

ALABASTER JAR

Prayer Diary

2025

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

1 John 5:14





Prayer

This Prayer Diary follows the story of Maria, a fictional woman in prostitution whose struggles and experiences are all too real.

The story of every woman is unique. However, Maria's story illustrates some common moments of pain, victory, connection, crisis, and healing that we encounter regularly as we come alongside women trapped in prostitution.

We hope Maria's story can offer eye-opening context to the reality that women face in prostitution and to our front-line work supporting and empowering them. We hope it also empowers you to pray powerful prayers directly into the situations of the women and the efforts of our team.

We hope that you will be blessed as you pray. We know that we will be blessed by your prayers.

WHO WE ARE

Alabaster Jar has been reaching women trapped in Berlin's sex industry with practical help and the love of Jesus Christ for over 18 years. Since September 2021 Alabaster Jar is a project of Samaritan's Purse e.V. As we enter 2025, we would like to invite you to partner with us in prayer.

Every year, our team reaches hundreds of women in Berlin's red-light district. Many are victims of trafficking, brought from many different countries and forced to work on the streets of Berlin. Many are trapped in prostitution due to poverty, debt, drug addiction, abusive relationships, or homelessness. But even more debilitating are the spiritual chains that hold so many captive in a life of oppression.

We believe that through God's power these women can break out of the destructive cycles of exploitation and hopelessness. In the same way, it is God's power that equips our team to respond effectively to this crisis and see women's lives redeemed and transformed. For us, prayer is the key. This is why this prayer diary will guide you in prayer for the women of Berlin's sex industry and for the team at *Alabaster Jar*.

At the end of the prayer diary, you will find various opportunities to stay in touch and support our work with women who are trapped in Berlin's sex industry. You will also find information regarding the worldwide crisis relief work of Samaritan's Purse e.V.

We hope the pages of this book guide you well as you pray.

May your heart be encouraged as you intercede.

Thank you so much for your support.

Thank you for praying with us.

January

It is Maria's first night in Berlin. The winter streets are freezing. Cars keep slowing down next to her and voices speak words she can't understand. She can't speak German; she only knows how to say her price. Somehow she needs to make 500 Euros by the end of the night: 100 Euros for her hotel room, 200 Euros to send home to her family, and 200 Euros for her pimp. The pressure to make money almost supersedes the anxiety of climbing into a stranger's car. The *Alabaster Jar* frontline team approaches Maria and offers her a coffee.

It is not easy to communicate, but thanks to a translator app and the welcome pack in her own language, Maria understands: For some reason, these people are offering support and they want nothing in return.



Lord, we pray for the countless women and girls like Maria who find themselves alone in Berlin, vulnerable and pressured to risk their own safety to make fast money. We pray for those very first encounters with the *Alabaster Jar* team, those first seeds in the ground. May they be seeds of healing and love.





February

Maria sits in her hotel room later that night, trying not to panic. This is the third night she hasn't made her quota. She feels exhausted and has been experiencing incredible tooth pain for days. She knows she needs to see a doctor, but who? How would she receive treatment without insurance? How would she communicate?

Suddenly, she remembers the faces of the *Alabaster Jar* team and the words they had written to her on a translator app just that night: "We are here to help if you need it. Just send us a text." She pulls out her phone and starts typing. Deletes. Types again. She hesitates. Just the idea of asking for help feels embarrassing. In the end, she falls asleep on the hotel bed, the unfinished text message glowing on her phone.



Lord, we pray for the hundreds of women who have received the *Alabaster Jar* outreach number and offer of support. We pray You would break through their isolation and give them courage to reach out and ask for help.

We pray for that first contact. We pray for that first seed to take root.

March

Today, Maria is meeting the *Alabaster Jar* team for coffee. She's nervous. It has been six months since their first meeting, and Maria has grown to look forward to their visits on Wednesday nights. The coffee, the trying to communicate, the laughter — it always makes her feel more like a real person.

Today, she is meeting the team in daylight for the first time. Maria feels a bit awkward at first. They purchase coffee and sit in the corner of a quiet little café.

With the help of a translator app, Maria shares the traumatizing details of her work on the street. The team listens, asks questions, and prays for her. Then they say something that Maria has never heard before: "If you want to leave prostitution, we can help you."



Lord, we pray for all the women who desperately need a friend, a listening ear, and a voice of support. We pray for that first conversation with the *Alabaster Jar* team. We pray that it would be a space of safety and love where women and girls can truly hear the healing message that help is available.





April

It's a Thursday afternoon. The *Alabaster Jar* team is serving a warm meal at their café outreach when Maria comes bursting through the café door. She just had a fight with her pimp and is terrified. She hurries into the office with an *Alabaster Jar* team member and announces in her best German: "I want to leave prostitution now, can you help me?" After many hours of phone calls and referrals, the *Alabaster Jar* team is able to organize a room at a safe house in southern Germany. They are able to buy Maria some essential items and accompany her to the train station, which will take her to a station where the safe house staff members are waiting to greet her.

The Alabaster Jar team rejoices.



Lord, we pray for the women and girls who are so close to making that sudden exit. Give them the courage to take that step. We pray that the Alabaster Jar team would respond with great wisdom and care to each woman's crisis situation, and that You would provide everything needed for her escape to freedom.

May

Just a few weeks after her sudden exit out of prostitution, Maria is back in the familiar dark chill of the Berlin streets. Even worse, she runs into her *Alabaster Jar* friends and sees the immediate disappointment in their eyes. They ask what happened, and she plays it off. "It's fine, I'm fine," she laughs, accepting a cup of coffee. "I just need the money."

She does need the money, but she isn't fine. She dreamed of these streets every night at the safe house, as if they were calling her back. And now here she is, feeling like a failure. To her relief, the *Alabaster Jar* team is not angry but hugs her and says, "Whatever you need, we are here for you."



Lord, we pray for the women and girls who relapse. We pray for the ones who escape the industry and are pulled back in. We pray that the spiritual bonds that tie them to the streets would be broken. We pray that shame would be broken. We pray that they would know it is never too late for a fresh start.





June

Time passes, and Maria is doing worse than ever.

She suffers regular abuse at the hands of her pimps and her clients. She has started taking hard drugs to cope with the everyday horror of life and to escape the feeling of hopelessness when she thinks about what she has become. One afternoon, she stops by the

Alabaster Jar team's café outreach but doesn't want to talk. She eats, avoids conversation, and nods off. As she is leaving the café, a pink valentine is put into her hands, which reads: "You are loved." For a moment, the drug-induced numbness fades and tears fill her eyes.



Lord, we pray for the women like Maria who have reached rock bottom. We pray for the ones who are abused, and for the ones who abuse themselves. We pray for the hopeless ones. Lord, would You intervene and rescue them in a mighty way? Would you use the Alabaster Jar team to speak truth into their lives!

July

It has been months since the last time Maria saw the *Alabaster Jar* team. She has since been arrested on drug charges and will serve a six-month sentence in a local women's prison. She has the team's number memorized and knows she could call, but feels ashamed and wonders if perhaps they've forgotten her by now. What Maria doesn't know is that the *Alabaster Jar* team looks for her every week at outreach and prays for her by name regularly.



Lord, we pray for the women who end up in prison. We pray that You would use even the most isolating of places to encounter them and transform their lives. We pray that You would encourage and comfort the *Alabaster Jar* team when women seemingly disappear and contact is lost. Give them the strength to surrender, to hope, and to keep praying.





August

Maria is out of prison and back on the street. But when the *Alabaster Jar* team sees her for the first time, they can immediately notice the difference. She is no longer with her pimp, who is serving a long sentence in prison. She is off drugs and working with a social worker. Her face seems clear for the first time. Shortly after their reunion, Maria meets the *Alabaster Jar* team for dinner. She tells them about the struggles of her last six months and how Jesus encountered her in the midst of them. She met Jesus in a dream during the first month of her prison sentence, and He set her free from hopelessness. She shares with the team: "Now I know there is a purpose for my life."



Lord, we pray for the women and girls whose hearts are open to You. We pray that You would encounter them in supernatural ways. We pray that You would remove hopelessness from their lives and give them a revelation about Your purpose for their lives.

Do what no person can do.

September

For the first time in her life, Maria is being discipled. She meets with the *Alabaster Jar* team members to read the Bible and ask questions. She has visited a church service and experienced God's presence. She is even considering joining a Faith Basics Course at that same church. Meanwhile, she still has one foot in the sex industry. She works nights on the street and sends the money home to her family. She knows in her heart she needs to exit the industry but has not yet made the decision.



Lord, we pray for women like Maria who are just beginning to step into a new life with You. We pray that You would encourage them in their faith, convict their hearts, and give them the strength and courage to make that difficult decision to leave prostitution. We pray that You grant the Alabaster Jar team wisdom as they support women who are still working in the sex industry on their journey to becoming Your followers.





October

She's made up her mind: Maria is leaving prostitution for good. Now her weeks are filled with appointments at the job center and with social workers.

The *Alabaster Jar* team meets regularly with her and accompanies her to appointments when possible.

Still, she feels insecure and exhausted. Every morning getting out of bed is a challenge.

After a few days, she has her first job interview at a cleaning company. She is both excited and plagued with self-doubt. Could this be her big chance?

What if her German is not good enough?

What if she isn't stable enough for a normal job?



Lord, we pray for the women who are taking active steps to exit the sex industry.

Give them grace for the appointments, the paperwork, and the job interviews.

Give them courage and remind them of their identity in You. Lord, empower the Alabaster Jar team and their partners to walk alongside these women with wisdom and love.

November

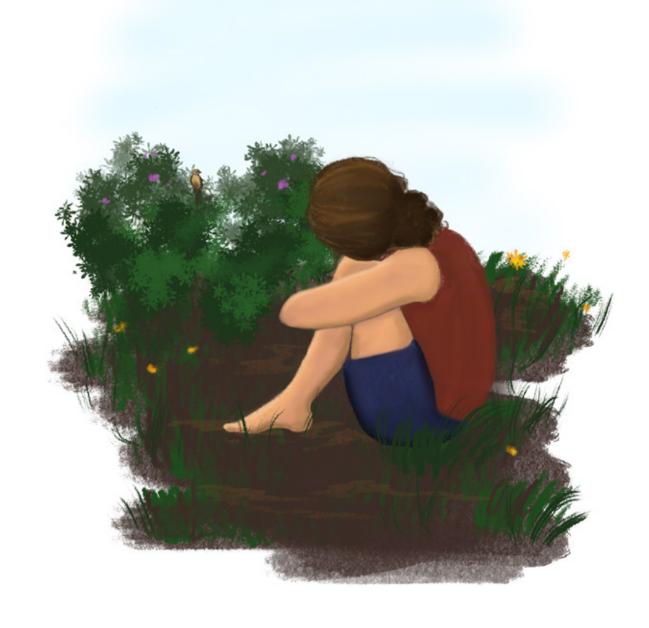
It's a normal office day at *Alabaster Jar* when Maria video calls the team. There is pure joy in her voice as she cries, "I got the job!" There is much rejoicing that day. Just one week later, Maria finds out that she has been given a rental contract for the low-income apartment she applied for.

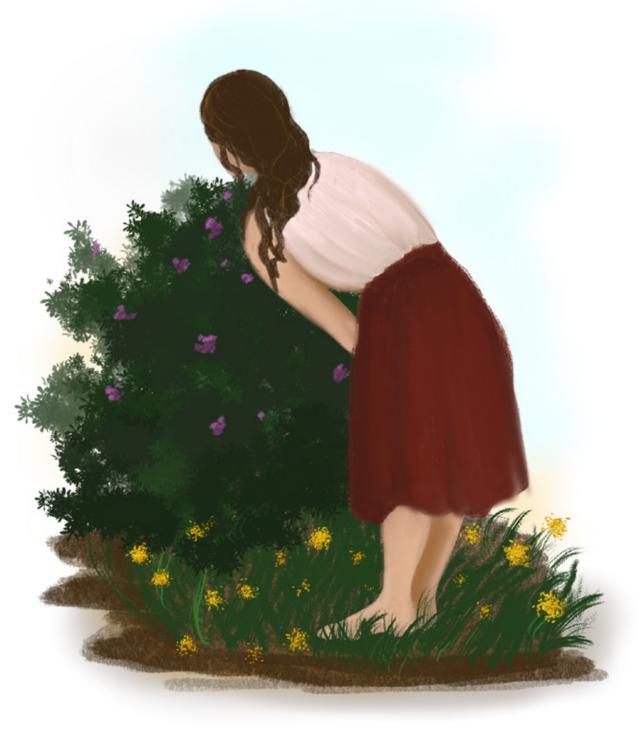
The final step is to leave the streets of Berlin's redlight district for the last time and change her phone number. Maria feels anxious, remembering how she took this step before and it didn't stick. But this time is different.



Lord, we pray for the final exit.

We pray for every woman who is taking that decisive step out of the sex industry and into a new life. We pray for protection and freedom for her heart. Give her the grace to let go of the old and move boldly into the new.





December

It's a special night. The *Alabaster Jar* team is meeting Maria for dinner to celebrate a full year at her new job. Maria has been working so hard, she was even given a promotion. They celebrate at a nearby restaurant and spend the evening talking, eating, and laughing together. For the first year of freedom, Maria refused to even talk about her time in prostitution. Now, she is starting to open up again. She is reflecting on her experiences. With the help of *Alabaster Jar*, she has even met with a therapist. She is pursuing restoration and letting the Lord heal her heart.



Lord, we pray for women and girls who have exited prostitution and are in recovery.

We know the emotional and psychological exit is just as important as the physical one, and we pray that Your presence and love would be palpable at every step. Lord, would You come with Your healing power: Renew every heart that is broken and make all things new!

Your Involvement

WITH ALABASTER JAR



Here is how you can give your time, skills, and talents to impact lives in Berlin's red-light district through Christ's love

PRAY

Your prayers change lives and are the foundation of our work. We are so grateful for everyone who supports our ministry through prayer. You are invited to join us for prayer at our online *Alabaster Jar* Prayer Room. If interested, please contact us at:

alabasterjar@die-samariter.org

VOLUNTEER

We invite you to visit an outreach to find out if volunteering in this area of work is right for you. In addition to frontline outreach, you can support our ministry by offering skills and experience in areas such as cooking and baking, social media, administration, or social work. Contact us at alabasterjar@die-samariter.org, and we will get back to you.

SUPPORT US -

PRACTICALLY and FINANCIALLY

To help the women in a practical way, we need resources, which you can help us provide by donating food, hygiene items, and clothes.

We also invite you to partner with us financially. You can find our bank details on the last page.

STAY IN CONTACT

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram at @alabasterjarberlin and share our content. By doing so, you'll raise awareness about this important issue and play a crucial role in the fight against sexual exploitation.

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter to stay informed about our work:

die-samariter.org/newsletter-aj

ABOUT SAMARITAN'S PURSE

We at Samaritan's Purse e.V. help people around the world in difficult life situations. Through *Alabaster Jar*, we care for women trapped in prostitution in Berlin.

Our *International Programs* provide long-term and sustainable help to those in need, including medical care, nutrition, WASH (water, sanitation, hygiene), and education. Through "Weihnachten im Schuhkarton", (internationally known as "Operation Christmas Child"), children receive a shoebox gift as a representation of God's love and a way to share the Gospel with them. With *International Crisis Response* we quickly respond and professionally support victims of disasters.

In everything we do, we want to show God's love in a tangible way. We tell people about Jesus Christ and invite them to find new hope in Him.

Learn more – get active

Our ministry thrives on the commitment of thousands of volunteers, donors, and prayer partners. Therefore, we invite you to learn more about Samaritan's Purse e.V. and get involved! Please consider sponsoring one of our programs.

For more information please visit: die-samariter.org

Subscribe to our newsletter to receive updates about our ministry: **die-samariter.org/newsletter** (only in German)

OUR MISSION

Samaritan's Purse e.V. serves in the name of Jesus Christ. Like the Good Samaritan, we bring people closer to the unconditional and unlimited love of God. We support victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, hunger, and religious persecution regardless of their worldview, religious beliefs, ethnicity, gender, or other personality traits.

CONTACT DONATION ACCOUNT

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Pax-Bank eG

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SCAN AND DONATE

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Illustration: Hope Grajcar







Check out our blog: die-samariter.org/blog



