

# Sacrifice

*"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16 NIV*

## Leaders

2010 Alabama WMU  
Day of Prayer and Kathleen  
Mallory Mission Offering

**How to use this material:** *As a missions leader, this material will enable you to lead your church's observances of the Alabama WMU Day of Prayer and Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering. This material offers theme interpretation, an overview of this year's highlighted ministry, basic details about the offering, steps to leading your age-level groups in the observance, and a form for ordering free study/offering materials and promotional items.*

The Book of Hebrews was written to Jewish believers to present the case for Christ's sufficiency and superiority. The writer wanted Jewish believers to know that Christ was the perfect revelation of God, the complete and final sacrifice, the kind mediator and the only way to salvation. At the end of the letter, we read this exhortation: "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that confess His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased" (Hebrews 13:15-16 NIV).

We must remember this letter was written to Jewish Christians who were accustomed to offering sacrifices as part of their Jewish religion prior to following Christ. The ultimate sacrifice of Christ rendered the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament obsolete. This concept was very familiar to the original audience, and the writer was encouraging Jewish believers to consider their praise and acts of service their new "sacrifices." For those early believers, as it is with us, they had the privilege to offer these sacrifices anytime and anywhere.

The word used in verse 16 for sharing with others literally means "a contribution as

exhibiting an embodiment and proof of fellowship." Isn't that a great way to think in terms of sacrifice? I sacrifice for the people and things I care most about; my sacrifice for those is proof to the world of my fellowship with them. I sacrifice for the Lord, my spouse, my children, my church, missions endeavors and ministries I care deeply about. And

my sacrifice for each of these is proof of my fellowship. Read through Hebrews chapter 13. As you read, you will see that God is pleased with three kinds of sacrifices: costly commitment (13:13), praise and gratitude to God (13:15) and selfless service to those in need (13:16). These are the

sacrifices that please God.

As you begin contemplating the 2010 Day of Prayer and Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering, consider this concept of sacrifice. It is a concept that most people are uncomfortable with, but we see here in Hebrews that it pleases God. It is no small thing that we, as imperfect and sinful as we are, can actually please God as we follow His example and sacrifice for others. As Hebrews 13 teaches, may you offer sacrifices that please God – costly commitment, praise and gratitude to Him, and selfless service to those in need. What are you willing to sacrifice for? What will your sacrifice be?

*It is no small thing that we, as imperfect and sinful as we are, can actually please God as we follow His example and sacrifice for others.*

# 2010 Day of Prayer & KMMO Quick Facts

**Theme:** *Sacrifice*

**Highlighted Ministry:** *WorldSong Missions Place*

**Statewide Goal:** \$475,000

**Suggested Dates:** *September 14-15*

**Theme Verse:** *“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” Hebrews 13:16 NIV*

**Online Resources:** Visit [www.alabamawmu.org/KMMO](http://www.alabamawmu.org/KMMO) for additional resources to help promote the 2010 Day of Prayer and Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering in your church.

## WorldSong Missions Place

The scene is a bright, sunny summer day in east central Alabama. The sky is a deep blue, and as you sit on an old wooden bench at Vespers looking at the mountain, the blue sky seems to come down and touch the white rock before you. The warmth of the sun causes you to be grateful for the steady breeze that blows. The lake sparkling on a summer day, the decades-old steps up the hill and the familiar view from Vespers are sights that typify WorldSong Missions Place. The sights are truly gorgeous. But in the distance, you hear echoes of joyful singing. The singing is sometimes loud and silly, sometimes soft and worshipful. You hear unending giggles of little girls and encouraging words from cabin leaders to campers. These are the sounds of WorldSong and have been since Alabama WMU began camping there in 1991. The faces are different and the voices have changed, but the ministry remains. God displays His glory through the sights of WorldSong, but it's through the sounds that He receives His due praise and worship.

Prior to the summer of 1991, GA and Acteens camps were held at Shocco Springs. In 1990, Alabama WMU purchased the property from the Birmingham Baptist Association and named it WorldSong Missions Place. The name was inspired by this verse in Psalms: “Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.” Since acquiring the property, Alabama WMU has engaged in

extensive renovations throughout the facilities. While the original intent was to provide a better summer missions camping experience for GAs and Acteens, WorldSong has expanded programming to year-round opportunities for various age groups.

It would be impossible to accurately articulate the impact WorldSong Missions Place has had during the last two decades. Since WMU camping began keeping records in 1960, more than 5,000 girls and young women have made professions of faith, and more than 4,000 have made commitments to serve in missions and ministry. While we celebrate the fruitfulness of WorldSong's ministries, we must remember that the sights of WorldSong, while beautiful, are not the most important part. The success of WorldSong's ministries and its impact in the Kingdom of God is due to people. The young women who have sacrificed their summers and answered God's call to serve are the instruments through whom God has used to draw children and students to Him for salvation. So as we prepare to celebrate 20 years of camping at WorldSong Missions Place, may we celebrate all those who have spent time at WorldSong, campers and staff, because it is in their lives lived for the Lord Jesus that He is most glorified. And that is how we measure the success of this important ministry. For more information about WorldSong, visit [www.worldsongretreat.com](http://www.worldsongretreat.com).

# Preparing

## for Your Day of Prayer Observance

1. **As you begin to contemplate your role** in leading your church to observe the 2010 Alabama WMU Day of Prayer, read Hebrews chapter 13. Meditate on the theme verse, Hebrews 13:16, and the verse preceding. After spending time with this passage, confess any personal shortcomings and struggles the Holy Spirit may have revealed to you. Seek His forgiveness, and strive to be more like His Son, Jesus. Ask God to first open your heart to the concept of sacrificing for His glory and His Kingdom. Ask Him to enable you to encourage age-level leaders as they make preparations for their groups.

Make yourself available to your leaders in any way, and commit to praying for them as they plan and lead the study. Pray also for those who will participate in the study.

2. **Share your Day of Prayer ideas** with your pastor and age-level leaders. The suggested dates are Sept. 14-15, 2010, but if it presents a conflict, feel free to choose another date.

3. **How will your church observe** the Day of Prayer? After meeting with your pastor and age-level leaders, develop a plan.

Some ideas may include:

- Separate age-level studies during regular meeting times
- A combined WMU event for multiple age levels
- A churchwide program on a Wednesday or Sunday evening to highlight the ministries of WorldSong Missions Place

Many churches have former WorldSong campers or staff persons. Consider involving them in your studies for the 2010 Day of Prayer. Personal testimonies speak volumes. Most will be able to provide personal photographs to share, and all will certainly have stories to share about their experiences at WorldSong.

4. **Establish a goal for your church** for the Kathleen Mallory Mission Offering with input from your pastor and age-level leaders. The state goal is \$475,000.

5. **Order KMMO resources** from Alabama WMU. Use the form on the last page of this material to place an order. Check with all of your age-level leaders about their needs before submitting the form, as several of the age-level studies require resources found on the back of the Day of Prayer poster. This will allow you to place one order for your entire church. Age-level study materials can be found in the September/Fall issues of the National WMU magazines. They also may be downloaded at [www.alabamawmu.org/KMMO](http://www.alabamawmu.org/KMMO). You also will find other helpful, free resources on the Web including PowerPoint slides and photos of WorldSong Missions Place.

6. **Discuss how you can use these resources** and study materials to educate your church about the ministries of WorldSong. Involve age-level leaders as much as possible in the planning and implementation. Remember, the more you involve them in the planning, the more ownership they will have. Make sure to place KMMO posters in appropriate areas of your church as the Day of Prayer observance approaches.

