BWA MEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2014

As we join hands in this exciting, all inclusive mission, on Saturday, April 26, 2014 to celebrate our annual Men’s World Day of Prayer, the Word of God discloses that “if we seek Him we will find Him” but, a prayer away.

We seek to unite men in a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ, bonded together by God’s love to support, encourage and strengthen one another, to witness and share in worship in the Power of the Holy Spirit, .

Our Lord assures “His word shall not return void”..... Pray that you will play your part in adding your voices to the BWA Men’s Department web page, benefit from the offerings of the daily devotionals, the training opportunities, partner with us in missions and share your resources of whatever nature.

Let us commit to turning our backs on the habit of idolizing men, instead to denounce injustice and exploitation of the poor. Let us welcome those that are broken and lost, surround ourselves with society’s outcasts, reach out to the neglected. Rejoice, as God draws near towards the redeeming cross, for the salvation of man. Let us heed the Master’s voice when He said ‘take up your cross and follow Me’ as the privilege, that it is.

We cry out to God for forgiveness, but there are those we ourselves have yet to forgive, for mercy, that we have been denying our brothers, for help, while ignoring the cries of our neighbours. We laud the achievements of the popular and powerful, ignoring the despair of those they oppress, and who are still being trampled, and overlooked.

There is a common story of a man who was always complaining, that he had no shoes, until one day he journeyed to another town and saw a man with no leg, praising God. I say this to say, we know of disasters in other countries, and the suffering those people go through, could we not find it in ourselves to put a little something together, as men, and send to these our neighbours.

We look around and see the growing number of street people, or should I say homeless men, could we not make it our ministry project to support some of these groups that are already involved in providing food and shelter? Say we start with sponsoring one meal, one day weekly. Most Churches these days are involved in some form. Would it not be inspiring to design a specific Men’s program with this in mind? Would it not attract other men?

A few weeks ago in a certain public forum, Pastors were challenged by the Public at large. Charging that the Church is not doing enough, they do not see or feel our presence in their every- day problems that they face. They were seeking the Church’s intervention, on more
fronts. Granted, many of today’s societal problems have their genesis in the homes. That of poor Parenting of our children as more and more children are having children, it’s becoming a world-wide epidemic. With so many countries, taking worship out of schools, because our Lord seem to offend many new religions.

Our gifted Pastors acquitted themselves well, even to defending their particular congregational interventions and opportunity offerings addressing the concerns raised. Good, but not good enough.

Came across an article written by Paul Anderson, in James D Berkley’s leadership handbook, “while teaching informs, training forms. Our best teaching means little if we don’t train children to live what they learn. We want them not only to know Bible truths, but also to live Bible lives. So we need to spend time on application as we do on information.”

True, we need to live out the Christian life, so that our children can see and learn and put into practice. But isn’t that the challenge with which society wrestles? Are our children not now living what they have learnt over the years? Isn’t it being played out in our musical lyrics, and their behaviour?

The question in all of this is where are the men? Where are the fathers, husbands and role models? Are we aware of our duties, to Family, our church and our community? Our women thank God are making good progress but it takes a man and a woman working in unison, to set the right examples.

Let us see the public outcry not so much a criticism of the church, but a cry for help? Can the church do more? Can the people of God do more? Today as we meet in the Men’s World of Prayer, as intercessors. Can we resolve to join hands and hearts to develop outreach programs in support of the very poor and oppressed among us? “In as much as you do this for these the least of my brethren you do unto Me’. We come face to face with Jesus when we reach out to restore the dignity and worth of fellow beings. This to my mind is Kingdom building.

When we elevate immorality and turn a blind eye to evildoers, when we remain silent in face of injustice, when we allow the privileged to take advantage of the poor, voiceless and marginalized brethren and say nothing evil will always be among us

Maybe, just maybe, our people have a right to expect more of God’s people, more from the church. If we listen closely we will hear a public cry of Help Lord, Help. As we gather, let’s pray the Lord will open our ears to hear the cries and our eyes to see the conditions of the needy, our hearts the compassion and courage to rise up as His hands and feet, through the power of the Holy Spirit to help our fallen and failing brothers, for Christ sake.