

Take one grain of rice and hold it in your hand. Imagine that grain is a person with a name, a family and a story.

- Pray for our eyes to be opened to the different forms of human trafficking and modern slavery.
- Pray that governments, organizations, communities and individuals will not be silent.

A Prayer for Understanding

Human trafficking, also known as "modern slavery," is the illegal trade in human beings through recruitment or abduction by means of force, fraud, or coercion for the purposes of forced labor, debt bondage or sexual exploitation.

The size and magnitude of this operation is significant and yet it is hidden from mainstream society. This begs the question: how can something so immense continue to operate undetected?

DID YOU KNOW?

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% of those exploited are children.



A Prayer for People in Transit

Human trafficking and modern slavery affects every country across the world.

Each year approximately 600,000 - 800,000 men, women and children are trafficked across international borders.

Locate a country on the world map and pray for those impacted by human trafficking in that country.
Write a prayer on a sticky note and place it on the country you prayed for.

- Pray for safety and freedom for all victims of human trafficking.
- Pray that they will find the resources they need to ask for help, particularly those who are in countries where they cannot speak the language.
- Pray for the families that are separated from their loved ones.

THREE TYPES OF COUNTRIES:

- <u>Source countries:</u> countries where people originate, usually their home country.
- <u>Transit countries</u>: the countries that people pass through on their way to the destination country.
- <u>Destination countries</u>: countries where people are exploited.



Take a bandaid as a symbol of healing. Follow the prayer points below. After you finish praying, place the bandaid on the black poster.

- Pray that survivors of trafficking would receive new life through the love of Jesus.
- Pray for a supernatural restoration of all that was lost during their time of abuse.
- Pray for the survivors' inner healing, emotional, physical, psychological and spiritual healing.

A Prayer for Healing

Sexual exploitation has devastating effects on a person's physical, emotional psychological and spiritual well-being. Those who have been prostituted have experienced inconceivable abuses that can ravage a whole person. When a person has been rescued, they carry a well of excruciating experiences that can severely impair their ability to lead a fulfilling life.

The good news is that there is hope.
There is value in every person that is indestructible. No matter how devalued a person has been, God's value of a person never diminishes. God valued His people so much that He sent His Son Jesus as a sacrifice on the cross. Through this precious sacrifice, healing and new life is available to all who believe.



Our God will som earth and right every

Take a pen and write
"END IT" on a link in the
paper chain. As you do,
follow the prayer
prompts below:

- Pray that the chains and corruption would cease.
- Pray for the individuals on the front lines fighting for this injustice.
- Pray that justice would be done on behalf of those who are oppressed through human trafficking and modern slavery.

A Prayer for Justice Our God will someday return to this

Our God will someday return to this earth and right every wrong. He will not forget the terrible offences that have been, and are being, committed against those who are exploited in this industry. He sees the corruption and the injustice that allows this horrific crime to flourish, and He will take vengeance. We are called to be the mediators of God's justice on earth.



REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS

- In the command 'love your neighbor as yourself', where do you draw the line? Who am I meant to love?
- Can you think of people in your community who are considered 'outsiders'?
- How would you describe the care that the Samaritan gave the injured man? Was it adequate?
- What does this passage teach us about the care you would give to others today?
- 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?

Devotional

When asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus said it 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. 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. 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.

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