

**"No cancer,  
even after  
five tests"**

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**A mother, a daughter,  
and two sentences:  
DEPRESSION AND CANCER**

*Read their story and learn how to overcome injustice*



# UNIVERSAL NEWS



SCAN ME

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## What to do when faced with injustice

No one wants to go through injustice, but it can actually be the beginning of a great miracle—if you know how to respond. Read this edition, and learn from people's stories the right attitude to take.



**Bishop  
Edir Macedo**

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**Such  
Injustice!**



**After her father's death,  
loneliness and sadness  
took over, but she  
overcame injustice.**

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**What's happening at**

UNIVERSAL



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**NOT TO BE SOLD**



## | IN THIS EDITION |

### Divine Justice

In a world filled with injustice, corruption, and cruelty, there's one truth you can always hold on to: **God is justice.** It may seem like evil is taking over and that those who act unfairly are sitting on the thrones of power, but nothing escapes God's eyes. He's not indifferent. He's not silent. On the contrary—God is just. He sees everything you've been through, and everything you may still be facing, and He invites you to bring your case before Him.

When we think about injustice, what usually comes to mind? Beyond the major global issues like inequality, discrimination, and restrictions on freedom of speech, many people face injustice in their personal lives. Some deal with humiliation, betrayal, abandonment, broken homes, financial struggles—you name it.

Maybe that's your reality. You've been working hard, but no one has recognized you or given you the promotion you deserve. Maybe you've been fighting for your marriage, but things only seem to get worse. Or you're doing everything you can for your children, but they're still making harmful choices, even though you've raised them right. The truth is, the list of personal injustices people face is endless. But what if you could actually get help with your case?

*"Oh, that I knew where I might find Him, that I might come to His seat!" — Job 23:3*

On the following Sundays, at every Universal Church across the country, you'll have the chance to present your case to God and ask for His help. Just like you'd go to a courtroom to fight for your rights, you'll step up to God's Altar—the Divine Court—and cry out for His justice. We'll bring our cases before the One whose throne is built on righteousness, and He will judge in your favor. God Himself can remove the pain and suffering that have weighed you down with sadness and frustration.

Keep reading to learn more about this special movement of faith and to see real stories of people just like you who found justice—and completely turned their lives around.

## | BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is more than just feeling sad—it's a deep, overwhelming sorrow that weighs down the soul. It brings feelings of hopelessness, drains motivation, and makes even the simplest tasks feel impossible. In severe cases, it can even rob people of their will to live. Depression isn't just a state of mind—it's a sickness of the soul. But who can heal the soul? Only the Savior, the Lord Jesus, has the power to restore a troubled heart.

Every Sunday, The Universal Church opens its doors to those who are battling depression. If you need support, we invite you to visit a nearby branch. Join a Chain of Prayer—a seven-week commitment where you'll receive spiritual strength through powerful prayers, practical guidance, and one-on-one counseling.

**You are not alone in this battle. Thousands around the world have found hope and transformation through faith, proving that a Chain of Prayer can truly make a difference. You can be the next success story. You can overcome depression!**



**Call 1.888.332.4141**  
**Text 1.888.312.4141**  
**For more information**  
**SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS**



**Bishop Edir Macedo**



### Such Injustice!



*"And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:7-8*

**W**ill God not bring justice to His chosen ones who cry out to Him day and night?

Justice belongs to those who are chosen by God—but that doesn't mean it happens automatically. His people must put their faith into action. They have to cry out continually, day and night, just as

the Lord Jesus said.

There has never been a greater need for Divine Justice to be revealed than in the times we're living in right now. I believe this is the perfect moment to raise a global outcry—for God's justice to be seen.

There must be a clear difference between those who belong to God and those who don't, between the righteous and the wicked.

So let us seek first the Kingdom of God, because the Kingdom of God is the Kingdom of Justice.



### "After working hard for 20 years, all I got was: 'We don't believe in you.'"

started asking myself, "What am I still doing here?"

When a supervisor position opened up, they gave it to someone else. That was just another slap in the face. Deep down, I knew it was unfair. But like always, I tried to stay positive and make the best of it. Still, the injustice weighed on me.

That same day they told me they didn't believe in me, so I walked out. I told them, "Don't worry about it—I'm done." I said, "I need to go to the altar. I need to do my campaign." I was already giving my tithes and offerings, but this time I needed a quick answer from God.

I remember going to church exhausted after work, but I still went. It was part of my sacrifice. I knew I had to go deeper. I was already praying, fasting, and doing everything I could—but I knew I had to give more.

After the Campaign of Israel, things started to change. God gave me ideas—He told me to start my own business, gave me the name, and guided me step-by-step. At first, I was nervous, but then this energy came over me, and I started putting things into action. And it worked.

My business started to grow. I didn't have to worry about money anymore. God kept showing me the way and brought the right people into my life. Even now, as my business and career continue to grow, I know the greatest blessing I've received is the Holy Spirit.

Without the Holy Spirit, I would still be stuck. It's only been a year, but it's already been better than the 20 years I spent at that company. Since receiving the Holy Spirit, even the problems I face now only make me stronger in my faith.

If you're struggling with fear or doubt, I want to tell you—just do it. Take action. Write your plan down, pray over it, and go for it. Don't let anyone talk you out of it. Now, I can see the blessings. I can see the life God always wanted for me.

- Claudia Marquez





# Experience the Power of God this Sunday



**“The pain is finally gone after a year of suffering”**

One morning, I woke up with pain in my shoulder. At first, I thought it would pass, but as the days went by, it only got worse. Eventually, I couldn't even lift my arms. I spent an entire year like that—struggling with pain and relying on medication to get by. But through faith, I decided to use the Blessed Water, and that's when everything changed. The pain left completely. I'm free now.

**“Free from Hyperthyroidism”**



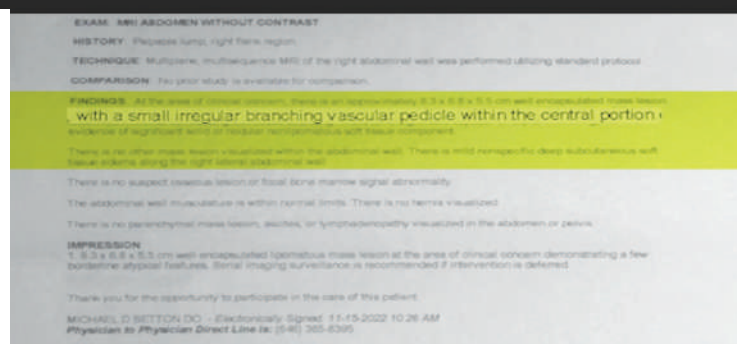
I was eating normally, but right after school, I would come home and go straight to sleep. I didn't do any homework—I was just exhausted all the time. Eventually, my parents got concerned and took me to the doctor. I had lost 10 pounds in just one week, so the doctors were really worried. They referred me to a specialist, and that's when I was diagnosed with hyperthyroidism. In just about three months, I had lost 50 pounds. You could literally see my bones. The worst moment was when the doctor gave me medication and said I'd have to take it for the rest of my life. But I was coming to church, and I was using my faith for healing. I decided to take a leap of faith. After one visit, the doctor said everything was looking normal—so I made the decision to stop taking the pills. Today, my health is completely fine. I did another check-up, and everything came back normal. —Jonathan



**“No Cancer, even after five tests”**



One day, while sitting down, I felt a lump on my right side. I went to work at the hospital and saw my physician, who had done a sonogram on me before. At that time, they said it was just a lipoma. But since it was growing, they ordered an MRI. When the MRI results came back, they told me I needed surgery right away. The lipoma had grown to 8 centimeters—about the size of an avocado—and a vein had started to grow into it. The doctors said there was a 99% chance it could be cancerous.



During this time, I used the Blessed Water from church. I drank it every morning, used it in my cooking, and applied it whenever I felt pain. I even brought it with me to the hospital on the day of my surgery. Two weeks later, I went in for a follow-up. The doctors were surprised—there was no fluid buildup, and when the biopsy results came back, they confirmed there was no cancer. They ran the test five times, and every time it came back negative. Now I'm back at work, back in church, and rejoicing in God's healing power.  
—Sharitta

**RECEIVE THE  
HEALING WATERS  
THIS SUNDAY**  
at your nearest  
Universal Church







## | MESSAGE |

Bishop Joshua

### What do you do when you're outnumbered?



No one wants to end up in a situation like that—being outnumbered, especially in a time of battle. We all know the saying, “majority rules,” and if you’re not careful, you might start applying that mindset to spiritual warfare. But let’s be real: while that might be true in the physical world, it doesn’t apply in the spiritual one.

That truth is clearly shown in the Bible. Let me refresh your memory:

**“Then Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and three hundred chariots, and he came to Mareshah.”**  
— 2 Chronicles 14:9

Can you imagine how terrifying that must have been? Maybe you’re facing something just as scary in your own life. Does your situation seem impossible because you’re outnumbered? Are you dealing with a problem that feels like a million-to-one chance for victory?

Don’t be afraid—you’re not alone.

Take your case to the Judge of all judges. Cry out to Him and lay everything before Him. He’s never lost a case.

**“And Asa cried out to the Lord his God and said, ‘Lord, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O Lord our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name we go against this multitude. O Lord, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!’”**

2 Chronicles 14:11

Asa isn’t here anymore—but the God he prayed to is still the same today. That same God is ready to hear your case and bring you the justice you’ve been crying out for.

Want to see how that battle ended? Keep reading—check out 2 Chronicles 14:12–15.

So next time you feel outnumbered, don’t panic. Go straight to the Just Judge.

Let’s keep coming before the God of the Bible, day and night. **May the God of the Bible bless you and fight for you.**

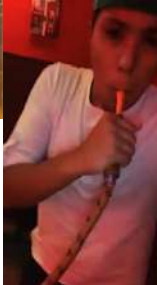
JULY BIBLE READING 2025						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 GENESIS 15 ✓	2 GENESIS 22 ✓	3 GENESIS 37 ✓	4 GENESIS 39 ✓	5 GENESIS 40 ✓
6 GENESIS 41 ✓	7 JOSHUA 2 ✓	8 JOSHUA 6 ✓	9 JUDGES 6 ✓	10 JUDGES 7 ✓	11 JUDGES 11 ✓	12 RUTH 2 ✓
13 RUTH 3 ✓	14 RUTH 4 ✓	15 1 SAMUEL 1 ✓	16 1 SAMUEL 2 ✓	17 1 KINGS 3 ✓	18 1 KINGS 17 ✓	19 2 CHRONICLES 32 ✓
20 ESTHER 3 ✓	21 ESTHER 4 ✓	22 ESTHER 6 ✓	23 JOB 1 ✓	24 JOB 2 ✓	25 JOB 3 ✓	26 JOB 42 ✓
27 DANIEL 1 ✓	28 DANIEL 2 ✓	29 DANIEL 3 ✓	30 DANIEL 4 ✓	31 DANIEL 6 ✓		

### Abuse, traumas, addiction made me suffer many injustices

As a child, I went through a lot. I was verbally and mentally abused, and I was also sexually molested—a trauma that lasted for about four years. Trying to cope with all that pain, I started spending time out on the streets, just hanging out, looking for a way to escape everything I was carrying inside.



I started smoking weed at a very young age. By the time I was almost 13, I had picked up cigarettes too. I was going out a lot, looking for attention and relationships with boys. During that time, I ended up getting pregnant.



I knew place I cried out help, for I had ever Him for guidance—and He answered me. He led me to the Universal Church.

When I prayed with the pastor there, the relief I felt was immediate and overwhelming. The very next day, I got baptized. I was ready—I was eager—to let go of the life I had been living. I stopped smoking weed. I didn’t want to drink any—even want to curse. I was serious about life completely.

When I first heard about the Campaign listened to the testimonies—so many people taken part in the campaign and received Spirit. A few days after my water baptism, I bishop talk about the baptism of the Holy Spirit.



At that time, I didn’t really understand what it meant. I didn’t know that receiving the Holy Spirit meant being filled with peace and the fullness of God inside you. But once I heard all the incredible things that come with it, receiving the Holy Spirit became my biggest desire—more than anything else.

I gave it my all.

I had no job. I was looking for a place to live. I had nothing. But I still did everything I could to place my sacrifice on the altar—to be the sacrifice. I really put all my strength into it, though it was hard.

I meditated on the Bible. I prayed day and night—at 3 a.m., 6 a.m.—doing everything I could to seek God. And then, I received the Holy Spirit.

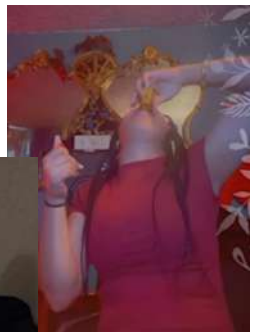
After that, everything changed. I became confident. I started evangelizing and sharing His Word. I feel certain that God is with me. I have peace—peace that stays with me even when things around me aren’t okay. I know I’ll be okay, because He’s taking care of me. He’s with me.

God blessed me with a home. I no longer battle homelessness. And I’ve fully forgiven everyone who ever hurt me, even in the smallest ways. I’m now rebuilding my relationship with my father and my brother. We’re becoming a family again.

And it’s all because of the Holy Spirit. All because of God.

God gave me justice—right there on the altar.

- Ada



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of Justice, I ple who had the Holy also heard the

**God gave me justice—right there on the altar... I have peace—peace that stays with me even when things around me aren’t okay.**





# What's happening at the Universal Church

## After her father's death, loneliness and sadness took over



Some events leave wounds so deep that, if not healed, they can affect a person's entire future. That's exactly what happened to Kamila, a 42-year-old hairstylist. She shares that she was born and

raised in a well-structured family.

"I lived with my parents and three siblings. I had a very happy childhood. During my teenage years, my brother moved out to go to college, and my sisters got married. When I was 16, my parents and I moved to Palmas, the capital city, where my dad started his own business. Everything was going well until one day, at home, my father suddenly couldn't breathe. I held him in my arms, trying to help, but, in a traumatic way, he died right there in my lap from a heart attack," she recalls.

Unable to manage the family business on her own, her mother had to shut it down and move away. Kamila stayed behind with her maternal grandmother. "Suddenly, I had no father, no mother, and none of the support system I grew up with. Sadness and loneliness completely took over. That's when I started going out to parties and doing things I never used to do. I got involved with the wrong crowd, started drinking, partying, and going out every night," she says.

But the fun was just a mask for the pain she felt when the parties ended. She says that ever since her father passed away, her greatest dream was to build a family of her own—but instead, she went through one heartbreak after another.

"At the parties, I laughed and had fun, but the moment I came home and laid my head on the pillow, I cried. That went on for years. The grief never really left me. I kept getting into disappointing relationships and just collecting more emotional pain. In one of those relationships, I even moved to England hoping to finally be happy—but it didn't work out, and once again, my dream of building a family fell apart. Alone and defeated, I came back to my country," she recalls.

### Surrounded by family, yet still unhappy

Kamila eventually realized something important: to be happy in a relationship, you first need

to be happy with yourself. She started dating a mechanic named Joshua, who's now 38. Wanting a family more than anything else, she became pregnant early in the relationship. She confesses, "I didn't want a relationship—I wanted a family. I didn't love my husband, and I was still emotionally wounded from my previous relationship. But because I got pregnant, I went ahead and got married."

Even after starting the family she always dreamed of, she still felt empty. The sadness didn't go away, and the pain of losing her father continued to haunt her, even years later. On top of that, the couple faced serious financial struggles. That's when, in 2010, Kamila and her family accepted an invitation from her mother and stepfather to visit the Universal Church.

### The Campaign of Justice and a new life

After attending her first service, Kamila felt something different—so much so that she decided to return. She and her husband started going to the services regularly, and the teachings they heard there opened a new path for them.

"I learned about the Holy Spirit and how only He could bring true comfort to my soul. I also learned that love is a decision. I made the choice to love and respect my husband. That's when everything started to change. Our marriage was transformed and blessed," she says.

During the Campaign of Justice, Kamila sought what mattered most: the Holy Spirit. She shares the outcome of that decision: "Our financial situation improved, our daughter grew up in the ways of God, and later we were blessed with twin girls. Today, I have a truly happy and blessed family."

She says that nothing compares to the joy of having the Holy Spirit and credits the Altar for everything she's achieved: "The Campaign of Justice challenges my faith and keeps me dependent on God. In this faith, I feel strong, knowing God is with me and that I lack nothing. One of my main requests during the Campaign was to receive the Holy Spirit. He filled that deep emptiness inside me and helped me overcome the pain of loneliness. Now, I only feel the longing. The Holy Spirit is my daily Comforter. He is my strength and my guarantee of eternal life."



## The impossible became possible through faith



I lost my dad when I was three years old. And every father figure who came into my life after that—men I looked up to like a dad—by the time I was 14, they were all gone.

Two of them were killed during the war in my country. So, because of all those losses—because of all that adversity—I made it my purpose to work in something that involved people and made an impact.

Then I got a job with this organization. Things were going well. I was in a leadership position, I had staff on my team, and everything seemed to be moving in the right direction. But then things started to change. I started losing team members. One person left for another organization, and eventually, I was the only one left. I was still the director, but now I had no team. That's when I started applying for new jobs. I didn't get the first one I applied for, but I felt so strongly—deeply convicted—that this was the organization I was meant to work for.

Then I saw another job opening. It was the perfect position. I spent three hours updating and tailoring my résumé. Everything looked great. I said, "God, thank you. This is the job." The next day, I went into my prayer room and prayed, "Holy Spirit, please help me."

We had just done the Campaign for Justice. We had placed our vow on the altar—it was a sacrifice. And I believed, truly believed, that we were going to receive a breakthrough. A few weeks later, the organization got back to me and said they had found someone else for the job.

So right now, on one hand, I'm holding on to faith—because the Bible says, have faith and do not doubt—believing that God is going to answer this prayer. But on the other hand, I'm in the middle of a storm. I'm confused. I'm not seeing the result I was expecting. How do I keep holding on to my faith and still say, "God, I believe You're going to come through for me?"

Then the next day, I went back and looked at the

job description again. And something had completely changed. As I read it again, it was very clear—it looked like they had taken my résumé and created a new job description around it.

It took two years, but eventually, a new hiring manager came in. God created a brand-new position. I had wanted that other job so badly, but God said, "No, no, no—I have something better for you."

And He did.

The position I got ended up being the better one. Once I joined the organization, I saw that all the other jobs I had applied for weren't meant for me. The one that God gave me—that was the one that was truly perfect for me.

At my very first meeting with my supervisor, after we talked, he looked at me and said, "Ibrahim, I'd like to pray for you." I had never had a job where a supervisor said that to me. Never.

Now I feel renewed. I feel refreshed. I feel passionate about the work I'm doing—impacting lives through technology. I told you how, in my last job, I felt like I was losing everything. My team members were gone—it was just me. But now, I'm in a director position in IT. It pays better than the other job I was hoping for. It's also a larger organization.

And spiritually, I've never been stronger. My faith has never been this solid. I feel grounded. My church has emboldened my faith—to fight for what I believe in, to fight for a breakthrough. God gives us the strength to overcome. And once we overcome, the next question becomes: how do we use our story—our experiences—to help others who don't know how to do it on their own?

-Ibrahim



Ibrahim at his new job



**THOSE WHO ARE SAVED,  
HELP SAVE OTHERS**



## A NEW ME

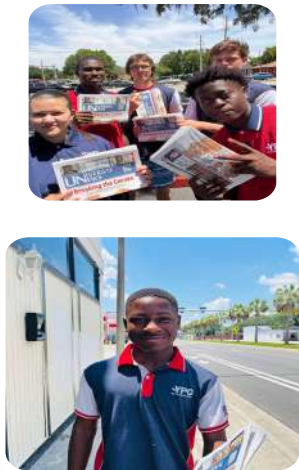


My name is Aylasia.

When I first came to the YPG and the church, I was battling depression, suicidal thoughts, and low self-esteem caused by past trauma. From day one, I was welcomed with open arms—it made me feel seen and less alone, something I hadn't felt in a long time.

What stood out to me was the message not to let others influence you. As youth, it's easy to be pressured into partying or drinking, but we shouldn't let that pull us away from God.

Today, I'm genuinely happy. Before, my happiness was temporary and I'd fall back into depression. Now, I have people I can relate to and talk to. **You're never too young to give your life to God—don't wait. Investing in Him is investing in your future.**



## ON A MISSION TO FIND THE LOST SOUL

At YPG Archangel, we are more than just a group—we are a movement fueled by faith, compassion, and purpose. Our mission is simple but powerful: to help those in need and reach out to the lost. Whether it's offering a listening ear, a word of encouragement, or a helping hand, YPG Archangel is committed to lifting others up and reminding them that they are not alone. We do not wait for the lost to come to us, we go to them.

Because we believe everyone deserves a chance to be found.

Want to get involved or need someone to talk to? Give us a call at 1-888-332-4141, we're here for you and would love to hear from you!





What to do when faced with injustice  
**H**ave you gone through something so painful—so unfair—that you find it hard to move on? Maybe it was a humiliation, betrayal, abandonment, or a heartbreaking loss. You might be asking yourself: “How can I move forward from something so unjust?”

The truth is, the world often does feel unfair. Injustice, corruption, and cruelty seem more visible than ever. But in the middle of it all, there’s one truth we can’t afford to let go of: God is Justice.

Even when evil seems to be spreading and injustice appears to reign, nothing escapes God’s eyes. He is not indifferent. He is not silent. God is just. He sees what you’ve been through—and what you may still be going through—and He invites you to bring your case before Him.

“O Lord, You have seen how I am wronged; Judge my case.” Lamentations 3:59

These were the words of the prophet Jeremiah. He knew what it meant to suffer, and maybe that’s the cry of your heart right now. But the Gospel gives us hope. It shows us that the sick can be healed, the oppressed can be set free, and sins can be forgiven.

In other words: The justice we can’t find in human courts can be found in God’s court.

What makes divine justice so powerful is its accessibility. Unlike human justice, where results can depend on money, influence, or who you know, God’s justice is available to everyone who believes. Faith is the key that gives us access to His courtroom. And that changes everything.

In the world, the outcome might depend on what kind of lawyer you can afford. But in the divine court, the Just Judge sees it all, including your faith.

Anyone can receive this justice. Even those who feel like they’ve lost everything. Even those who are ready to give up. Even those who think there’s no way out.

If you’re thirsty for justice, if the pain hasn’t gone away and nothing in this world has been able to heal it, know that the court of God is open. And all He asks is that you believe. Faith is the only requirement.

Keep reading to discover real stories of people just like you who experienced divine justice in their lives.

Then take your next step: Visit your local Universal Church and present your case to God. Ask for His judgment, His intervention, and His restoration. See the back page for a location near you.



## A mother, a daughter, and two sentences: depression and cancer.

**E**lis: I raised Luisa in the faith. She was always by my side—my companion in everything. But when she hit her teenage years, she started to change. Unlike most teenagers who go out with friends, Luisa didn’t go anywhere. Instead, she slipped into a deep depression.

Luisa: I remember switching day for night. I went days without seeing my own family. I stayed up all night and slept all day just so I wouldn’t have to see or talk to anyone. At one point, I thought, ‘There’s no way out. I have to end my life.’ It was the middle of the night. I remember grabbing some pills, removing them one by one from their packets, mixing them in a cup, and drinking the whole thing like a cocktail. I passed out and woke up, I think, 12 hours later.”

Elis: “But as if the depression wasn’t enough, Luisa began showing physical symptoms too. One day, we noticed swelling on her neck. It looked strange. I told her, ‘We’re going to the ER.’ In the doctor’s office, Luisa sat facing the physician while I stood nearby. The doctor looked at me and simply said, ‘She can’t go home. She has to be admitted right now.’

The lump in her neck was malignant. It was cancer—a type called Hodgkin’s lymphoma. The doctor made it sound like there was no hope, as if her entire body was already affected. And judging by the scans, it wasn’t just one lump. There were several.

I left the hospital feeling like the ground had vanished beneath my feet. But when I got home, something rose up in me. A fire. The same faith I had always taught my children. A faith that fights. A faith that sacrifices.

I told God, ‘I don’t know how You’re going to do it, or when, but I know



the result of my mom’s sacrifice. I had spent my life fighting depression and thoughts of death. Now I had cancer, and chemo was killing the cancer but also taking a piece of me with it. And yet, something new was being born in me.”

Elis: “I knew then—God was speaking to her.

She stayed in the hospital for a month. One day, alone in her room, Luisa made a decision.

You will. Because if I put my valuables in the hands of doctors, they won’t give me any guarantees. But my faith tells me You will give me victory. And not just healing—I want my daughter’s salvation too.”

I went to church and laid my sacrifice on the altar. From that moment, I left confident. But the battle wasn’t over. In the beginning, the treatments weren’t so harsh. But after the first rounds, the doctors saw that the cancer wasn’t responding. They had to move to a more aggressive treatment.”

Luisa: “My hair started falling out; I got weak. I used to be so full of energy, but chemo made me nauseous and exhausted. Still, even though my body was dying, something inside me was coming alive. Now I know—that was

Luisa: “That day, I decided once and for all to give my life to Jesus. And when I was discharged, that’s the first thing I did. I surrendered. I gave Him everything I had left. And right around that time, the Campaign of Justice began. I had nothing to lose. I threw myself into it. Just like my mom had revolted against our situation, now it was my turn. I told God, ‘This cancer is serious, but there’s a worse cancer—the one in my soul. I’ve been fighting it in silence for years. I don’t just want physical healing. I want full healing. I want the Holy Spirit.’”

Elis: “Even though she was weak, she created her sacrifice from scratch.”

Luisa: “More than the material part



or the physical effort—I gave myself. On the day of my vow, I was in so much pain I could barely walk up the altar. But I wasn't going to stop. I was already there."

Elis: "When she made that effort, when she climbed the altar in that state, something amazing happened. As soon as she stepped down, the pain disappeared. Completely. That's when a new fight began."

Luisa: "This time, I didn't just want the angel. My whole life, the angel had been

my mom—always beside me, interceding, guiding me. But now I wanted the Holy Spirit. I wanted Him to guide me directly." Then one day I was alone in my room—the same room that had felt like a prison cell for my soul. I had spent so many days locked away in that place. But now, I started reading the Bible and praying like I never had before. I was honest like I'd never been before. And in that moment, I just knew. I had certainty. It's hard to explain, but it was like being embraced. God didn't say anything. He just held me. I felt joy like never before. I looked

in the mirror—bald, swollen, pale—and I finally saw myself as beautiful. It was indescribable.

The first person I hugged was my mom. I opened my bedroom door, she looked at me, and I didn't even have to say anything. She just said, 'You received the Holy Spirit, didn't you?' And you might be wondering—what about the cancer? The cancer was healed.

God completed the healing in me—from the inside out. First He healed my soul, which was the most urgent part. Then He healed my body. Today, cancer no longer

defines me. Depression no longer defines me either."

Elis: "Luisa is completely healed. She did every test the doctors asked for, repeated all the scans. And that challenge I faced on the altar for her—it paid off. With one act of surrender, she hit two targets: physical and spiritual healing. Today, we have a brand-new Luisa. God cancelled those two sentences, and made justice for us."

## Domestic violence followed me my whole life, but I overcame injustice.

I wanted to die, but I didn't have the courage to take my own life. So I decided to give my soul to the devil. I'm the oldest of eleven siblings. I grew up in a completely broken home. My mother was regularly beaten by my father. Whenever she confronted him about his affairs, he'd respond with violence. Eventually, we started attending a spiritist center because my grandmother was considered a spiritual leader there. I was really close to her, and from a very young age, she started giving me spiritual baths—white rose baths, red rose baths, etc.

Then one day, my father left and never came back. We never heard from him again. After that, my mother—who was already aggressive—became even worse. Her anger tripled.

By the time I was 11, I started having constant suicidal thoughts. I believed I didn't deserve to live. I just wanted to die. I wanted to leave home because my mother beat me severely—so badly that one time I even passed out. I had to start treatment at the hospital, where they ran tests, including brain scans with electrodes, to try to understand why I had fainted. They didn't find anything. But my mother and I both knew the truth: it was from the beatings. She used to smash our heads against the wall. I passed out from the violence, plain and simple.

At 13, I started dating just to find a way out of the house. At 15, I got married. My ex-husband told me, "Look, I don't love you, but if you want to get married, I'll take you out of this house so you stop getting beaten." I said yes. But the abuse I suffered at home tripled in my marriage. I spent years being physically abused and constantly cheated on. He would bring women home, dragging them inside the house in front of me. On weekends, he'd leave on Thursday and only return on Tuesday,

and I wouldn't hear from him at all. I had a huge emptiness inside me. I tried to fill that void by working. My job had company parties, and at those events, I'd drink heavily. I also started hooking up with some of the guys there, thinking that if someone truly liked me, I could leave my husband and finally be happy. That cycle lasted 20 years.

At one point, I even thought about drinking caustic soda with Coca-Cola. I actually bought it. But then I heard a story on the radio about a woman who had done that and had been in a coma for days. I didn't want to die like that—I wanted it to be quick. I also had these constant voices in my head, telling me to throw myself in front of a truck because it would be faster.

Eventually, I separated from my husband. It was incredibly hard—I already had two daughters. Around that time, I got involved with my current husband, but he was still in the early stages of a divorce. In the small town where we lived, people called me every name you can imagine: prostitute, homewrecker, slut. The humiliation was intense.

While all this was happening, people from a local church started knocking on my gate to evangelize. I'd peek and recognize them through the window, but I was too ashamed to open the door. One day, they left a little church paper stuck in the gate. Every day as I walked home—unemployed and defeated—I saw that paper, but I couldn't bring myself to pick it up. I also didn't have the courage to throw it away. It just sat there.

One night, overwhelmed by pain, I laid on my bed crying and said, "Devil, I can't bring myself to commit suicide, but I give you my soul. You can come and get it." I cried myself to sleep.

At midnight, I felt something enter the room. My bathroom was right in front of my bed, and I saw the clock hit midnight. That's when I felt it pressing on my chest, trying to choke me. I couldn't move or



speak—I had no strength left. But I looked up and thought, "My God, give me one more chance."

In that very moment, it disappeared. I didn't sleep the rest of the night, terrified that it would come back. As soon as the sun rose, I went outside and picked up that little church paper. It was dry and brittle from being out there so long. On the front cover was Bishop Macedo, and inside were testimonies of people who had been set free. I looked at it and said, "God, if You're real, I want this freedom too. I want to stop suffering."

I decided to go to the church and told the pastor everything I was going through. He asked, "Do you really want help, ma'am?" I said yes. "Then my wife and I will help you," he said. "Your past is going to be thrown into the sea of forgetfulness. Do you believe that?" I said, "I do."

For the next three months, I experienced intense spiritual manifestations. My current husband started attending with me—it wasn't easy. I became pregnant again but lost the baby. That's when I made a vow to God: "Please, change my story. Change my heart. Change my life. I don't want to keep living like this." I began seeking God with all my heart and soul. After I was delivered spiritually, I wanted the Holy Spirit. Then the Campaign of Justice came, and I told God, "If I've already given everything back then, now I want to give You my everything—because I finally understand that I need the Holy Spirit."

Before, when I heard sermons about deliverance, I understood. But whenever they talked about the Holy Spirit, my mind would get confused. My ears would clog up. I couldn't focus. But during that campaign, I finally got it. I knew I needed Him. I made my vow. I said, "God, I give You my everything for Your everything." I started preparing for the campaign seriously. I fasted. I evangelized. I shared Jesus with everyone I could. I said, "God, this campaign can't be just about material things—it has to be spiritual too. Because without You, I can't make it."

The day I went up to the altar to present my vow, I came down a completely different person. The pastor asked the assistants to bless us. When one of them placed his hand on my head, something incredible happened. All the pain, emptiness, and bitterness left me. For the first time in my life—at over 35 years old—I felt real peace. Not temporary relief, but deep, lasting peace. It was something I had never experienced before.

Today, I go to sleep and wake up knowing I have a Father. I still face struggles, but He never leaves me.

My mind has opened up. I was able to go back to school at 40, and I graduated. Around the same time, I got married to my current husband in church. My life completely turned around. People look at me now and say I'm not the same person I once was.

Sometimes I don't even feel worthy of it all. Today, I have a real marriage. A real family. I've built a professional life. I'm a criminal defense lawyer now. And I use my profession to talk about Jesus to inmates. I tell them there's still a chance for them. I see their souls the way God sees them—precious and redeemable. Everything I've achieved materially is nothing compared to the presence of God inside me. I used to be the least educated person in my family, but that doesn't matter. Nothing compares to knowing I have a Father in heaven.

If I lost everything in this world, I would still be okay—as long as I don't lose Jesus. That's all I need.

—Alice





Every day the UBB has a new episode for you.

There is something for everyone! Do you need guidance about faith, family, sexual orientation, curses, dealing with loss, addictions etc.?

“¿Hablas español? En la aplicación de Pando puedes encontrar segmentos de la UBB ¡también en español!”



Have you ever wondered if you'll be forgiven?

How many times have you sat in your cell and asked yourself, “Will I ever be forgiven?”

Or maybe that thought doesn't even cross your mind because deep down, you feel like you're not worthy of forgiveness.

Just like we all have basic needs—eating, sleeping, staying hydrated—there's another essential need we often overlook: forgiveness.



It takes real strength to forgive. And I know—it's one of the hardest things a person can do.

But let me tell you something from the heart: you are strong enough to do it. Take that step. Forgive the ones who hurt you.

Pray for them. And if possible, reach out to them—even if it's just to say, “I forgive you,” or “I'm sorry.” And most importantly, forgive yourself.

I know some of you reading this are carrying deep regrets. But regret won't bring the peace your soul is looking for.

If you're wondering whether God has forgiven you—He has, if you've asked Him. And if you haven't asked yet, then do it. Speak to Him sincerely, and you will receive His forgiveness.

Don't tell yourself you're worse than anyone else. In God's eyes, every one of us walking this earth is a sinner in need of His grace. God isn't expecting perfection from you.

What He's looking for is a sincere heart that wants to change.

“For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Matthew 6:14-15



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## WHY HAVEN'T YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT?

**T**he Holy Spirit wants to dwell in anyone who truly desires to have Him. But what does it take?

Many people attend church for years, yet their lives remain unchanged. They're present, but they haven't received the Holy Spirit. Why does this happen—especially when the one most interested in us being baptized with the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit Himself? He's the one who most desires for us to become one with Him.

Some stories—many of them surprising—prove that there's no set age, time, place, or pattern for the Holy Spirit to fill someone who wants to be His witness. These testimonies show that there are no limits to how He can manifest in your life.

### Total Surrender

The key is complete surrender. Scripture says in John 7:38, "Whoever believes in Me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." The problem for many is that they don't obey God's Word.

That's why they remain empty, dry, and thirsty.

It's simple: you can't pour out what you don't have. And you don't have it because you haven't obeyed.

Once he understood this, Erico Vieira, a 28-year-old former inmate and roofer, seized the opportunity when he heard the Word of God in prison through the Universal Beyond Bars (UBB).

"I heard the pastor say that the Holy Spirit is the only thing in the world that can sustain a person," Erico recalls. "So I gave up drugs, toxic friendships, meaningless talk—and I invited Him to live in me."

**Erico spent seven years behind bars.** But the real prison began long before that—he lived in chaos: dependent on tranquilizers and antidepressants.

"I saw my dad beat my mom. They both drank heavily. Eventually, she kicked him out, and we were left in poverty," he says. At age 13, Erico was introduced to drugs and dealing right at school. From there, he started managing a drug spot just 200 meters away, got into stealing, and was arrested in 2009.



### Transformation

Once Erico realized that the Spirit of God wanted him—despite his painful past and uncertain future—he made a decision to change. Everything he read in the Bible about the Holy Spirit pointed to one thing: surrender. And he was willing to do whatever it took to receive Him.

**He gave up his addictions and got baptized in water. During hard times, he literally clung to the Word of God. He would hold his Bible, rest his head on it, and beg God to speak to him.**

One day, walking through the prison yard, Erico began talking to God. In prayer, he said, "I just want You in my life. You can even leave me here, in prison, but I want You." He knew the Holy

Spirit was the only one who could help him. And it happened—in the most unlikely place.



"The Holy Spirit came, and it was unforgettable," Erico says. "That shows how much He cares about His people and how valuable we are to Him. To have the Holy Spirit is to have God Himself living inside me."

He remained in prison for another two years after that encounter, but he was no longer the same. "I realized that God loves souls, and ever since, I've had this huge desire to talk about Jesus," he shares. Erico has now been free for one year and nine months. Today, he is married to Eliane, and they've been building a new life together for over a year.



*I'm counting down the days...It feels like forever. I want to go home." You don't understand.*

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# Does God exist?

The injustice that was in Victoria's life led to ask that question from a young age. Here's the answer she eventually found.

**W**hen she was still very young, businesswoman Victoria Moura—now 54—left her home to live with and work for a cousin. But when she lost that job, she ran into serious financial trouble and ended up staying in a low-income community. That difficult time led to depression, and she began to question everything, as she recalls: “I started wondering if God really existed and why He allowed so much suffering. I became angry with Him.”

## Searching for answers

Looking for meaning, Victoria turned to various religions and philosophies, trying to fill the emptiness inside. But nothing worked—she just ended up feeling more lost and in pain. “To fill the void in me, I started going to parties, but that only made things worse. I developed panic attacks and became even more depressed. The breaking point was when I got married, thinking it would be a way to escape all my inner turmoil,” she says.

But the relationship turned out to be toxic. She was cheated on and abused by her husband. What she had hoped would be a dream turned into an even worse nightmare.

Her emotional, mental, and spiritual health hit rock bottom.

She explains: “My suffering doubled. I just wanted peace, but my mind was constantly bombarded with negative thoughts. I never tried to take my life, but I definitely thought about it.”

## Finding a place of peace

One day, a friend invited her to visit The Universal Church. At first, she was hesitant, but eventually decided to go—and that decision changed everything: “From the first time I went, I noticed something different compared to other places I had been. I felt peace.”

That experience sparked a new faith in Victoria. She began attending services regularly and applying the teachings of the Bible to her life. She let go of her pain and bitterness, but still felt like something was missing. She didn't stop searching until she

found what she was looking for.

“God always made me feel like I was special and chosen by Him. And then, in one of the services, He gave me the greatest gift of all: the Holy Spirit—the peace I had always been searching for,” she shares.

## A new life

Today, Victoria says she's living a completely different life. Though she's now in a happy marriage and financially stable, she says her true joy comes from something deeper:

“The Holy Spirit who lives in me—that's my greatest treasure.”



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