

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING 2023

INTERNATIONAL
SOCIAL JUSTICE
COMMISSION



I HAVE HEARD THEIR CRIES



GLOBAL PRAYER GUIDE



PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

those still trapped

God of justice, hope, and love
Father of the fatherless, defender of the oppressed
Our hope for years to come.
We believe that it is for freedom that you have set us free,
to serve one another through love
that we may live in abundance and goodness.

Dear God,
In this moment, we stand with our sisters and brothers,
men and women, boys and girls
who are victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.
We know you feel their hurt, fear, excruciating pain, humiliation
and even all they might be going through which we might not be aware of.

Lord, we pray that you rescue them from the hands of their oppressors,
release them from the clutch of the wicked
and by your grace restore their lives and bring them into light.
Help them heal, grant them justice
and may their traffickers repent and come to know you more.

Fill us with your sacred passion and love
that we may continue to fight for justice.
Use us as your tool, to help end this human tragedy.
And may your love, embrace and presence never depart from these victims.
Hear our cry and prayer O Heavenly Father.

Amen!

Joy Ime-Sunday, *Nigeria Territory*

PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS...BY SURVIVORS

those freed from trafficking

*Malaika Oringo, Global Specialist for Survivor Engagement and Inclusion shares:
'To all the lost survivors after bondage, don't lose hope; Jesus is faithful to his promises.
He heard my cry as a survivor, and because of this, please know you are never alone.
Here's our prayer for you.'*

We hear their cries! Survivors of human trafficking are united in prayers for other survivors. We pray for hope and restoration. We hear and feel the cries of survivors; we understand how many have endured much trauma even after slavery.

Lord, hear their cries for inner peace; we come before you as broken-hearted people. We cry out for healing for other survivors dealing with wounds that are too pervasive to heal on their own. Heal the survivor from the ache in the memories of flashbacks.

Trustworthy and compassionate God, hear their cries in the prayer to restore these wounded souls' ability to trust that people can be good, loving and kind. We pray that you restore relationships that can help the survivor reconnect with friends and family, replace anxiety and depression with hope and deem survivors worthy.

Malaika Oringo, *The Netherlands, Czech Republic and Slovakia Territory*

'To all the lost survivors after bondage, **don't lose hope**; Jesus is faithful to his promises'

PRAYER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Dear God of Justice:

We hear the cries of people trapped in incidences of modern slavery and exploitation.

We are overwhelmed, dismayed and desperate for justice for the defenceless, the exploited and the forgotten.

God of light, we ask for your immediate justice for all those trapped in modern slavery and exploitation.

We desire justice. We pray for reconciliation for the wrongs the perpetrators have done and may you pierce their hearts with your righteous illumination and help them to humbly repent and turn from their wicked ways.

We pray that perpetrators will turn themselves to the task of helping to prevent others from participating in the victimisation of humankind.

We so pray, amen!

Emmanuel Wataka, *Uganda Territory*

PRAYER FOR THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Dear Lord, Almighty God, God of freedom:

There are so many people around us unseen and unheard in their desperate situations.

'Since I turned 13, every day I am forced into prostitution and raped...I can't take it anymore...who can help me?'

We hear your cry!

'I was sent abroad by my parents to earn money, but these people don't pay me and treat me bad. I'm working hard 16 hours per day. I can't take it anymore... who can help me?'

We hear your cry!

'I've run away from my husband and could escape domestic violence. Now I'm trying to find any kind of work to take care of my children...but the job this guy is offering me seems to be unsafe. I don't have money, I'm scared, I don't know what to do...who can help me?'

We hear your cry!

O Lord, you demand justice for your children who have been wronged.

Help us as a global church to work together and to hear their cry as you do. Open our eyes, help us to be strong, stand up and fight for those who are scared, powerless and voiceless. This is your fight, your victory, your glory!

In Jesus' name, amen!

Galina Ketroy, *Eastern Europe Territory*

PRAYER FOR THE SALVATION ARMY'S GLOBAL MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS

Father God, just as with the Israelites thousands of years ago, we pray with confidence at this moment knowing you will hear our cries, especially for justice for those wronged by sexual exploitation and forced labour.

For the oppressed and destitute experiencing darkness, we ask that you shine as the light of hope and peace. Please break the chains of those who bind others in slavery and poverty and that all of God's children would experience the blessings of freedom and the opportunity to live a valued and healthy life.

Lord, we ask that you give strength to those courageous souls who work with victims and survivors of sexual exploitation and forced labour. Encourage them in their spirit, heart and body, and provide these workers with the resources they need to support those inflicted by the injustices of the world.

We thank you Lord, that you are the God who hears us, El Roi. May our hearts join in one accord as we lift our voices praying for freedom and justice for all.

Lord, thank you for hearing our cries.

Amen!

Commissioner Shelley Hill, *Americas and Caribbean Zone*

ALLY COMMITMENT PRAYER

I hear the cries of daughters and sons beyond the dark, trafficked and enslaved for the profit of others.

I stand with you.

I see the next generation of vulnerable children targeted for the benefit of worldly pleasures.

I will fight for you.

I stand with frontline practitioners, advocating for the freedom of victims of oppression and walking alongside survivors.

I acknowledge you.

I lament for the ways I have knowingly and unknowingly contributed to modern slavery and human trafficking through my ignorance, my privilege and my spending power.

I refuse to be blind.

May my prayers and those of your people turn into action as we fight against injustice together.

We are not free until we all experience light.

Jean Nangwala, Zambia Territory

'May my prayers and those of your people turn into action as we **fight against injustice** together'