

22. Governments to provide free education for all children helping poor parents who sometimes feel forced to sell their daughters into early marriages. Lack of education prevents these girls from improving their income potential or providing an education for their own children, continuing the devastating cycle of poverty.

23. Fathers and husbands to fight for better education, changes in harmful cultural practices and dignity for females.

24. God's Spirit to move and work miracles for the women in Central Asia who are heartbroken over the despair and abuse in their homes.

25. Young wives who are abandoned, divorced or widowed and have small children for whom they must care.

26. Girls in developed countries who are inundated with sexual advertisements and media and taught amoral sex education, giving little or no guidance in purity and dignity. Thousands of these girls are becoming pregnant between the ages of 10-15 and most end in abortion.

27. Over a million young girls and women who are suffering the pain and humiliation of fistulas (vaginal and anal rupture) because of damage done to their small bodies during sex or childbirth.

28. Girls in some Kenyan communities who are considered to be family property and given in marriage as young as ten years old so that the family can receive the dowry payment. Pray that such practices will come to an end.

29. Societies around the world that encourage girls and boys to act like adults in their dress and sexual lives but do not warn or instruct them on the dangers, complications and emotional damage caused by such actions.

30. Leaders to understand that young girls who marry and have babies too early only add to the misery and poverty of a community.

31. Those planning the Project Hannah Americas Forum to be held in Brazil August 30-September 3.

## *Women of Hope* listener's testimony:

When I was 12, I was married to a 20-year-old guy. I didn't even know the meaning of marriage. My mother-in-law bullied and scolded me, and she punished me by not giving me food. One day when I was alone, my father-in-law tried to rape me. My husband thought of me only as a child-bearing machine. I was tortured mentally and I went into depression. Because I gave birth to a girl child, they tortured me even more. One day my husband, his mother and his sister tried to kill me by fire, but fortunately I escaped. I ran away barefoot to my mother's house, carrying my daughter. I was very depressed and sometimes I felt like I wanted to die.

One day I heard a beautiful and peaceful song on the radio, and then I listened to the program *Women of Hope* and learned that it was a Christian program. That night, I thought about the Christian religion until I fell asleep. In my dream, someone gave me a black book. I wondered what book this was, but nobody knew. I started listening to *Women of Hope* regularly, then called the program host and told her about my life. I also mentioned the black book and she told me that it is the Bible.

Now my life is transformed. I have rented a room for my daughter and me. She goes to school and I work as a housemaid. I go to church regularly. *Women of Hope* helps me so much in my life. Before I had no hope, but this program gave me hope and the darkness went away. God has given me joy as well as freedom. I wish this program could reach others who are in need of comfort. I thank the Lord Jesus, as well as the *Women of Hope* program ladies.

*Women of Hope* broadcasts in over 50 languages.  
Monthly prayer calendars are used in more than 40 languages. ([www.projecthannah.org](http://www.projecthannah.org))

JULY 2010



*Praying for  
Child Brides*

A MINISTRY OF TWR

*Please pray for...*

1. Millions of girls who have endured the horrible abuse of child marriages to know the joy of being the Bride of Christ, who cherishes them and died for them.
2. Governments to defend the rights of little girls, and to enforce laws with strong punishments for those who perform marriages involving children, for men who marry children, and for parents who force their little girls to marry.
3. God's wisdom and anointing for listeners of Project Hannah's (PH) *Women of Hope* (WoH) program so they may understand His Word and apply it to their daily lives. WoH is heard in over 50 languages throughout Africa, Asia, the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and the Pacific islands.
4. Troubled girls who are vulnerable to men offering gifts, protection and promises of marriage but end up being sold as prostitutes, beaten, threatened and drugged to supply pimps with easy money. Pray for ministries (Hope House, Generate Hope, Gracehaven House and Hands that Heal) that offer homes of refuge and training for Christians who desire to reach out and help these girls.
5. Obstacles to be removed so that WoH programs in new languages can begin airing. Pray for wisdom, finances, intercessors and volunteers to come alongside the women as they work hard translating, writing scripts and recording material to produce programs that will reach the women in their areas. Pray for the women working on the Dari and Farsi scripts that will be used to reach women isolated by cultures that keep them from knowing about Jesus and His gift of salvation.
6. Young girls who run away to avoid forced marriages. Many fear their families will kill them. Others are tricked into prostitution by people offering them a job. "Rescue me, O Lord, from evil men; protect me from men of violence" (Psalm 140:1).

7. Parents to teach their children to respect themselves and others, and to make plans for a healthy future that honors God. "My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be" (Psalm 139:15-16).
8. Young women who are so distraught and humiliated by family abuse and lack of love that they choose to set themselves on fire or drink poison to escape their life of misery.
9. Parents to understand that early marriage does not protect their daughters. Some get HIV and diseases from their husbands, many are abused by family members, and difficulties during childbirth harm or kill many more.
10. Finances and volunteers for PH's teams to provide health seminars and medical care for WoH listeners and opportunities to show God's love to women in the community.
11. Those who provide homes of refuge, education and job training for young women who have fled abusive situations. "You hem me in, behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me" (Psalm 139:5).
12. More refuge homes and training centers to provide opportunities for girls and women to listen to PH's WoH program and hear helpful medical information and about God's love for them.
13. Young girls who are forced to undergo Female Genital Mutilation and face lifelong complications from the procedure, including extreme pain, hemorrhages and urinary infections. Pray that this horrible practice will be prohibited and punished.
14. Christians to stand up against cultural practices that promote sexual sin and harm girls and their babies. Pray

for Ethiopia's Aari girls and boys of the Jinka area who marry around the age of 14. Many of the girls suffer terribly during labor because of their small bodies and often their babies are stillborn.

15. Parents who feel they must sell their young daughters into early marriages because of financial need. Pray that mothers will find the courage to speak up against this horror through which many of them were forced to live.
16. Those translating PH's monthly prayer calendars and distributing them to intercessors in churches, prayer groups, homes and prisons in over 40 languages. Pray for funds to print these prayer requests in poverty stricken areas.
17. Leaders to teach parents the benefits of educating their daughters so they then can provide better care for their elderly parents. Pray that more teachers will help their students understand their rights to refuse a forced marriage, and for community leaders to provide protection for these girls when their parents will not listen.
18. Praise the Lord that WoH listeners have accepted Christ and received helpful information about diet, vitamins, relationships and God's Word.
19. The estimated 7.3 million young women living with HIV/AIDS. Many are infected by much older husbands (UNFPA).
20. Community and church leaders to understand the need to promote strong marriages so that children will not grow up in single-parented homes. The cultural acceptance of "living together" is destroying lives worldwide as mothers often are left to care for the children alone.
21. Listeners of PH's WoH program to learn of God's love for women/girls, and know that they are of value to Him and their families. "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well" (Psalm 139:13-14).