



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 5 October 2014

Praise

How great is our God! He is the same today as at the beginning of time and he will live forever! There is no problem too big or too difficult that he cannot overcome. So rejoice and be glad that he loves you.

“I will praise you every day; yes, I will praise you forever. Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise!” (Psalm 145.2-3)

Lord, keep me worshipping with every breath I take. Remind me daily to let my spirit focus on you, so that I allow your will to inform every action I take.

We pray for the growth of Mothers' Union in Belize and Uruguay. We thank you for those who are already involved in our work and mission, and pray for others to join them.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 12 October 2014

Wealth and poverty

Friday is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. God made enough food for everyone to share. May we be part of the solution to end hunger in the world and look for opportunities in our own communities to help families struggling to cope.

“This poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything - all she had to live on.” (Mark 12.43-44)

Make us generous, Lord; generous with our time, our talents and our money. For all these come from you in order that we may use them in your service.

We pray for members in Mauritius and the Seychelles in all their initiatives to support family life.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 19 October 2014

Integrity

“Wrong is wrong, even if everybody is doing it, and right is right, even if nobody is doing it.” (St. Augustine). Lord, help us to have the integrity to stand for what is right, even when it makes us unpopular.

“May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, Lord, is in you.” (Psalm 25.21)

We pray for those in government and positions of power, and for all who are being pressured to compromise their integrity, whether in a work or personal situation. Strengthen their resolve, that they may have the motivation and courage to act with integrity.

We pray that members in Ethiopia would reflect the integrity of Christ as they support and strengthen women in the church.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 26 October 2014

Family

“What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family.” (Mother Teresa)

Saturday is All Saints' Day. We give thanks for those in our family who have led us in the way of Christ through their words and deeds. May we be a witness in our generation to the love and faithfulness of God.

“You are no longer foreigners and outsiders but citizens together with God's people and members of God's family.” (Ephesians 2.19)

May we work to support all those who do not have a loving family.

We pray for members in Canada as they work with the Inuit communities to counter parenting and social issues, and for their involvement with issues of gender-based violence.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 2 November - All Souls' Day

Discipleship

Lord Jesus, your light is the only light I need to follow you each day. Lead me to the place where I should go to serve you, and thank you that your presence is with me as I offer my hands and heart to do your will. "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9.23)

Lord, we offer you ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a living sacrifice to your praise and glory. We pray for members in the USA, for new leadership and that they may continue to grow and be strengthened under new direction.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 9 November 2014

Remembrance

Today is Remembrance Sunday. Let us take time to remember past times. Where memories bring joy may we reflect with thankfulness; where memories are tinged with pain may we know God's peace and grace. "Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15.13)

We give thanks for the sacrifices others have made that have forged a better life for us.

We pray for our members in Burundi as they enable many to acquire literacy and numeracy skills.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 16 November 2014

Prisons Week

Lord Jesus, who came to set the captives free, draw near to those in captivity of any kind, whether in body, mind or spirit. May your power and love bring them release and ongoing freedom.

"He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free." (Luke 4.18)

We pray for victims of crime and for the work of the Mothers' Union to help those in prison and their families.

We pray for our members in South Africa, for your mercy and blessing upon them as they serve you in their communities.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 23 November 2014

Mothers' Union Mission

Tuesday 25th is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. May the distinctive voice of Mothers' Union cry out on behalf of women and girls who suffer violence of all kinds.

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10.27)

We pray for the resources to enable us to fulfil our mission: for finance, time and talents to be made available to us, and for the Holy Spirit to lead us to use them wisely.

We pray for the mission of our members in Sri Lanka in their work to raise awareness of violence against women and girls, and for their pre-school teacher training.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 30 November 2014

Advent

This week Monday is World AIDS Day, Tuesday is the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery and Wednesday is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. In this season of hope and anticipation, let us pray for all those who are without hope, that the light of Christ will shine in their lives.

"The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine." (Isaiah 9.2)

We pray for all who live with HIV/AIDS and for greater understanding of their condition, for an end to all forms of slavery, and that the disabled will be valued and enabled to fulfil their potential.

We pray for our members in Scotland as they contemplate the coming of Christ.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 7 December 2014

Gifts

Help us to appreciate and value each other's gifts. May we always be willing to encourage and support those who are learning a new skill and to respect the results as they strive to progress.

“When they saw the child with his mother, Mary, they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and presented them to him. (Matthew 2.11)

Wednesday is United Nations Human Rights Day. We cherish the gift of human rights and pray for all who do not enjoy them in the measure afforded to us.

We thank you for new parenting trainers in Jamaica and ask that the parenting work across the country would be renewed and reinvigorated.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 14 December 2014

Wonder

Father, you chose the unexpected to reveal yourself; a lowly stable, a bowl of water and a towel, a rough wooden cross. Help us to keep a sense of awe and wonder as we worship you with praise that you have given us a glimpse of your glory.

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1.14)

We thank you, Lord, for the work that is achieved on behalf of Mothers' Union by our coordinators, trainers and staff. We pray that in the midst of their busyness they would be touched afresh by the wonder of Advent.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 21 December 2014

Christmas

In the busy world in which we live may God help us make time to reflect on the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Let our hearts be open to receive fresh insight and understanding of the significance of the Nativity.

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.” (Isaiah 9.6)

We pray for all for whom the celebration of Christmas is difficult.

We pray for Mothers' Union in Cameroon as they initiate child protection policies. May they feel united and encouraged, despite the challenges of distance and location.



Thought for the Week from MU - Sunday 28 December 2014

Contemplation

As we stand at the crossroads between the old and new, we pause in contemplation. We thank God for his faithfulness through the joys and challenges of this past year; we look forward with hope and trust to all that lies ahead.

“Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.” (Luke 2.19)

We pray for the growth of parenting initiatives by our members in North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba. May facilitators be encouraged by the increase of the work and the support of others.