



# White Ribbon Bulletin

World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

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January • February • March • April 2021



## *Worth Our Work - Make a difference!*



**Make  
every day  
World No  
Tobacco Day.**

[www.who.int/tobacco](http://www.who.int/tobacco)



**31 MAY**





To all the White Ribbon Sisters

\*Be an Esther\*- Bold and courageous enough to stand for the truth, to voice your opinion and fight for the good of others, even when it means to sacrifice yourself. If God has put you in a position, it is for a purpose. Never be afraid to heed to that inner voice.

\*Be a Ruth\*- Loyal in all your relationships, walk the extra mile and don't quit when things get tough. Someday, you'll see why it was all worth the effort.

\*Be a Lydia\*- Let your homes be open, let your hands be generous, let your hearts be big enough to help anyone in need. Joy is greatest when shared.

\*Be a Hannah\*- Never cease to pray. It will never be in vain.

\*Be a Mary\* -Humble and submissive. You don't have to be great for God to use you, you just need to obey.

\*Be a Dorcas\* -Use your talents, however small it may seem to bring a smile on someone's face. You'll never know how much it can mean to someone.

\*Be an Abigail\* -Remember how each decision can turn your life around for good or bad. Be wise.

\*Be an Elizabeth\* -Never doubt what God can do. Miracles do happen.

\*Be a Mary Magdalene\* -Never let your mistakes and judgments of other people stop you from experiencing true joy in Jesus.

\*Be a Rebekah\*- Never forget that true beauty lies within. Draw your man closer to God through your character.

With Prayers and Blessings

Rev. Dr. Bhavana Arthur



Dear all,

Greetings from Norway! Although we have worked to contain and stop the Covid-19 virus, the British mutation has caused a new lock-down and masks when distancing is not possible. . We hope it will be short and, as we all follow the rules, we are thankful for the tremendous community spirit to do our bit to STOP this virus once and for all! Numbers are already going down. Amen! May we all stay safe and healthy.



When we look back, 2020 has proven to be a challenging year in many aspects. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the usual work of our organization.

However, very many have done exceptional well, especially the wonderful World Department Directors. They have completed excellent project kits based the UN Sustainability Goals appropriate for WWCTU, 17 in all, and including environmental issues. we must do what we can to preserve our planet created by our God. These can be seen on our website: [wwctu.org](http://wwctu.org).

Deadline for two detailed reports to be submitted to the UN NGO Global Civil Society Unit and the WFAD World Federation Against Drugs was 28 February. In gratitude to God and the countries you have read about in the WRB, I am pleased to report that approval has already been received! Wonderful news!

World No Tobacco Day was created by the WHO in 1987 to draw global attention to the health dangers and death caused by smoking tobacco. Each year World No Tobacco Day is celebrated on 31 May.

My email address is [margaretostenstad45@gmail.com](mailto:margaretostenstad45@gmail.com) and I would love to hear from you! I close with a beautiful prayer sent to me today from Rev. Irja Eskelinen along with Finland's Report Book.

*God of Light, the psalmist wrote, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for You are with me. Thank you for walking with me through every valley I endured. I pray as I tread through this current valley, that You would once again be my Light in the darkness. Thank you that Your presence is a constant source of encouragement. Amen.*

Blessings, love and prayers,

*Margaret Ostenstad*

World President



**Christian Outreach Department**  
Rev. Dr. Bhavana Arthur, World Director

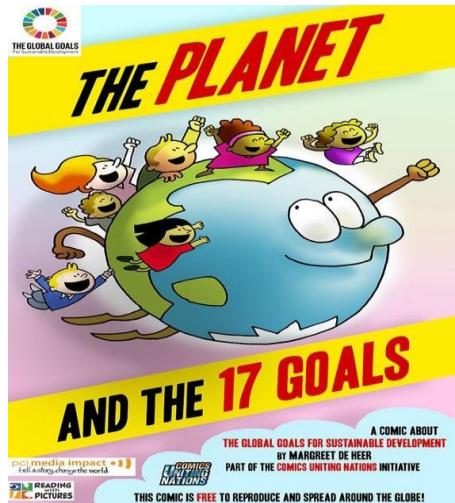
Aim of the Department

The purpose of the Christian Outreach Department is to encourage the Christian walk of the members, emphasizing “You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:13a, 14a) and to outreach to the faith community with the WCTU total abstinence message.

I would like to thank God for His mercy, as I believe that we all are safe and sound in this time of Pestilence. Our God is faithful, He always keeps His promise as He says, that “He will never leave us nor forsake us” I thank God, that He has given a vision to our dear World President Margaret Ostenstad, the vision to take care of God’s World, to be a stewards for His whole creation. We the Women of God have the power to change this as according to God’s desire. So let’s save the environment focusing on spiritual sustainability with UN’s sustainable development Goals to save the environment. Through Christian Outreach for the year 2021 WWCTU, the department focuses on Sustainable Goals.

The 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) to transform our world:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 14: Life below Water
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnership to Achieve the Goal



All the goals stated above are interlinked with each other. When we read them it makes us feel that this was exactly what God told us to do.

“God wants us to take care of His world. God created us in His image to be stewards of His whole creation.”

- ◆ God made the world and we are not to abuse it but to take care of it.
- ◆ The need to be good stewards.

## Introduction

June 5th is a day used by the United Nations to stimulate worldwide awareness of environmental issues. World Environment Day began in 1972 as a day for people from all walks of life to come together to ensure a cleaner, greener and brighter outlook for themselves and future generation. We should be reminded now-and-then that God's creation provides us with the physical fabric of our lives; the natural environment gives us the stuff we use every day. It gives us food for our tables, the material for our clothes and the materials to build our homes and Churches. It is also a place where people have experienced a great closeness with God through its beauty and wonder. Creation is a gift from God and He provides us with these things, the basics for our lives, therefore it should not be so easily and often taken for granted.

Bible Reference:

### Key Verse

*And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:28)*

### Expand the idea

- God is creator!
- The three blessings (1) Be fruitful, (2) Multiply, (3) have dominion over God's creation.
- Humans are destroyers because of their own selfishness and greed.
- Heal the world, make it a better place

⇒ In the beginning there was nothing. We know now as earth was just a big ball of accumulation of darkness, disorder, chaos and lifelessness. God saw the darkness, disorder and lifelessness and He had a plan! A plan for the creation of a bright, beautiful, ordered place of life. So for this he started creating and bringing things in to order.

He is God who is mighty and good and wants good things for everyone. He is great and powerful God so he gave a face lift to this disoriented place which is now a beautiful earth. He created everything. God looked at everything that He made and He liked what He saw. It was all beautiful and perfect—just the way He wanted it. It was good. God was not tired. God did not rest on the seventh day because He was tired. No, God rested because He was finished. Everything that He wanted to do was complete. Now God could stop creating. The earth was beautiful so God wanted to make sure that everything was taken care of. He told Adam that humankind would be the ruler over all the creation. God wanted Adam and Eve to take care of the Garden and be kind to all the animals.

*"And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28.*

God gave Adam and Eve three great blessings. By fulfilling them we can be a good object to God. A good object means to be the way God wants us to be, to be like him, full of love.

- ⇒ BLESSING - means God's gift to make us happy
- FRUITFULL - means to bear fruits
- ⇒ MULTIPLY - means to increase in number
- DOMINION- means to control things

⇒ God did not give humankind the authority to degrade and destroy His earth. We cannot blame God for the earth's ecological problems; He is not responsible for humankind's destruction of the natural world He had created. God's world is suffering because people have not treated God's creation with respect. We are selfish and wasteful with the goodness of the earth.

⇒ There are things that we can do to help repair the damage and heal the earth.

- I. Plant more trees
- II. Minimize Waste
- III. Recycle, Reuse, Reduce
- IV. Conserve water
- V. Save Electricity
- VI. No to Plastic Bags
- VII. Educate
- VIII. Grow your own Garden
- IX. Compost kitchen waste
- X. Use public Transportation

\*(You can add more)

**IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT, .....**

Read the sentences and number the pictures

1. turn OFF the lights when you don't use it.
2. use filters in factories.
3. don't use coal for heating your houses.
4. use environment friendly deodorants.
5. don't use your private cars so often.
6. don't pour factory wastes into water.
7. don't use animals in experiments.
8. love all the animals.
9. use environment friendly detergents.
10. don't waste paper.
11. plant more trees and save them.
12. don't cut down the trees.
13. unplug the electric devices after use.
14. use solar energy.
15. don't pour chemicals into your sink.
16. turn off your tap after use.
17. don't hunt the animals.
18. use public transportation more often.
19. use electric cars.
20. don't throw away rubbish

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Read Psalm 104

1. Why do you think God made the world?
2. Why did God make humankind?
3. What role do you think God had in mind for the humans in relation to the rest of creation?

Activities:

[1] In a group each take a small ball of clay or play dough. Each one make of model of something God created. With the whole group ask each to tell about the creation. Then ask the following questions.

1. How does it feel to create something?
2. How would you like other people to treat your creation?

**WHAT YOU CAN DO!**

BY: FOUADIBET DE HEBE THE GLOBAL GOALS

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO? WE ARE NOT IN GOVERNMENT OR ANYTHING. THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS THAT WE ALL GET ON THE SAME PAGE! HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO!

1. THINK ABOUT IT
2. TALK ABOUT IT
3. DREAM ABOUT IT
4. WRITE ABOUT IT
5. MAKE ART ABOUT IT
6. ACT ON IT

Read Psalm 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof ; the world, and they that dwell therein."

[2] Four ways that I can take care of the environment, paste or draw what activity you can do.

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● **Nourishing your spiritual well-being to stay positive in this negative world.**

We all know that in this ever changing world one thing that doesn't change is our God and His word. In this uncertain world the only certainty is "death" so how we are living in this world and what heritage or legacy we are leaving for our children predicts the betterment of their future world.

**Things to Do** – Turn your dining table, family room, or bedroom as your family altar. Pray with your family and read the word of God every day. Make your children concerned and sensitive about world problems and to change their actions in order to not to waste water or electricity. Treat everyone equally, respect and help elderly poor or less privileged people, etc.

These habits instilled in the early years will form a sustainable development life style. So pray, read the word of God, and live accordingly while growing through spiritual and good services to humanity. This will sustain anyone in any adversity.

Only with God through His words we can stay positive and do good. This is the only way we can cultivate environment sensitivity spiritually, emotionally and a physically sustainable society for a better sustainable world.

**Closing Prayer**

*God, Creator of the Universe, you have made all things and called them "good." We thank you for the beautiful earth that we call home. Yet people have damaged your good works. You have asked us to tend your garden. Yet we have trampled the flowers, chopped down the trees, dirtied and polluted the water and air. Also there are wars and riots because of human greed. We are sorry, and we want to make peace with your world. Teach us how to take care of your creation. Only you are able so we ask this in your name. Amen.*

*[The COVID-19 response must include solutions to clean up the environment and make cities and infrastructure more sustainable and resilient.]*

*God bless us all*

**How much do you know about the...**

# Environment

1. What do you call the area that is inhabited by a particular species?  
a) Habitat. b) Environment. c) Biosphere.
2. What do you call the processing of used materials and their reuse?  
a) Recycling. b) Reusing. c) Reprocessing.
3. Which layer protects the Earth from UV rays?  
a) Oxygen. b) Nitrogen. c) Ozone.
4. The process by which the Earth's temperature is increasing is called the ...  
a) biothermal effect. b) greenhouse effect. c) temperature effect.
5. Which of the following is biodegradable?  
a) Plastic. b) Paper. c) Glass.
6. What is the term for the complete disappearance of a species?  
a) Termination. b) Disappearance. c) Extinction.
7. What do you call renewable safe sources of energy?  
a) Alternative energies. b) Bio-energies. c) Solar energies.
8. Which of these energy sources is renewable?  
a) Coal. b) Natural gas. c) Wind.
9. What do you call the rain that contains many chemicals and is harmful?  
a) Smog. b) Acid rain. c) Monsoon.
10. What do you call a substance that pollutes the air, water or soil?  
a) Pollutant. b) Pesticides. c) Acid.
11. What is the most used renewable energy source in the world?  
a) Hydro energy. b) Solar energy. c) Wind energy.
12. Which of these animals is not in danger becoming extinct?  
a) Panda bears. b) Polar bears. c) Grizzly bears.
13. What type of shopping bag is more eco-friendly?  
a) Paper. b) Plastic. c) Neither.
14. Global warming will cause an increase of ...  
a) Heat waves. b) Hurricanes. c) Both.
15. Which gas is responsible for global warming?  
a) Carbon dioxide. b) Oxygen. c) Hydrogen.
16. What are some of the consequences of deforestation?  
a) Loss of habitats. b) Soil erosion. c) Both.
17. Which of the following is not a fossil fuel?  
a) Coal. b) Wood. c) Oil.
18. Which of these human activities contributes the most for global warming?  
a) Using fossil fuels. b) Cutting down trees. c) Riding bicycles.
19. Which of the following can be recycled?  
a) Milk cartons. b) Plastic bottles. c) Both.
20. Which of the following animals is not yet extinct?  
a) Tamarin tiger. b) Dodo. c) Javan rhinoceros.
21. Which gas is responsible for global warming?  
a) Carbon dioxide. b) Oxygen. c) Hydrogen.
22. Which of these human activities contributes the most for global warming?  
a) Using fossil fuels. b) Cutting down trees. c) Riding bicycles.
23. Which of the following animals is not yet extinct?  
a) Tamarin tiger. b) Dodo. c) Javan rhinoceros.
24. Rainforest land is most often cleared for ...  
a) factories. b) farmland. c) pasture.



Anne Bergen  
Organization Secretary

I am praying that 2021 will be a better year for all of us than 2020 was. In this Bulletin I have some reports from New Zealand, USA and Finland to share with you.

**New Zealand's report** mainly concerns their history. They have been contacted by an American lady, Mrs. Randolph Hollingsworth, living in Auckland who is writing about Mrs Mary Clement Leavitt from Boston who was the first WWCTU



round the world missionary to visit New Zealand. Mary arrived by steam ship from Honolulu on the 14th January 1885 and stayed with Christians in Auckland. On February 4th she spoke at the Wesleyan Church and formed the Auckland branch of WCTU. During the following six months she visited Thames, Cambridge and Hamilton on the North Island before moving on to the South Island where she started branches in Dunedin, Invercargill, Christchurch and Napier. She returned to the North Island, visiting Wellington and the Hutt valley before sailing for Australia on 19th April.

In December Judy MacAnulty and the President, Annette Paterson, were invited with about 150 others to attend the **opening of Kate Sheppard's house** in Christchurch by their Prime Minister, Jacinder Ardern. She spoke so well of Kate and the work she had done with regards to the suffrage petition, but did not mention the WCTU, the



organization that did all the work to get petition signatures to gain women's suffrage. They were pleased to see that WCTU was mentioned often in the various rooms. After the rest of the speeches and a dainty afternoon tea, Annette made sure that she spoke to the Prime Minister and gave her a copy of the WCTU's booklet to ensure that she knew about WCTU's contribution. This house is now open to the public so they will keep a supply of brochures there for those who visit it.



Annette right on step. PM centre left shaking hands.

Two youth members of **Korea WCTU in Texas, USA**, Chaewon Shin and her sister, heard of a man who owned a bakery but had collapsed due to exhaustion and cold (there was no electricity for heating). They decided to share Jesus's love by helping him and drove one hour to this man's bakery and helped him run his store for a number of days until he fully recovered.



Not only did they help him bake and sell his donuts, but they also served customers and cleaned the store for him until he got better.

The man said that he felt as if the two sisters were “angels sent to him from God”.

**WCTU in Finland** has two homes (Liisankoti) for the rehabilitation of women with alcohol and drug problems and women recently released from prison. The older one is in an old home (see photo right) about 10 km from Helsinki centre. The newer one, which has recently been renovated, is in the city of Helsinki and is overseen by the Metropolitan Area local association of the Finnish WCTU and under the financial and social care of the City of Helsinki. It has separate rooms with bathrooms for 21 residents and has professional staff on duty 24/7.



Photos of a new bedroom and sitting room the new



## ***The Effects of Smoking on the Body***

No matter how you smoke it, tobacco is dangerous to your health. There are no safe substances in any tobacco products, from acetone and tar to nicotine and carbon monoxide. The substances you inhale don't just affect your lungs. They can affect your entire body.

Smoking can lead to a variety of ongoing complications in the body, as well as long-term effects on your body systems. While smoking can increase your risk of a variety of problems over several years, some of the bodily effects are immediate. Learn more about the symptoms and overall effects of smoking on the body.

Tobacco smoke is incredibly harmful to your health. There's no safe way to smoke. Replacing your cigarette with a cigar, pipe, or hookah won't help you avoid the health risks.

Cigarettes contain about 600 ingredients, many of which can also be found in cigars and hookahs. When these ingredients burn, they generate more than 7,000 chemicals, according to the American Lung Association. Many of those chemicals are poisonous and at least 69 of them are linked to cancer.

In the United States, the mortality rate for smokers is three times that of people who never smoked. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says that smoking is the most common "preventable cause of death" in the United States. While the effects of smoking may not be immediate, the complications and damage can last for years. The good news is that quitting smoking can reverse many effects.

### **Central nervous system**

One of the ingredients in tobacco is a mood-altering drug called nicotine. Nicotine reaches your brain in mere seconds and makes you feel more energized for a while. But as that effect wears off, you feel tired and crave more. Nicotine is extremely habit-forming, which is why people find smoking so difficult to quit.

Physical withdrawal from nicotine can impair your cognitive functioning and make you feel anxious, irritated, and depressed. Withdrawal can also cause headaches and sleep problems.

### **Respiratory system**

When you inhale smoke, you're taking in substances that can damage your lungs. Over time, this damage leads to a variety of problems. Along with increased infections, people who smoke are at higher risk for chronic nonreversible lung conditions such as:

- emphysema, the destruction of the air sacs in your lungs
- chronic bronchitis, permanent inflammation that affects the lining of the breathing tubes of the lungs
- chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a group of lung diseases
- lung cancer

Withdrawal from tobacco products can cause temporary congestion and respiratory discomfort as your lungs and airways begin to heal. Increased mucus production right after quitting smoking is a positive sign that your respiratory system is recovering.

Children whose parents smoke are more prone to coughing, wheezing, and asthma attacks than children whose parents don't. They also tend to have higher rates of pneumonia and bronchitis.

Source: [healthline.com](https://www.healthline.com)



## **EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 INTRODUCTION – Aim, foundations and approach**

Leena Haraké, Sweden

1. The EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Strategy’) provides the overarching political framework and priorities for the European Union’s drugs policy for the period 2021-2025. The framework, aim and objectives of this Strategy will serve as the basis for the EU Action Plan on Drugs from 2021 to 2025
2. The Strategy aims to protect and improve the well-being of society and of the individual, to protect and promote public health, to offer a high level of security and well-being for the general public and to increase health literacy. The Strategy takes an evidence-based, integrated, balanced and multidisciplinary approach to the drugs phenomenon at national, EU and international level. It also incorporates a gender equality and health equity perspective. 3
3. By 2025, the priorities and actions in the field of illicit drugs, coordinated through the Strategy, should have had an overall impact on key aspects of the EU drug situation. The coherent, effective and efficient implementation of measures should both ensure a high level of human health protection, social stability and security, and contribute to awareness raising. Any potential unintended negative consequences associated with the implementation of the actions should be minimized, and human rights and sustainable development promoted.
4. The Strategy is based first and foremost on the fundamental principles of EU law and, in every regard, upholds the founding values of the EU: respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights. The Strategy is also based on international law, the relevant United Nations (UN) Conventions<sup>1</sup> which provide the international legal framework for addressing the illicit drugs phenomenon, and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The Strategy takes into account policy developments at multilateral level, and contributes to the acceleration of their implementation. First and foremost, the EU strongly supports the outcome document of the 2016 UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on the world drug problem entitled ‘Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem’, which is the most comprehensive policy document in that respect. It also supports the 2019 Ministerial

declaration on strengthening our actions at the national, regional and international levels to accelerate the implementation of our joint commitments to address and counter the world drug problem, the applicable goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the UN system common position supporting the implementation of the international drug control policy through effective inter-agency collaboration, and the International Guidelines on Human Rights and Drug Policy. The Strategy has been drafted on the basis of the principles set out in the Lisbon Treaty and taking into account the respective competences of the EU and individual Member States. Due regard is given to subsidiarity and proportionality, as the Strategy intends to add value to national strategies while respecting national needs and legislation. The Strategy should be implemented in accordance with these principles and competencies. Furthermore, the Strategy fully respects the European Convention on Human Rights and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU and is guided by the human right to health, which should apply to everyone regardless of, for example, age or gender. All women, men and children, including people with drug-use disorders, have the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including freedom from violence.

5. Drug policy is of a cross-cutting nature. It is also a national and international issue that needs to be addressed in a global context, by a variety of stakeholders. The Strategy provides a common and evidence-based framework for responding in a consistent manner to the drugs phenomenon, within and outside the EU. It supports and complements national policies, provides a framework for coordinated and joint action and forms the basis and political framework for EU external cooperation in this field. It thereby ensures that resources invested in this area are used effectively and efficiently.
6. The Strategy builds on valuable input from the Commission Communication EU Agenda and Action Plan on Drugs 2021-2025<sup>2</sup> on the lessons learned from the implementation of previous EU drugs strategies and action plans, including the findings from external evaluation<sup>3</sup> and builds upon the EU's achievements in this area. It also takes into account the EU Security Union Strategy for 2020-2025, the Health and Food Safety strategic plan for 2016-2020, and other relevant policy developments and actions at EU and international level in the field of drugs. In addition, the Strategy is informed by an ongoing assessment of the current drug situation, in particular as provided by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions (EMCDDA) and Europol. Finally, it takes into account information provided by civil society.
7. The Strategy addresses existing and evolving challenges, and takes on board evolving evidencebased approaches. Furthermore, given the dynamic and complex nature of the drugs phenomenon, which once again became evident during the COVID-19 pandemic, the

Strategy adopts a future-oriented approach in order to anticipate changes. Strategic foresight has been integrated with the intention to increase EU preparedness and ensure an efficient response to future challenges.

8. The Strategy is structured around three policy areas that will all contribute to achieving its aim: (I.) Drug supply reduction: Enhancing Security, (II.) Drug demand reduction: prevention, treatment and care services, and (III.) Addressing drug-related harm; and three cross-cutting themes in support of the policy areas: (IV.) International cooperation, (V.) Research, innovation and foresight; and (VI.) Coordination, governance and implementation. Altogether, the Strategy encompasses 11 strategic priorities.

### **Strategic priority 6: Ensure access to and strengthen treatment and care services**

**Priority areas to address:**

- 6.1. Ensure voluntary access to treatment and care services that work in close coordination and collaboration with other health and social support services.
- 6.2. Promote peer work.
- 6.3. Identify and remedy the barriers to accessing treatment and ensure and, where needed, extend coverage of treatment and care services based on individual needs.
- 6.4. Reduce stigma.
- 6.5. Widely implement treatment and care addressing the specific needs of women.
- 6.6. Implement models of care that are appropriate for groups with special care needs.
- 6.7. Provide and, where needed, improve access to, availability and appropriate use of substances for medical and scientific purposes.

### **A special focus on Women:**

- 6.5. Widely implement treatment and care addressing the specific needs of women.

Measures need to be taken to better identify and address the barriers that women face in engaging with and pursuing counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services. These barriers include domestic violence, trauma, stigma, physical and mental health issues, pregnancy and childcare issues, all of which may be aggravated by demographic, socioeconomic, situational and personal factors. Effective service delivery should be sensitive to the specific needs and life experiences of women with drug-use problems and should recognize that patterns of drug use and problems may differ from those experienced by men. Women-only service options should be developed, as should services that take care of accompanying children and that offer other forms of specialist care, such as close working partnerships with care providers and with services working with vulnerable women and victims of domestic violence.



## Our Ultimate Hooray

by Charles R. Swindoll

### John 11

What gives a widow courage as she stands beside a fresh grave? What is the ultimate hope of the handicapped, the abused, the burn victim? What is the final answer to pain, mourning, senility, insanity, terminal diseases, sudden calamities, and fatal accidents?

The answer to each of these questions is the same: the hope of bodily resurrection.

We draw strength from this single truth almost every day of our lives—more than we realize. It becomes the mental glue that holds our otherwise shattered thoughts together. Impossible though it may be for us to understand the details of how God is going to pull it off, we hang our hopes on fragile, threadlike thoughts that say, “Someday, He will make it right,” and “Thank God, all this will change,” and “When we’re with Him, we shall be like Him.”

More than a few times a year I look into red, swollen eyes and remind the despairing and the grieving that “there’s a land that is fairer than day” where, as John promised in the Revelation, “He shall wipe away every tear... there shall no longer be any death... any mourning or crying or pain... there shall no longer be any curse... any night... because the Lord God shall illumine them; and they shall reign forever and ever” (21:4; 22:3, 5). Hooray for such wondrous hope!

Just imagine... those who are physically disabled today will one day leap in ecstatic joy. Those who spend their lives absorbed in total darkness will see every color in the spectrum of light. In fact, the very first face they will see will be the One who gives them sight!

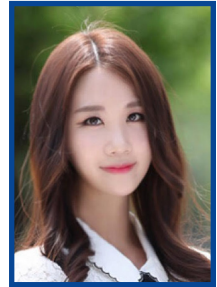


## Latest COVID-19 Updates from the Education Department

Dear President Ostenstad and Department Directors,

My sister, Hannah Oh (Youth Department Director), translated the article below on COVID-19 from Korean to English and I would like to share the hopeful news it contains:

- 6/10 people may already have immunity to COVID-19 due to certain "neutralizing" immune cells (antibodies) that are in our immune system
- We may have been born with such genes/inherited them from generations ago



*Sarah Oh (Korea)  
World Director  
Education Department*

Although the world seems to be in utter chaos right now, God is ALWAYS GOOD!

More than 200 vaccines are being developed around the world and the **Pfizer-BioNTECH** and **MODERNA** vaccines are each proving to have **95%** and **94.1%** effectiveness respectively in preventing COVID-19 (when people are given 2 shots, 21 days apart).

Let us keep praying and trusting God through these times when the world is under the control of the Devil (1 John 5:19).

God knows the end story - He wins - and we are here to fight the good fight and worship and glorify Him no matter what!

Psalm 147:4-5

<sup>4</sup> He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

<sup>5</sup> Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.



*Noontide prayer*  
*Around the world, someone is always praying*

# SMOKING KILLS

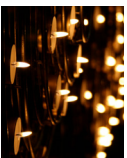
**Cadmium**  
Batteries



**Hexamine**  
Barbecue Starter



**Stearic Acid**  
Candle Wax



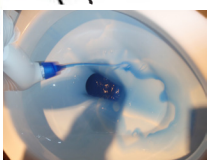
**Nicotine**  
Insecticide



**Toluene**  
Industrial Solvent



**Ammonia**  
Toilet Cleaner



**Paint**



**Butane**  
Lighter Fluid



**Acetic Acid**  
Vinegar



**Methane Gas**



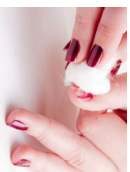
**Arsenic**  
Poison



**Carbon**  
Monoxide  
Automobile  
Exhaust



**Acetone**  
Nail Polish Remover



**Methanol**  
Rocket Fuel



**Fuel**

