



# PRAY *for* WATER {health}

Seventy-five percent of Jesus' miracles were healings. People took special note when Christ healed lepers. We've even seen him heal a few this year. In fact, we believe that through our prayer Christ could end the leprosy epidemic in America.

For most of history, physicians have believed that the rotting skin, deformities and gangrene of leprosy were a direct result of the disease. It was Dr. Paul Brand who realized only half a century ago that the disease actually destroys nerve receptors, and leaves most of the rest of the tissue alone.

Leprosy destroys because lepers don't feel pain. They don't respond to burnps, cuts, or infections on their own bodies even though they know they're there. Dr. Brand wondered if the same

might be true of the Body of Christ. Perhaps the suffering of 884 million thirsty people isn't an infrastructure issue, but a nerve receptor issue. Perhaps if we felt it, our Body would respond automatically and heal it.

*“Half the world’s hospital beds are filled with people suffering from water-related illness.”*

Half the world's hospital beds are filled with people suffering from water-related illness. Their diseases cause pain in our own body. Join us in praying, feeling and healing the sick.



*Pray the specific prayer requests in the prayer guide you'll find at [www.water.cc/prayforwater](http://www.water.cc/prayforwater).*

# PRAY *for* WATER {education}

Peter and Andrew were the first disciples. The third and fourth were "James son of Zebedee and his brother John." How old can you be when people refer to you as the brother and the son of a fisherman? In the ancient world boys went to work on their own at a very young age, yet John was fishing with his dad when Jesus called him. He was probably very young.

*"Water-related issues are the number one cause of school dropout for girls in Sub-Saharan Africa."*

We might picture John dropping his net and following Jesus because he heard choirs of angels or saw a halo. But maybe John

dropped his net and followed because he was stunned that Jesus—a Rabbi—actually believed in him, a fisherman's son! Rabbis were the most learned and respected members of Hebrew society. A boy fishing with his dad would be someone who did not make the cut to study under a Rabbi. Jesus' belief in this kid John changed the world.

The singular metaphysical height and poetic depth of John's gospel have revealed Christ to billions over the centuries, all because Christ believed in him. We too have the chance to believe in kids the world has overlooked. Water-related issues are the number one cause of school dropout for girls in Sub-Saharan Africa. We think prayer can change that. Believe in those kids. It'll change the world.



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# PRAY *for* WATER {women}



Only once in the Bible do we hear a baby cry. He was floating in a papyrus basket, caught up in the riverbank reeds of the Nile. His name was Moses and the Pharaoh wanted him dead.

*“In sub-Saharan  
Africa women spend  
40 billion hours a year  
just hauling water.”*

The most powerful man in the world wanted to protect his power by drowning all the Hebrew baby boys in his kingdom. But his plan was thwarted by women's love. Two Hebrew midwives risked their lives for love by fooling the Pharaoh. Moses got saved by an Egyptian princess. His quick-witted sister suggested a

woman to nurse the baby: Moses' own mother!

The most powerful king on earth was subverted by women's love: two midwives, a daughter, a sister and a mother—that's what made the entire Biblical story possible—women's love. It's what set us free from bondage. Now it's time to return the favor.

Today in our Kingdom too many women find themselves in bondage. In sub-Saharan Africa women spend 40 billion hours a year just hauling water. We need those women to be free to live and love and lead. We need them free to speak out, and to pull babies from baskets—you never know who a woman's love might save next.

Pray for women, especially those enslaved by the burden of walking long distances for safe drinking water for their families.



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"The poor you will always have with you..."  
Jesus said it, so we may as well give up, right?  
We'll never get rid of those poor people!

*"Water is the most  
crucial concern for those  
in extreme poverty.  
Something powerful  
happens when the  
world's poor are with us  
through prayer."*

Actually, Jesus chose his words carefully to resonate with Deuteronomy 15:11: "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your

brothers and toward the poor and needy..."

Christ is masterfully reminding us that God assumes that we have the poor among us and we're openhanded to them while he is also telling us that something enormous is happening as he moves towards his last supper, death and resurrection. Don't miss it!

Through his death and resurrection Christ is always with us now, but in today's world the poor may or may not be. It is easier than ever to shelter ourselves from the billion people who live on less than \$1 a day. They're not necessarily with us.

Water is the most crucial concern for those in extreme poverty. Something powerful happens when the world's poor are with us through prayer. We fulfill God's expectation, and because Christ is with us too, something enormous happens.



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Most of everything is nothing. Physicists say that far more than 99.9% of what we perceive to be solid matter is actually empty space. To scale, an atom with a nucleus the size of a beach ball would have electrons orbiting more than a kilometer away!

A purely material view of things does not account for the vast majority of reality. That's why the apostle Paul said "we live by faith, not by sight."

It can seem unreal, this notion that prayer can impact the world water crisis, health, education, women and poverty. It's exactly the opposite, though. Prayer is an invitation to take unseen reality into account. It's a chance to recognize that everything began with the Spirit of God hovering over water. Prayer is how we align ourselves with God in the realm of

unseen spirit. From vast realms of unseen spirit to the unseen thirsty child across the globe, prayer is a chance to see.

***"Prayer is an invitation to take unseen reality into account. It's a chance to recognize that everything began with the Spirit of God hovering over water."***

The prophets of the Bible have always recognized God's activity in our world. Strikingly often, they saw visions of God using water to draw humanity closer to our Creator. Join us in praying and seeing and joining what God is already doing.



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