is a mix of deep blue and orange, with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted hills and mountains, with some clouds catching the low light of the sun. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

**AT THAT TIME PEOPLE BEGAN TO CALL
UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD.**

GEN 6:24 ESV



ABOUT THE RETURN SOUTH AFRICA 2020 INITIATIVE

WHAT IS THE RETURN SOUTH AFRICA?

The Return is a call to repentance, to 'humble ourselves and turn from our wicked ways'; to come before God, both personally and corporately, in humility, sincerity and with a deep repentance; to intercede for our nation – for mercy, salvation, healing, revival, restoration and for the fulfilment of God's purposes for our nation and everyone who dwells within our borders.

WHY?

South Africa has in great measure departed from God and His ways. It is written in the Bible that righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people; and further, that the ways of unrighteousness lead to judgment. The Bible is clear that God is love and abounding in mercy, and that all who come before Him to seek for His mercy will find it (Hos 10:12), and that in repentance and return will come forgiveness, salvation, healing, revival and restoration (2 Cor 7:10). It is upon that foundation that this promise of 2 Chronicles 7:14 is given: 'If My people who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their sinful ways, I will hear from heaven, I will forgive their sin, and I will heal their land.'

WHEN?

10 Days of prayer and fasting: 18 - 28 September 2020

National Day of Prayer and Repentance: 26 September 2020

The purpose of 10 days of prayer is to:

- Search and rend our hearts...(Confess and Repent)
 - Let go of our grudges... (Forgive and be forgiven)
 - Turn to Jesus... (Embrace His love)
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ABOUT THE RETURN SOUTH AFRICA 2020 INITIATIVE

WE CALL PRAYER NETWORKS, CONGREGATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS TO CONSIDER:

- INDIVIDUAL PRAYER AND FASTING
- NIGHT AND DAY PRAYER
- DAILY CORPORATE PRAYER GATHERINGS
(PHYSICALLY OR ONLINE)

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO USE THESE GUIDELINES:

INDIVIDUALS can use the daily guidelines in personal times of prayer. We suggest that you put aside enough time to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the things that God wants to address in your life. We strongly urge that you read through the Scriptures provided and allow time for thorough self-examination in response to the questions posed, before bringing confession and repentance to the Lord in prayer.

PRAYER GROUPS - When we join with other believers in humbling ourselves before God, we will be able to go deeper as we allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the things that need to be repented for. Believers can come together on a daily basis during the 10 day period, either in person or through platforms like Zoom, MS Teams or WhatsApp. We propose that the different portions of Scripture be read aloud and that the group responds in prayer to the questions posed.

NIGHT AND DAY PRAYER - Prayer networks, fraternals, individual churches, groups etc can take one or more days during the 10 days to cover the full 24 hours in prayer, or work together to cover all ten days in day and night prayer. Create your own 24/7 Whatsapp Group: <https://tinyurl.com/y2nlkwnn>

CORPORATE CHURCH GATHERINGS (physically or online) in a community, township, town or city, to deal with specific things in their community, people group or province.



ABOUT THE RETURN SOUTH AFRICA 2020 INITIATIVE

IT IS ALL ABOUT THE HEART

TRUE REPENTANCE IS NOT A MECHANICAL ACTION OR A REPETITION OF RELIGIOUS PRAYERS. IT IS NOT ABOUT WORDS OR OFFERING MERE SUPPLICATIONS TO GOD. RETURNING TO GOD NECESSITATES CONVICTION OF OUR HEARTS.

The prophet Joel makes it so clear in his appeal to God's people to return to God in Joel 2:12-13 **'Now, therefore,' says the Lord, 'Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.'** So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm.

We need to be confronted with our own hearts. These 10 days of prayer are not about praying for things out there or for other people's sins. The guidelines have been specifically compiled to help us look inwards and to mourn for our own sin and waywardness. We have brought much sorrow to God and we need a divine change of hearts. We need to choose God anew and afresh.

May God speak to you by His Spirit and help you to respond from the heart with sincerity and true humility as you may recognise your own wrongdoing. May you make a quality decision to change your ways and return to God. May you start a new journey of sanctification and be revived by the power of the living God!

WORD WATCH

18 SEPTEMBER 2020 | 18:00 - 24:00

Begin the 10 days of prayer on the evening of 18 September with a Word Watch (reading the Word and worship) to prepare your heart for repentance. Here are some scriptures that you could use during the six hours on 18 September 2020, from 18:00 to 24:00. Participants in 24-hour prayer watches during the 10 days will commence their watches from midnight (00:00) 19 September 2020 until midnight (24:00) 28 September 2020.

REPENTANCE: Matthew 3:1-2, 8. Mark 1:14-15. Luke 24:46-49. Acts 2:38. Acts 3:19. Acts 17:30-31. Romans 2:4-8. 2 Corinthians 7:9-11. 2 Timothy 2:24-26. 2 Peter 3:9-12. 1 John 1. Revelation 2:5. Revelation 3:3, 19.

HOLY SPIRIT: Luke 3:16-17. Luke 11:13. John 14, 15, 16. Acts 1:5-8. Acts 2:1-21. Acts 4:31. Romans 8. Romans 15:13-19. 1 Corinthians 2:10-14. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18. Titus 3:4-7.

WORSHIP FROM THE PSALMS:

Psalms 8, 19, 29, 45, 84, 97, 110, 145, 147, 150.

WORSHIP FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION:

Revelation 1:10-18. Revelation 4, 5. Revelation 15:2-4. Revelation 19:11-16.

DAY 1 | 19 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR GRIEVING, RESISTING AND QUENCHING THE HOLY SPIRIT

Ephesians 4:30 | And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The Holy Spirit is grieved and quenched when we say that we are Christians, but the way we live does not honour God. We grieve the Holy Spirit through dishonesty, lying, anger, desire for revenge, stealing, hating others, using dirty language, verbal abuse, cursing and insulting others, grumbling and complaining, and being unwilling to forgive. We also grieve the Holy Spirit when we are involved in anything that God hates such as sexual immorality, questionable sexual practices, idolatry, witchcraft, greed and bloodshed of any kind. We grieve the Holy Spirit when we resist the truth of the Word, interpreting the Bible to suit our own agenda, and are unwilling to obey all of God's Word. We quench the Holy Spirit when we no longer witness to others about Jesus.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Ephesians 4:20-32; Acts 7:51; Hebrews 3:7-13; Jeremiah 17:9-10;
Matthew 24:9-13.

PERSONAL

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart.
Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Have you in any way grieved the Holy Spirit? Can you truly say that you walk in the truth according to God's Word or do you try to find loopholes in Scripture so you can justify your sin? Are you obedient to God's Word? Are you thankful or are you constantly complaining and grumbling? Are you witnessing to others about Jesus? Humble yourself before God and ask Him to forgive you for grieving, quenching and resisting the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to cleanse you with the blood of Jesus and to restore you to a life of fellowship with Him. Set your mind and heart to intentionally remove all practises in your life that grieve the Holy Spirit.

DAY 1 | 19 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR GRIEVING, RESISTING AND QUENCHING THE HOLY SPIRIT

BODY OF CHRIST

The Body of Christ is one. When one member sins the whole Body becomes defiled. Identify with the greater Body of Christ in South Africa as you pray:

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you in what ways the Church in South Africa has dishonoured God and grieved, quenched or resisted the Holy Spirit. Humbly ask God to forgive and cleanse us as the Church. (Do not accuse other denominations, groups or people). Plead with Him to pour out his Spirit on us so that, as the Church, we will turn from our wicked ways. Ask God to sanctify us and to empower us so that we may honour the Name of Jesus.

NATIONAL

In what ways do South Africans dishonour God? Ask the Lord to show you His heart and His will for South Africa. Are you willing to stand in the gap to pray for South Africa instead of criticising and accusing others? Are you willing to reach out to any person in South Africa, to tell them about Jesus and to bring them to Christ? Ask God to cleanse you so that you can stand before Him with a pure heart as you intercede for our nation. Pray that God will pour out His Spirit on South Africa, to convict South Africans of sin and to turn their hearts to Him.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Hosea 2:15 - I will give her, her vineyards from there, and the Valley of Achor as a door of hope; She shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, as in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.

Healing: Malachi 4:2 - But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.

Restoration: Ezekiel 36:25-28 - Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

DAY 2 | 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR CARNALITY AND FLESHLINESS – NOT LIVING HOLY LIVES, FILLED AND CONTROLLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Rom 8:5-9 | For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. ⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

Born-again Christians receive a new heart and a new spirit and are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. His task is to transform our hearts and minds into the image of Christ. Persisting in our previous unsaved way of thinking and behaving does not please God, and will cause him to resist us. We will have no spiritual power to do the work of the Kingdom and our prayers will go unanswered. We need to seriously examine our own lives to see whether we are living in the Spirit.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Romans 8:5-9; 1Corinthians 3:1-3; Galatians 5:19-21; 1Peter 1:14-15; 1Peter 2:11-12

PERSONAL

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart. Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Are you holy? Are you set apart for God alone? Are you truly walking in the Spirit or do you walk in the flesh? Are you constantly at war with yourself – wanting to walk in the Spirit, but failing to do so? Are you making an effort to be obedient to the Spirit? Are you actively asking the Holy Spirit to help you to overcome the flesh? Bow before God in repentance for allowing the old ways of the flesh to control your life, for your unwillingness to let go of past passions of the flesh, and for being at enmity with God. Ask Him to sanctify you with the Word of God and the Blood of Jesus, through the work of the Holy Spirit.

DAY 2 | 20 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR CARNALITY AND FLESHLINESS – NOT LIVING HOLY LIVES, FILLED AND CONTROLLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

BODY OF CHRIST

Identify with the greater Body of Christ.

Is the Body of Christ in South Africa walking in the Spirit or in the flesh?

Repent on behalf of your own denomination, and on behalf of the collective Body of Christ in South Africa for our fleshly ways and for not setting an example to the unsaved people in our nation. Ask the Father to pour out His Spirit on the Church, to convict us as members of the Church and to convict the leadership of the Church of our wicked ways. Pray that God will have mercy on us and help us as Body of Christ in South Africa, to turn back to Him and to be holy.

NATIONAL

It is not possible for unsaved people to live in the Spirit. Pray and repent before God for the reluctance of the Church to preach the Gospel. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send out workers (missionaries and evangelists) to every community in South Africa, 'to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Jesus.' (Acts 26:18)

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Romans 15:13 - Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Healing: James 5:16 - Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Restoration: Jeremiah 33:9 - Then it shall be to Me a name of joy, a praise, and an honour before all nations of the earth, who shall hear all the good that I do to them; they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and all the prosperity that I provide for it.

DAY 3 | 21 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR OUR CASUALNESS ABOUT SIN, OUR COMPROMISE WITH, AND TOLERATION OF, SIN, OUR ENSLAVEMENT TO SIN

Rev 3:14-19 | And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. "Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore, be zealous and repent."

Sin is real. Sin cuts us off from God and His life. The consequences of sin are bondage, destruction, defilement and demonic influences in our lives and society. In short, sin brings death. We cannot escape the penalty of sin. We need to change our ways and walk in righteousness as defined by God, so that we may have life. We need to change our mind and agree with God's standard of living.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

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SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Revelation 3:14-19; Hebrews 3:12-14; Hebrews 12:1-5; James 4:4-8; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Romans 6:12-16

PERSONAL

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart. Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Have you accommodated sinful behaviour in your life and moved into justifying why you do not need to address it? Do you pick-and-choose what you believe from God's Word and use humanistic or worldly arguments as to why you can walk according to your own preferences? Scrutinise your way of life and allow the Holy Spirit to show you where you have allowed sinfulness. Ask God to forgive you for allowing sin to rule in your life. Be specific. Confess every form of compromise and confront these issues in your life and change them.

DAY 3 | 21 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR OUR CASUALNESS ABOUT SIN, OUR COMPROMISE WITH, AND TOLERATION OF, SIN, OUR ENSLAVEMENT TO SIN

BODY OF CHRIST

Is the Church preaching the pure standard of the Word concerning sin? In what ways have we become lukewarm and accommodating to worldly ways? Ask God to forgive us as ministers and believers for not confronting sin in our congregations. Pray that the fear of the Lord will return and that the Church will repent and turn from its wicked and sinful ways.

NATIONAL

Our modern society does not believe in the concept of sin. Truth is self-defined and human right license and celebrate sinful and damaging behaviours. Which sins are promoted and justified in our nation? Ask God to forgive us for allowing and embracing the things He despises. Ask God to cleanse the people and to bring them back to the truth that heals and brings life. Pray that God will pour out His Holy Spirit to convict South Africans of sin and turn them back to righteous living.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Proverbs 10:28 - The hope of the righteous will be gladness, But the expectation of the wicked will perish.

Healing: Matthew 10:8 - Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Restoration: Acts 3:19-21 - Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began.

DAY 4 | 22 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR UNFORGIVENESS, BITTERNESS AND UNWILLINGNESS TO CLEANSE OUR HEARTS FROM OFFENSE

Matthew 18:21-35 | Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. "But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!' So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.' And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' And his master was angry and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

Unforgiveness is a persistent unwillingness to forgive those that have wronged us or sinned against us. We would rather see pain and revenge come on such individuals than release them. The Word calls us as those that have been forgiven by God, to forgive our fellow man unconditionally. Offense on the other hand is a carnal reaction to words and actions of others. It is resentment brought about by our perception that others insulted us or caused us injury. It leads us to speak against individuals or groups and to betray our relationships with them (Matt 24:10), allowing it to develop into hate if not dealt with. These behaviours must be cleansed from our lives!

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Matthew.18:21-35; 2 Corinthians 2:9-11; Matthew 24:10-12; Mark 11:25-26; John 6:66-68; Hebrews 12:14-15

DAY 4 | 22 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR UNFORGIVENESS, BITTERNESS AND UNWILLINGNESS TO CLEANSE OUR HEARTS FROM OFFENSE

PERSONAL

Spend some time reading the Scriptures, asking the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart. Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Have you been unwilling to forgive any person in your life who hurt you in any way? Are you offended by someone in your life? Do you carry any offense towards God for not having done things the way you desired? Humbly bow before the Lord and choose to forgive every person and group that has wronged you. Speak out forgiveness and make a decision to release those people into God's hands. Ask God's forgiveness for your unwillingness to release others and plead for His cleansing and healing in the Name of Jesus. Receive His forgiveness and peace. Bless the individuals and groups that you previously could not forgive.

BODY OF CHRIST

Spend time reading the Scriptures again. Let the Holy Spirit reveal where the Body of Christ is not living according to the Biblical standards on forgiveness and offense.

NATIONAL

How many people in the nation struggle to forgive those that wronged them? Repent for our unforgiveness, hatred and desire for retribution. Pray for God's healing in the hearts of many, so that further injustices do not result from unforgiveness.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Psalm 71:14 - But I will hope continually and will praise You yet more and more.

Healing: Deuteronomy 7:15 - And the LORD will take away from you all sickness and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known but will lay them on all those who hate you.

Restoration: Job 42:10 - And the LORD restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed, the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

DAY 5 | 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR IMMORALITY, PERVERSION AND IMPURITY

1 Corinthians 6:18 | Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

Sexual immorality includes all forms of sexual sin such as fornication, adultery, homosexuality, paedophilia, pornography, masturbation, fantasy etc. This “pandemic” is rampant not only in the world but also in the Church. Stats on www.covenanteyes.com reveal that approximately 64% of Christian men and 15 % of Christian woman say they encounter pornography at least once a month. Sexual immorality in society strengthens other works of darkness such as human trafficking, abortion and child pornography.

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SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God’s will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

1Corinthians 6:18; Ephesians 5:3; Hebrews 13:4; 1Thessalonians 4:3-5; Matthew 5:28; 1 John 1:9

PERSONAL

The Bible says that he who judges himself will not be judged (1 Cor.11:31). Today as you come before the throne of grace (Heb.4:16), ask the Lord to grant you repentance on the matters of sexual sin. Be honest with yourself and with God, confessing truthfully and specifically all forms of sexual immorality that you have personally been involved with, whether it has been with your body or in your heart and mind. Renounce these sins and ungodly soul ties and then offer your body as a living sacrifice on God’s altar and present your members to be used by God as instruments of righteousness. (Rom.6:13)

DAY 5 | 23 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR IMMORALITY, PERVERSION AND IMPURITY

BODY OF CHRIST

Read the above-mentioned Scriptures again and then identify with the Body of Christ. Confess that we as the Church in South Africa have defiled the corporate temple and habitation of the Lord by engaging in sexual immorality and perversion. Let us ask the Lord for a “baptism of Fire” that would purge and purify us from these strongholds (Matt 3:11-12) and ask that He, like a Refiner of Silver, will purify us as His royal priesthood. (Mal.3:3) Pray that the Father would lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one! We see that sexual immorality is one of the sins that disqualifies the Church from having authority to influence/rule nations. (Rev 2:20-26) Pray therefore that God would pour out upon the Church of South Africa the grace of repentance, and teach us to walk in victory and overcome the sin of sexual lust.

NATIONAL

Read the Scriptures again and then take some time to stand in the gap on behalf of our nation.

Confess before God that as a nation we are guilty of sexual immorality in all its forms, having passed laws to legalise this. Acknowledge that we deserve judgment, but that we desire mercy and grace to turn from our wicked way to His ways. Pray that the Lord would convict South Africa of sin, righteousness and judgment. Ask for a revival that will straighten the path of a crooked generation.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Psalm 78:7 - That [each generation] may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments.

Healing: Psalm 146:8 - The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; The LORD raises those who are bowed down; The LORD loves the righteous.

Restoration: Jeremiah.29:12-14 - Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.

DAY 6 | 24 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR IDOLATRY AND WORLDLINESS

1 Corinthians 10:14 | Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

Idolatry can take many forms in our lives. (Lev.26:1) An idol is anything we treasure and value more than Jesus. Love for the things of this world goes hand in hand with idolatry, because so often the things of this world become idols in our hearts. We have idols of power (lust for position, success and control), idols of approval (looking to man to meet our deepest needs which only God can fulfil), security idols (where we put more trust in earthly things for our protection and provision), and comfort idols (where we have excessive love for pleasure, comfort and earthly possessions, money etc). Idolatry includes false religions, the worship of false gods as well as the veneration of the dead.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

1 Corinthians 10:14; Exodus 20:1-8; Ezekiel 14:1-5; 1John 5:21; James 4:4; James 1:27; 1John 2:15; Psalm 16:4; Psalm 135:15-18; Revelation 9:20; 1 Samuel 15:23; 1 Corinthians 10:7; Romans 1:23

PERSONAL

God introduced Himself to Israel as a Jealous God. Idolatry to Him is spiritual adultery. He does not want to share us with many lovers - the world and its false gods. Ask the Spirit of Truth to shine the light of the Word of God into your heart to reveal any form of hidden idolatry in your life. Ask yourself, "What role does power, approval, security and comfort play in my life? Do I value anything more than Jesus and His will?" Allow the Holy Spirit to show you and ask Him for godly sorrow that leads to repentance over these issues, so that you may be transformed and renewed according to His image. Repent about the things that the Holy Spirit pointed out to you. Pray for personal revival. Pray that Jesus would revive and awaken your "first love" as mentioned in Revelation 2:4.

DAY 6 | 24 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR IDOLATRY AND WORLDLINESS

BODY OF CHRIST

Read the above-mentioned Scriptures again and then identify with the Body of Christ. Pray that there would be a revival of the living and active Word of God in our midst, on a corporate level. Pray that the Word would be to us as a sword that is searching, judging, sifting and analysing, so as to convict and cleanse us from all idolatry. Pray that as the Church of Jesus we would keep ourselves from idols and not love the world or anything in the world. Pray that the Church in South Africa would see the height from which we have fallen and that we would RETURN to our first love. Pray that we would realise that we cannot be a witness for Christ to the world if we walk, talk and act just like the world.

NATIONAL

Read the Scriptures again and then take some time to stand in the gap on behalf of our nation. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you which forms of idolatry are presently grieving Him on a national level. As He speaks to your heart bring specific confession and identificational repentance to Him. Pray that we would learn as a nation that idolatry brings a multiplication of sorrow with it. (Psalm 16:4)

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Psalm 33:2 - Praise the LORD with the harp; Make melody to Him with an instrument of ten strings.

Healing: Matthew 8:5-7 - Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

Restoration: Deuteronomy 30:6-10 - And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. "Also the LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies and on those who hate you, who persecuted you. And you will again obey the voice of the LORD and do all His commandments which I command you today. The LORD your God will make you abound in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your land for good. For the LORD will again rejoice over you for good as He rejoiced over your fathers, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

DAY 7 | 25 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR NOT LOVING AND SERVING OTHERS; FOR OUR SELFISHNESS AND COMFORT

1 John 3:14-20 | We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him.

Love is the standard of the Kingdom and Christ is the pattern of love. He laid down His life for us. We only obey God accurately and fully when we live sacrificially to bring others to Christ, and serve them in humility and practical life-giving ways. When we do it for the least around us, we are doing it for God. It is time to abandon our selfish ways and lovingly invest into the people around us.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

1 John 3:14-20; Matthew 25:34-40; Luke 6:27-35; John 13:34-35;
1 Peter 1:22; 1 Corinthians 13:1-7; Philippians 2:3-7

PERSONAL

Spend some time reading the Scriptures, asking the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart. Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Are you in any way actively involved in helping people in your neighbourhood or community? When was the last time that you invested money, time and effort to help reach out to unsaved people or help others in need? Ask God to forgive you for the many areas of your life where you live selfishly. Ask Him to help you change your ways and to fill your heart with His love, care and kindness for others.

Make a decision to intentionally invest into the lives of others. Plan to invest money, time and effort into someone else as a way to love them with the love of Jesus Christ.

DAY 7 | 25 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR NOT LOVING AND SERVING OTHERS; FOR OUR SELFISHNESS AND COMFORT

BODY OF CHRIST

Has the Church neglected or failed to take up its responsibility to uplift communities and those in need? Have we been building our own kingdoms and chosen to stay comfortable? Are we simply religious without any love for the unsaved, the poor, the stranger and needy? Ask God for forgiveness for not representing His heart to a world in need and not building His Kingdom through sacrificial and divine love.

NATIONAL

We live in a country where people selfishly demand what they want and have a spirit of entitlement and selfishness. We blame others while we ourselves are not willing to be the change needed, and we don't take responsibility to serve our fellow countrymen. Ask God to forgive us as South Africans for closing our hearts and hands to those we come in contact with. Pray that God would change the hearts of our people to become willing to invest what they have into someone else's need and challenge. Pray for a move of God's love to flood this land.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 - We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.

Healing: Isaiah 38:20 - "The LORD was ready to save me; Therefore we will sing my songs with stringed instruments all the days of our life, in the house of the LORD."

Restoration: Hosea 6:2-3 - After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight. Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth.

DAY 8 | 26 SEPTEMBER 2020

**NATIONAL DAY OF
PRAYER AND REPENTANCE**

JOIN BELIEVERS ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA
FOR 90 INTENSE MINUTES OF PRAYER
WITH PASTORS AND LEADERS FROM ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA

3 – 4.30PM (GMT +2)
WATCH THE LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE OR FACEBOOK LIVE

MORE INFO AT WWW.THERETURNSA.ORG

**REPENTANCE FOR WORDS OF DEATH, GOSSIP, CRITICISM, CURSING
AND PREJUDICE. REPENTANCE FOR ANGER, VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED**

Acts 17:26-27. | **“For He made every nation of men of one blood, to live on all the face of the earth, having determined fore-appointed seasons and boundaries of their dwelling, to seek the Lord, if perhaps they might feel after Him and might find Him, though indeed He not being far from each one of us.”**

Racism is rooted in fear and pride. This attitude stems from either the belief that we are better than others because of our skin colour, or when we fear those who are different from us. Racism is prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against a person or people on the basis of their membership of a particular racial or ethnic group. Yet God made every nation, tribe and people group of one blood and in His image. Racism blinds us from seeing the image of God in another, and from appreciating the uniqueness and redemptive gifts God has put within different people groups.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Acts 17:26-27; Proverbs 18:21; Galatians 5:15; Ephesians 4:26; 1 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 7:22-23

DAY 8 | 26 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR WORDS OF DEATH, GOSSIP, CRITICISM, CURSING AND PREJUDICE. REPENTANCE FOR ANGER, VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED

PERSONAL

Ask the Lord to show you any root of racism that may still be in your heart and that affects how you see and feel towards others who are different from your skin colour or ethnic group. Take some time to ponder on the following Scriptures and allow the Word to search your own heart. Have you used your words to destroy or break down other people? Ask yourself: "Do I have a critical spirit/attitude? Humble yourself before the Lord, repent and return to Him and His ways.

BODY OF CHRIST

Identify with the Body of Christ in prayer. Ask the Lord to let you feel how He feels towards the presence of racism among His own people. Allow Him to convict you personally concerning how we ALL at some point have "bitten" one another with our negative words, or gossip or slander. Bring identificational repentance before the Lord on behalf of the Body of Christ. Ask Him to revive a spirit of unity among us as the Church, individually and corporately.

NATIONAL

Take some time to honestly reflect on how RACISM has brought much destruction in our land, as well as perverted and delayed us in the progress of our calling to help lead Africa in righteousness, honour and truth. Give thanks to the Lord for calling South Africa as a Rainbow Nation. Take some time to appreciate the beauty and uniqueness we have in our land, being a nation of many tribes, languages and people groups. Also, thank the Lord for the many unique qualities He has given to other nations and people groups around the world. Pray for a revival of reconciliation far and wide between us.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Hebrews 6:18-19 - That by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil,

Healing: 2Chronicles 7:14 - If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Restoration: Zechariah 14:11 - The people shall dwell in it; and no longer shall there be utter destruction, but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

DAY 9 | 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR LYING, STEALING, DECEPTION AND INJUSTICE

Leviticus 19:11 | 'You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.'

Lying, stealing and deceitfulness are all characteristics of Satan. God is the opposite of all these things, and He takes them seriously; as well as the injustices done to the poor, the weak and the needy.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

Leviticus.19:11; John 10:10; John 8:44; Leviticus 19:11&13; Malachi 3:8-9; Proverbs 10:2; Proverbs 11:1; Proverbs 12:22; Zechariah 5:3-4; Romans 13:7; Isaiah 10:1-3; Psalm 101:7; Revelation 21:8

PERSONAL

Do you tell lies? White lies, half lies, small lies, big lies - they are all the same to God. Lies are lies. Lies to people, lies to friends, lies to your family and lies in our workplace. Take some time to examine your heart and actions to see if you have compromised in any area of your life by lying. Do you steal, even just a little? Do you take equipment home from work for personal use without permission? Do you rob God in your giving, tithes or offerings? Are you involved with injustice toward your neighbour? Do you impose heavy rent on poor tenants? Do you pay your taxes? It is often these small 'grey areas' in our lives that matter to God because He highly regards honesty and integrity. Bring any necessary repentance before the Lord.

BODY OF CHRIST

Read the above-mentioned Scriptures again and then identify with the Body of Christ. Psalm 101:7 says that the deceitful shall not dwell in His house, and that liars will not stand in His presence. Pray that God would forgive us as the Church for our lying and our stealing, for our deceitfulness and for our involvement with injustice. Pray for a spirit of conviction to fall on us that we may turn from these things which bring a curse. Pray that we would begin to deal truthfully and therefore be a delight to Him, according to Proverbs 12:22. Pray that our lips will be established in truth according to Proverbs 12:19.

DAY 9 | 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR LYING, STEALING, DECEPTION AND INJUSTICE

NATIONAL

God deals with us not just as individuals, but also as nations. He deals with us individually, as well as corporately. Take some time to stand before God on behalf of the nation. Confess before Him that lying, stealing, deceitfulness and injustice have filled our land – every part of society, as well as our governmental arenas. Plead for mercy before Him because of these things in which we persist as a nation. Pray according to Isaiah 10:1-3 and pray the opposite of what is mentioned: Pray for just policies and fair regulations. Pray that the poor would get fair treatment and that looting or oppression of the underprivileged in this nation or anyone, would stop. Pray for a revival of righteousness in our nation that will spread truth, honesty, integrity and justice throughout the land.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Healing: Psalm 41:4 - I said, "LORD, be merciful to me; Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You."

Restoration: Proverbs 6:30-31 - People do not despise a thief If he steals to satisfy himself when he is starving. Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold; He may have to give up all the substance of his house.

DAY 10 | 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR NOT INVESTING INTO SANCTIFICATION, NOT FOCUSING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLINESS

1 Pet 1:13-18 | Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

Jesus did not only die on the cross to save us so that we may go to Heaven. He also made a way for us to be restored. He called us to become like Him; to represent Him on earth by becoming holy, as He is holy. We must be the light of the world, the salt of the earth and the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. Only then will the power of the Kingdom be fully released in a fallen world. He gave us the Holy Spirit and all things pertaining to life and godliness. It is time for us to commit to the process of sanctification, to allow His full kingship in every aspect of our lives.

REPENT | RETURN | REVIVE

We pray in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, and with the help and conviction of the Holy Spirit, our Helper.

SCRIPTURES

Read the following Scriptures and invite the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will to you. Allow these words to speak to your heart and be ready to respond to them in prayer! Do not be in a hurry.

1 Peter 1:13-18; Hebrews 12:10-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:20-24; 2 Corinthians 7:1

PERSONAL

Spend some time reading the Scriptures, asking the Holy Spirit to convict you and show you your own heart. Be ruthlessly honest with yourself.

Are you serving God for what He can do for you; for the benefits you may receive from Him? Are you growing in righteousness and increasing in your capacity to become more like Jesus? Is there any intentional investment on your part to be sanctified and pursue holiness? Ask God to forgive you for not prioritising this important process in your life. Repent for not desiring to be transformed and invite the Holy Spirit to lead you into God's process of sanctification for your life. Make a commitment to build something into your life to help you towards a deeper holiness e.g. studying Scripture, committing to discipleship and accountability etc.

DAY 10 | 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

REPENTANCE FOR NOT INVESTING INTO SANCTIFICATION, NOT FOCUSING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLINESS

BODY OF CHRIST

Has the Church been focussed on ministering the truth about the sanctification of a believer? What are the priorities that our churches invest in? Do we have spiritual leaders that live holy lives? Ask God to forgive the Church for promoting the prosperity gospel, comfort and motivational speaking, while neglecting the important Biblical directives of dying to self, to be filled with the Holy Spirit and to be holy. Pray that the Church will return to the power of Kingdom living by the Spirit.

NATIONAL

Is there any sign of principles of righteousness and holiness being promoted in our communities and South African society? Ask God to forgive our nation for walking away from God's standard of living. Pray for cleansing and a miraculous move of the Holy Spirit to bring our nation to repentance and sanctification.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NATION

Hope: Joel 3:16 - The LORD also will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; The heavens and earth will shake; but the LORD will be a shelter for His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

Healing: Isaiah 19:22 - And the LORD will strike Egypt, He will strike and heal it; they will return to the LORD, and He will be entreated by them and heal them.

Restoration: Hosea 14:4-7 - "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely, for My anger has turned away from him. I will be like the dew to Israel; He shall grow like the lily, and lengthen his roots like Lebanon. His branches shall spread; His beauty shall be like an olive tree, And his fragrance like Lebanon. Those who dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall be revived like grain, and grow like a vine. Their scent shall be like the wine of Lebanon.



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