***1st Wednesday Prayer Hour June 2016***

*MMI keeps the first Wednesday of the month as a day for corporate prayer. The hour set aside is 9.00am-10.00am, but for those who are not able to join in prayer then, please use these notes to pray for an hour at some time during the day.*

**Read: I Samuel 16:1-13**

Throughout our life whether civil or military, all us have faced processes of selection for a particular duty or action that leave us a little anxious and restless until we know the decision! This is natural because as human-beings we have feelings, desires, dreams which are often dependent on the final verdict.

Personally, I remember very well my selection to join the Air Force as a pilot in 1972. After a month in psychometric and medical examinations, the day of the final decision came, they processed 600 candidates to choose 50 to start the Pilot course. What joy I felt that day to hear the decision of my group: Numbers 1,2,3,4; reprobate! .. then it was my turn number 5 and 6, approved! Glory to God!.. It was the cry of my heart.

Like me, many of you could report your story of selection process in various situations of life. But let us reflect on the beautiful and interesting Bible reading for our reflection today, where we find the little-shepherd David, who without knowing, was engaged in a selection process to replace King Saul in the kingdom of Israel.

God had rejected Saul as King of Israel and commanded the Prophet Samuel to visit Jesse's house; from among his children would emerge the new king of Israel.

Eliab was the first to be evaluated and Samuel thought, “it’s him!” But the Lord said: No! Then, the process continued with the other six brothers, but none had approval from God (V 6-10); God does not choose / select in the same way that the man does.

Samuel, asked Jesse: are there anymore young people? The youngest, David, was then called from watching the flock. As soon as he arrived, the Lord told Samuel, ‘this one’! Then the Prophet Samuel, fulfilling the commandment of the Lord, anointed David and he became the new king of Israel (V 9-13).

I believe with great conviction that each one of us as part of MMI, have received a God-Call, with a specific God-confirmation for this ministry that is not European, African, Asiatic, American or other. The work that God put in our hands is not ours! The work is from the Lord. When He chose each one of us, He has enabled each one of us to execute His plan, according to the strategy that He has placed in our hearts.

As in this Bible story, may God help us to place ourselves in humility before the Lord, help us to use His strategy to make correct decisions and choices that glorify God and bless the military & police forces of countries with whom we cooperate.

*Samuel Cóias*

*Staff member for Portuguese Speaking Africa*

*June 16*

**Pray**

**Give thanks for in May**

* + - the Ukraine Chaplaincy Conference and especially that MMI was able to facilitate the attendance of a serving Chaplain.
    - the amazing opportunity to present camouflage bibles to the Presidential Guard in Bulgaria, and that they well received.

**for in June:**

**MMI PRAYER DAY 4TH June**: Pray for the day, especially

* + that we will have a good number of people to pray,
  + that we will have expectant hearts and minds and
  + will discern the leading of the Holy Spirit.
  + We have two International guests - the first female Chief Chaplain of Namibia and Chrsitopher Ogar from  Nigeria, pray for them as they attend and share prayer needs on their first day in UK.
  + for Prayer Co-ordiantor Sue Millard as she prepares for and leads the day.

**SIMMS week 4-11 June:** Pray for all those involved in the SIMMS week. For the time at Amport House, with the Chaplains dept., and for all the visits and briefings. Pray for good fellowship and relationships to develop and for a fruitful time for the 2 delegates. Pray for the Pastor in India who could not come due to visa problems and is understandably disappointed.

**India:** The pastor is, instead, travelling in India to encourage the formation of MCFs. Pray for him and his serving wife as they publically stand as Christians and encourage the military Christians. Pray for personal safety and for protection for the fledgling MCFs they are forming.

**MEO Korea June:** CE/TLJos McCabewill be attending MEO, run by the Korean MSO. Others from our regions will also be attending – two members of the Bangladesh MCF and possibly a delegate from India. Pray for the MSO as they continue to run this training programme, for the friendships that can be formed and the encouragement and learning from each other. Pray for safety and openness and good fellowship.

**Balkan road trip** **June:** RTL Grozdan Stoevski and AMCF VP for North and East Europe, Torbjorn Bostrom will be doing a road trip through Bulgaria, Macedonia and Northern Greece, to encourage MCFs and they hope to visit Fr Ioannis ( Northern Greece area Chief Chaplain designate) . Pray for all aspects of this trip, for the vehicle and safety with all the driving, navigation and meetings. Pray for divine appointments as they go, and opportunities to encourage and help the military Christian communities.

**Georgia**: European staff members Rainer Thorun and Igor Sawicki will be visiting Georgia. This is a significant trip to identify Christians in the Georgian Armed Forces, to encourage churches to minister to the military, and to identify and invite delegates to SAR.

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**The Rassemblement International Militaire Protestant (RIMP) 16 – 20 Jun:** RIMP is organized by the French Protestant Chaplaincy and gathers military Christians from across Europe and Francophone Africa.  Pray for increased faith in those who attend and a wider vision of what effective and active cooperation amongst military Christians can achieve. Pray for staff member and President of the French UMCF Eric Mandille and AMCF VP for Central & Southern Europe, Mike Terry who will be there.

**Suffering and Sick in the AMCF family:**

**Renat**, a Board member and supporter of the Russian MCF died tragically on May 25. He was on holiday in Cyprus with his family when he was run over by a motor boat, which has taken his life. A great tragedy and loss. Pray for God’s comfort and strength in this difficult time.

**Ian** chair if the S Asia RPPG needs a continuing miracle of healing. He is in hospital in Scotland, where he is being looked after following a collapse and prolonged period of unconsciousness in Africa. Anna, his wife has particularly asked for prayer for the speech therapy to regain some speech ability. Pray for strength for Anna his wife.

**Phil** Director of ACCTS USA is recovering from major back surgery. Progress is reported to be slow and steady.Pray for continuing recovery.

**Laurie**, a Navy Christian Fellowship (NCF) leader has been diagnosed with brain cáncer.  Please pray for God’s healing, and protection for him and the family.

**Rainer** has a planned knee replacement operation on June 27th. Pray for the success of the operation and a speedy recovery as Rainer has a ministry trip planned after the operation.