

ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

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I was in prison, and you came to me. Matthew 25:36

*But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."
Luke 23:40-43*

In every nation there are those in prison deservedly; but in many nations there are those who are incarcerated unjustly. Whether imprisoned justly or unjustly, the grace of God is available to all. You may not be able to visit prisons literally, but you can visit prisoners with your prayers. This month we will focus on those imprisoned for committed crimes. These prayer points were shared by those who have had extensive experience and fruitfulness ministering Christ inside prison walls.

FOR THOSE IN PRISON PRAY:

- **The gospel will continue to spread in prisons, as many have already found Christ while incarcerated.** - Ps. 146:7 Johnny Cash, "Greystone Chapel": *Inside the walls of prison my body may be, but my Lord has set my soul free.*
- **For deliverance from the spirit of fear. Prison culture is dominated by fear. Pray for the perfect love of Jesus to cast out fear as new believers find Jesus.** - John 8:36
- **For deliverance from shame and rejection. There is no crime or pain too great that Jesus' blood cannot cover it.** - Ps. 3:3
- **For men and women to forgive and be healed in spirit, soul and body remembering many detainees come from backgrounds of anger and abuse.** - 1Pet. 2:24
- **For those condemned to die:** - Ps. 102:19-21; Ps. 79:11
- **For new converts to be well disciplined and become bold witnesses, praying for many more people to be called into prison ministry.** - Mt. 28:19; Col. 1:9-12, 3:5-10; Mt. 5:3-12
- **For the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all believers in prisons, making them strong in the Lord.** - Acts 1:8, 2:42-47
- **For the rehabilitation of men and women as they are released from prison back into society.** - Is. 42:16

Let us worship Jehovah Jireh, who does provide for all the needs of His children.

In November's ASKING Point particular attention will be given to the Persecuted Church and those imprisoned for their faith.

...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...

1 John 3:22



Hope of the nations: A new beginning for Liberia

“In His name the nations will put their hope.” Matthew 12:21



FAST FACTS ABOUT LIBERIA

*Population: 4 million	*Official Language: English
*Religion: Ethnic religions	*Unreached People Groups: 5

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance- Ps. 33:12. Out of all the tragedy and suffering experienced as a people in the West African nation of Liberia, a new day for the Church of Jesus Christ is dawning. For the first time in the history, the Church in Liberia is becoming united – one Church of Jesus Christ. Previously, throughout Liberia’s 200 years of national history, there was a severe “caste” system in the nation and in the churches. Elite freed slaves and their descendants (resettled by America in coastal region of Liberia) were regarded as a higher caste than the darker skinned indigenous people groups.

But in the providence of God, the past fourteen years of horrific civil wars have broken down many barriers. -Eph. 2:14. We can say like Paul *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose”*. -Rom. 8:28, Gen. 50:20. In addition, the Church is now becoming a force for peace and reconciliation in national affairs. During the height of the civil war international sponsored peace talks, hundreds of Liberian women engaged in round the clock prayers to claim God’s blessing for the nation. The Lord heard the fervent prayers of these ordinary and uneducated mothers full of passion and love for their nation. The war finally ceased in 2003 with the inauguration of a female as the President.

The name Liberia came from a Latin word *“libere”* meaning land of the free. The original name of its capital was Christopolis, “City of Christ.” It was later renamed by the American Colonization Society (ACS) established in 1816 by Speaker Henry Clay with the goal of resettling emancipated black slaves to Liberia. From the early 1800s up until 1980, the Presidents of Liberia have all been from the upper class of Liberian society, the descendants of the freed US slaves. Their descendants have dominated political, religious and economic life in the capital of Monrovia. This social-economic division has also characterized the church of Liberia. Traditional Christian churches were attended by lighter-skinned, upscale, English speaking Liberians. Poorer, indigenous peoples were not allowed to join.

God has continued to demonstrate his love towards this glorious land of liberty which was birthed by God’s command, quoting the exact words of our national anthem by bringing to this land renowned and God fearing women and men from the Body of Christ worldwide to pray and prophesy over this nation. In October of 2006 a team from the U.S. visited and prophesied into the fragile and hopeless situations of Liberia as the first prayer walk took place. Today many things have changed both in the physical and spiritual. Liberia is experiencing new found peace, new roads, schools, economic growth, freedom of speech, etc. This was the formal introduction of this prayer movement in Liberia. Is there hope for a new beginning in Liberia? With God all things are possible. Liberia stands at the threshold of reaching other people with the message of hope especially in the surrounding nations of the Ivory Coast, Guinea, and Sierra Leone that are predominately Muslim. As Hope Renewal Ministries partners with ASK Network we are strengthened to move beyond our borders soon.

Pray:

- **The Church would be a force for peace and reconciliation in the nation.** *Phil. 1:27; 2 Cor. 5:18-20*
- **As Liberia prepares for presidential and general elections in October pray for violence free results.** *Ps. 72:14; Prov. 21:6-8; Is. 60:18*
- **That God would send out indigenous missionaries to reach the Muslim dominated areas in the north and in the neighboring nations.** *Eph. 6:19; 1 Thess. 2:2-4*
- **For Pastors Jackson and Victoria Weah as they spearhead ASK Network in Liberia.** *Heb. 13:20-22*