



BEYOND THE DARK

Annual Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking Sunday Service Planning Ideas September 26, 2021

THEME: Beyond the Dark



SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 Peter 2:9-10

*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you **out of darkness into his wonderful light**. Once you were not a people, **but now you are the people of God**; once you had not received mercy, **but now you have received mercy**.*



WHY DO WE HAVE THIS SPECIAL SUNDAY? WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Today, there are more than 40 million men, women and children worldwide impacted by human trafficking. Among these, more than 15 million are in forced marriages, more than 24 million are in forced labor situations and about 30 per cent of those exploited are children. As followers of Jesus, God has called us to speak out against injustice and work towards justice for those experiencing oppression. The prayers and cries of individuals who are oppressed and exploited are heartfelt, and God hears them. God cares about those who are oppressed and exploited, and we should too. Please join Salvationists and friends around the world by corporately crying out for justice and freedom today, on Sunday, September 26, 2021.



PRAYER TIME

Show this beautiful & powerful video "Do I Matter?" Coming soon!

Trafficking victims are God's precious children. "You are precious in my eyes," God says, "and I love you" (Isaiah 43:4a).



SONG IDEAS (WITH KEY LINES)

- **My Chains are Gone** (I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me)
- **Here I am to Worship** (Light of the world you stepped down into darkness)
- **Light into Darkness** (Be a light in the darkness, be a heart to the heartless)
- **Way Maker** (Light in the darkness, my God that is who You are)
- **In Christ Alone** (There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain; Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!)
- **Amazing Grace** (I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see)
- **Be Thou My Vision** (High King of heaven, my victory won. May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun)
- **They need you, They need me, They need Christ** (There are people hurting in the world out there)
- **People Need the Lord** (We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right)



KID'S STORY

Good Samaritan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osfQg4yKtq8>



For More Information & Resources for this Special Day... go to <https://sajustice.us/fight-for-freedom/annual-day-of-prayer-for-ht-victims/> or contact your Territorial Anti-Trafficking Representative.



SA JUSTICE
on earth, as it is in heaven



THE MESSAGE

Luke 10:25-37 – The Parable of the Good Samaritan

When asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus said that the greatest commandment is to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' and the second to 'Love your neighbor as yourself' (Luke 10:27). Jesus was then immediately asked who counts as a neighbor and he responded with a parable. The person who posed the challenge was a lawyer who specialized in understanding and interpreting the Law of Moses, the accepted foundation of social and economic life. Being a neighbor for him meant belonging to one's tribe and one's race with a responsibility to look after them. Jesus' story takes place on the road between Jerusalem in the mountains and the city of Jericho, about 18 miles away. The ground between the cities was rough, with few inhabitants. It was frequented by thieves. Different people are mentioned in the story. The person who is mugged would be understood to be a Jew. The priest and the Levite are Jewish religious leaders who have a good knowledge of God's laws. The final person in the story is a Samaritan, a person from the province of Samaria. The relationship between the Jews and Samaritans was marked by strong cultural prejudice, but the Samaritan's actions inspire us to care for those in need, whoever they might be. He offered practical help which involved accepting responsibility that the person was provided with the care and the resources to put him on his feet again; personal help, encouragement, friendship and, dare we say it, love. We the church of Jesus Christ are to be a light shining in the darkness of this world. We are to show forth the excellencies of God. We are to declare the love of God. We are to show the transforming power of God. A person does not need to live controlled by the powers of darkness. There is deliverance and help from God.

Reflective questions:

1. In the command 'love your neighbor as yourself', where do you draw the line? Who am I meant to love?
2. Can you think of people in your country and community who are considered as 'outsiders'?
3. How would you describe the care that the Samaritan gave the injured man? Do you think it was adequate?
4. What does this passage teach us about the care you should give to others today?
5. The relevance of the parable today is evident. As you encounter people who have been robbed and battered, potential victims of human trafficking, what can you do?



CORPORATE ALLY PRAYER (Email video by August 31st)

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

ALLY COMMITMENT PRAYER MOVEMENT CAMPAIGN

We invite you join our global prayer movement celebrating this year's Annual Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1 Commit** to becoming an ally and fight for a world without modern slavery and human trafficking.
Part of being an "ally" is being dedicated to prayer, leveraging your privilege and power to lift up voices from the margins and live a life that embodies holistic justice.
- 2 Take** a video of yourself saying the Ally Commitment Prayer below in your preferred language.
Feel free to also share with your friends and invite them to join in.
- 3 Upload** your Ally Commitment Prayer video to YouTube.
Be sure to title your video "2021 Beyond The Dark Ally Prayer Commitment" with your name and where you are from.
- 4 Email** the link to your video to lha-mshtr@salvationarmy.org along with your name and territory by August 31st.
- 5 Continue** praying, learning and taking action beyond the Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking.

We'll be premiering video submissions on the Annual Day of Prayer on Sunday, September 26 on our social media channels.

[/salvationarmyisjc](https://www.facebook.com/salvationarmyisjc)
[@salvationarmyisjc](https://www.instagram.com/salvationarmyisjc)
[@salvationarmyisjc](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsALvArmyISJC)
[salvationarmy.org/isjc](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsALvArmyISJC)
 International Social Justice Commission

BEYOND THE DARK

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

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.

Written by Jean Nangwala, Zambia

For more information and resources for 2021 Day of Prayer, please visit:
<https://www.salvationarmy.org/isjc/beyond-the-dark>

BEYOND THE DARK

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, we pray for victims of human trafficking ... for those who have been dehumanized and held captive by the greed and violence of a broken world. For girls and boys, women, and men who are bought and sold and abused by those who have forgotten the eternal value of a human soul. May they rediscover their worth in You. And may we affirm their worth as individuals who are made in Your image. Lord, reveal the way our choices may play a part in keeping others captive by creating demand for more slaves, and give us courage to make different choices. Give us eyes to see injustice and exploitation and give us the courage to speak out against evil. Use us to bring light into the darkened corners of this world, that they may not remain dark forever. May Your light expose the evil deeds of the captors, and may Your love create a change of heart within those who are perpetrators of human trafficking. Use us to loosen the chains of injustice and let the oppressed go free. We pray for an end to the evil that is human trafficking, and we pray that the victims of trafficking may find restoration and healing in You. Amen.