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| |  | | --- | | 1st Wednesday Reflection & Prayer HourFebruary 21 MMI keeps the first Wednesday of the month as a day for corporate prayer. Please use these notes to pray for an hour at some time during the day. Do please share with us any scriptures pictures or insights that you receive as you spend time reflecting and praying. Reflection: Brotherhood. Read: Mark 3:31-35.  “Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him.  A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, “Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.”  “Who are my mother and my brothers?” he asked.  Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, “Here are my mother and my brothers!  Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother.”  Do you remember the song “Brothers in arms” by Dire Straits?  What is so unique in this term?  Why are people seeking these kinds of friendships or brotherhoods/sisterhoods?  Sometimes these kinds of relationships are much stronger than family relationships. I think there are a couple of reasons. If we are talking about brotherhood/sisterhood in something, we refer to mutual trust, the knowledge that we have been through something together and now we are tied together. We know that we can count on this other person; we always know that we will never be alone in difficult situations.  During our last retreat, we discussed how to be a good co-worker of Jesus Christ. But Jesus wants to treat us as something even closer than just a co-worker. In the New Testament, we find a very bold statement - in Mark 3: 35, Jesus said: “**Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister…”**  I think Jesus was saying: I am serving God with all my heart, all my strength, and all my soul. If you do the same, we will be brothers in arms (or sisters in arms). And I will confess that you are my brothers or sisters in front of the whole universe.  It is very powerful statement.  Despite our failures, despite how powerful He is, He still wants to admit that we are His family.  But it refers only to those who do the will of God.  We cannot do God's will part-time – either we do it all the time, or we do not do it.  The same with brother/sisterhood: either we are always someone’s brother/sister, or we never are.  So, the question is very simple: can Jesus include me in this group? Do I recognize and do God's will?  I really want to recognize what is God’s will and fulfil it. But at the same time, I know that it is not easy in our daily life.  Hence, in my daily prayer I ask Jesus for this:  “My Lord, I thank You for wanting to call me Your brother. Make my eyes and ears always open to what You want to say to me, and give me strength so that what I hear, see and feel can be put into my life every day and my daily life can follow God's will.”  by Igor Sawicki co-worker Europe Feb 21 **Prayer:** **It is with great sadness we announce the deaths of Lt-Gen Hamidu of Ghana who died on 2nd February, and also of Col Charles Amaning (Retired) of Ghana who died in January.**  In 1980, Lt. General Joshua Hamidu was appointed the first AMCF Africa Vice President and handed over to Col Charles Amaning in 1984. Col Charles served as AMCF VP from 1984-2002.  Col Charles wrote an article titled ‘50 Years of AMCF in Africa’ in which he wrote “[in 1958] at the Royal Military Academy in Sandhurst UK, a Ghanaian Officer Cadet by name Joshua Hamidu had accepted the Lord Jesus as his personal Saviour at a British OCU winter Ski Party in Switzerland, after hearing Dr. W. Robert Smith from the USA share the gospel. Joshua came from a strong conservative Moslem family”.  **We give thanks and praise for the lives of both men and for their witness and work throughout Africa.**  Pray for their families, friends and the MCF of Ghana.  ‘50 Years of AMCF in Africa’ by Col Charles Amaning is available to read at  [Microsoft Word - 50 years of AMCF in Africa.doc (mmi.org.uk)](https://www.mmi.org.uk/?email_id=181&user_id=650&urlpassed=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubW1pLm9yZy51ay93cC1jb250ZW50L3VwbG9hZHMvNTAteWVhcnMtb2YtQU1DRi1pbi1BZnJpY2EucGRm&controller=stats&action=analyse&wysija-page=1&wysijap=subscriptions)    **We give thanks for:**  The MMI team and trustees retreat (via zoom) together in January.  Rev Neori Wara (an MMI provisional trustee) and his wife are now both back at home, where they continue to recover from Covid.  **In February we Pray for:**  **22nd Feb:**  **European** monthly online meeting for teaching and prayer  **S. Asia** MCF leaders conference (via zoom)  **A Uganda defence force chaplain**, serving an 18-month tour of duty as Field Chaplain to the Africa Union Peace Force in Somalia.  **Major Christina, a serving nurse who runs** a bible study & prayer group at a military hospital in Tanzania. Pray for her own physical healing and for the Lord to guide the decisions and the actions of the medical staff throughout her treatment.  **Chief Chaplain Sierra Leone,** Joseph, for his ministry, his health and his family.  **MMI.** Commit the whole MMI team and their families to the protection of the Lord as we continue to develop fellowship, prayer and teaching amongst Christians in the Military, via on-line communications.  Pray that God will reveal to us the things He wants MMI to do and, in revealing them, will also provide the resources to obey Him.    We give thanks and pray for all of you, our supporters and partners in ministry.  . |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |