



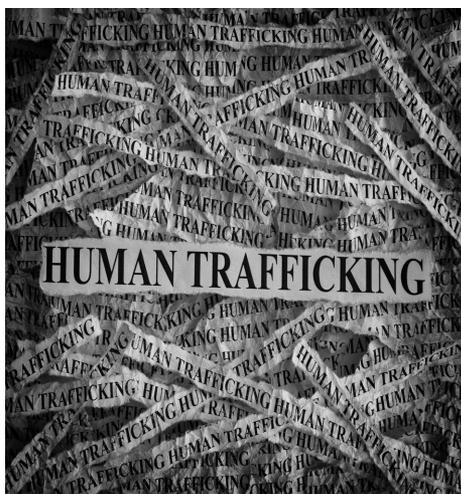
*Exploring the
Impact of Human
Trafficking*

Prayer Guide
January 2022

Faith In Action

January Human Trafficking Awareness Prayer Guide

Praying at times can be very difficult when faced with injustice. At times, we may feel as though our efforts are insignificant when facing something as dark, painful and destructive as that of commercial sex trafficking in our community.



But God in His wisdom, is not surprised that we are facing such challenges. He reminds through scripture many times that prayer is an avenue that is one of the greatest gifts and

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tools provided to His children. (James 5:13-16) He also has granted to us the power of His Spirit, which will serve as an intercessor, when words seem to fail us (Romans 8:26).

The intent of the prayer guide is to draw us into the Word as a body of believers. It serves as a reminder of God's love and care for all of His children regardless of what their current circumstance may be, and to act as a guide to direct our prayers as we become more

intentional and engaged in the broken world around us. The scripture that has been chosen is in no way an exhaustive list of scripture from God's word, but our hope is that it will act as a starting point for a bold appeal on behalf of every man, woman and child who has suffered through the harmful acts of sexual exploitation and slavery.

Exploring the Impact of Human Trafficking

Join us for more opportunities to learn about the impact human trafficking is having in our community and beyond...

Community Cafés

January 13, 2021 , 6– 8 pm
Snyder Memorial Baptist Church
701 Westmont Drive

January 25, 2021, 6-8 pm
Methodist University Alumni Dining Room
5400 Ramsey Street

SPEAKER SERIES

January 20, 2021, 6:30 pm
Dr. Dean Duncan
Research Professor at University of
North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Demand Reduction

January 31, 2021, 6:30 pm
Courtney Dunkerton, North Carolina
Coalition Against Sexual Assault

What you Need to Know about Human Trafficking in North Carolina

*The Speaker Series will be held on the campus of Methodist University in the Physician Assistant Auditorium
5400 Ramsey Street*

January Prayer Guide

1. **God give us wisdom, the capacity to begin to understand what Human Trafficking is.**

We must commit to learning as much as we can about *Human Trafficking*. We must commit to facilitate education for ourselves and the community. We can no longer ignore this injustice.

Proverbs 2:6 – “For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.”

2. **God, open our eyes to the signs of Human Trafficking.**

As we go about our daily lives we may be exposed to *Human Trafficking* and not even recognize what is in front of our eyes. It's so easy to ignore the young person who appears frightened of their companion or the very frail and haggard bus boy cowering in the corner. We're in a hurry and have no time to look closer.

Proverbs 15:3--“The eyes of the Lord are on every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.”

3. **Lord, show us the way so that we do not inadvertently contribute to Human Trafficking.**

We have long been taught to mind our own business. There is an old saying, “Don't stick your nose where it doesn't belong.” Today, we accept that *Human Trafficking* is all of our business. Recognizing *Human Trafficking*, in all its forms, will empower us to change the lives of victims and add to the number of survivors.

Luke 23:34 – “Then Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.’”

4. **Lord, help us understand the consequences of Human trafficking.**

Too many people lose their lives due to *Human Trafficking*. The poor, unclaimed John and Jane Does are buried in Potter's Fields, with no one to mourn them. Yet it seems that the Traffickers make millions and live large.

Matthew 18:6--“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believes in me to fall away, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck to be drowned in the depths of the sea.”

5. Lord, broaden our understanding of where Human Trafficking takes place.

No, not just Thailand and Cambodia. Yes, right here in Fayetteville, NC right under our noses—it could be the nail salon, the motels and hotels that dot our intersections, major sports venues, your neighbor’s house, and, yes, on military bases.

Psalm 82: 8--“Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.”

6. Lord, clear our hearts of any judgments we have about the victims and survivors of Human Trafficking.

Think: “there but for the grace of God go I.” Yes, all decisions have consequences, but no victim chooses this path. May we help them claim God’s promises of redemption as they become a survivor. God is not finished with any of us yet.

Matthew 7:1 – “Do not judge, or you too will be judged.”

7. Lord, open our eyes and help us see the survivors of Human Trafficking.

One may say that it is human nature to see past that which can be disturbing to us. The only way a human trafficking survivor can continue to survive is if they can experience our unconditional love and support. Reach out a helping hand, help save a life.

Psalm 82:3--“Give justice to the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

8. God, wrap your arms around the victimized children.

Sadly, we often only pay lip service to the assertion that our children are our future. We are often the perpetrators of violence and neglect against our children, sometimes without even realizing what we are doing. Help us be an advocate for all of your children.

Matthew 19:14 – “Let the little children come to me, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”



9. God, open our hearts so we can extend love and acceptance to those who have suffered at the hands of Human Traffickers.

The greatest gift we can give is unconditional love. Sharing our love with all we meet is what God wants of us. They need to know we love them—not for what they can do for us, but because God considered them worthy of being born and so should we.

John 15:12 – “This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you.”

10. God, watch over and protect the sex and labor-trafficked victims and survivors.

Victims of *sex and labor trafficking* are forced to work all day, every day, without adequate rest, nutrition, or health care. That is not God’s plan for any of us.

Matthew 11:28 – “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

11. Father God, intervene for the children who have been placed into the foster care system and more susceptible to being trafficked.

Sadly, it is easy to seduce children in foster care, especially when past abuse is there, when you offer them a better life, material possessions, and the promise of love... something often missing in their young lives. May God send people into their environment to rescue them and tell them of His promise of everlasting love.

Psalms 10:17-18 – “You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, so that mere earthly mortals will never again strike terror.”

12. Holy Spirit, shine the light so we recognize the plight of trafficked laborers.

Human Trafficking is a form of human slavery that is not based on race. Modern day slavery is a very real phenomenon. Help us to advocate for Fair Trade markets and goods.

1 Timothy 1:8-- “We know these laws are good when they are used as God intended. They bring to light those that contradict moral teachings.”

13. God, convict those who patronize trafficking victims so they will see the serious harm they are doing.

While it is easy to look down on people who exploit other people, it is not our place to judge. We must take responsibility to pray that these habits will be broken and that these patrons will turn away from seeing these victims as objects to be purchased or used for their personal pleasure.

Isaiah 61:8--“For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrong doing.”

14. Lord, change the hearts and minds of the customers and profiteers to turn away from this illegal activity.

Demand drives *Human trafficking*. The “johns” (people, businesses, systems, etc.) perpetuate modern-day slavery. We pray that they will be convicted of this sin and held accountable. We ask that righteous justice will prevail throughout all of our court systems.

2 Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.”

15. Holy Father, turn those that traffic others away from a life of crime because they, too, are your children.

It is too easy to condemn, cry out with righteous indignation. The challenge comes in praying for the souls of the wrongdoers, that these chains of addiction will be broken. We must pray for their deliverance as part of our fight against *Human Trafficking*.

Acts 26:18--“Open their eyes so they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God.”

16. God, open our eyes to the plight of the marginalized children who often seem to be thrown away.

God created all of us in his image. We are all God’s children. We pray that this will not just be empty platitudes we say, but words that guide our actions. May we teach our children and future generations that to whom much is given, much is required.

Genesis 1:27 “...So God created human beings in his own image.”

17. Lord, guard and protect all of our children from Human Traffickers.

May we choose our caregivers diligently and help our children make wise choices in friends. Help us to cling to Your truth and not be easily swayed by proponents of “relative truth.” Just as Jesus prayed for His disciples, we too must intercede for our children.

John 17:15 – “I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.”

18. Lord, give us the courage and foresight to speak out against Human Trafficking.

When we see something, we must say something. Let us lend our voices to the truth.

Proverbs 31:8 -- “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.”

19. Lord, look after that runaway who has been caught up in the promises made by a human trafficker.

Our children are our greatest asset. It is our calling to protect them from the evils of this world, our mission to raise the next generation.

1 John 2:16--“For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world that will fade away.”

20. God, keep away those that would harm that naïve girl who does not know she might be the next victim to be trafficked.

The most sheltered and protected children can still be “chosen.” They can be groomed, seduced, lured into a life of *Human Trafficking* before they even know what is happening to them, often by those closest to them or someone they look up to and respect.

Ephesians 5:11—“Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”

21. Lord, enlighten our communities to be places of refuge and compassion.

The challenge may come after we realize that *Human Trafficking* is a part of our culture and environment. Let us not just be shocked, stunned, and astonished. Let us actively seek to put an end to this evil.

Psalm 103:13 – “As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.”

22. God, have mercy on the desperately poor mother or father who sells her child to traffickers.

Very few of us have known the abject poverty suffered by families living on the street, scavenging for food, partially clothed. “What, you will educate my child, give me food? Yes, take her,” the mother may hear and respond out of desperation.

Proverbs 14:31-- “Whoever oppresses the poor insults His maker; but he who is generous to the needy honors Him.”

23. Lord, look down upon that desperate man, promised a job, and later trafficked. Liberate him from his suffering.

Too many people, desperate for work to support their families, eagerly answer a job posting, only to find themselves the victims of Human Trafficking, modern-day slavery.

Luke 4:18--“The Lord has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives....to set at liberty those who are oppressed.”

24. Lord, give us clarity to see the world as it is and notice that person being trafficked.

You’re out to dinner in a fine restaurant. Your server, the busboy, even the wait staff—all could be victims of Human Trafficking. Victims might be your favorite nail salon tech or your neighbor’s house cleaner, or that frightened young girl with the older man, clearly controlling her.

Proverbs 17:24—“Sensible people keep their eyes glued on wisdom, but a fool’s eyes wander to the ends of the earth.”

25. God, burden us to take the time to learn more about Human Trafficking and seek to put an end to it.

Take advantage of the many webinars, podcasts, community conversations, to acquire the facts about Human Trafficking.

Isaiah 1:17 – “learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.”

26. God, give us the courage to say something when we see something.

Armed with the knowledge we have gained from all the available resources; we are ready to recognize and expose Human Trafficking whenever and wherever we see it.

I Chronicles 22:13 – “Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid or dismayed.”

27. Lord, guide us to reach out our hands and hearts to show love for Human Trafficking survivors.

But for the love and support of people who choose to live the word of God, survivors could not survive. Leaving the life takes courage, grit, and an array of supportive services. Are you prepared to step up?

Matthew 25:40 – “Truly, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.”

28. Lord, give us the wisdom to support leaders and agencies that work for Human Trafficking survivors.

Yes, there are many opportunities to contribute money toward resources and services for survivors of *Human Trafficking*. We can lobby our legislators to pass legislation supporting victims and survivors. Help us to be good stewards of the resources we have.

Proverbs 31:9-- “Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

29. Lord, stir us up to become a permanent part of the solution.

Each one of us has the capacity to make a difference. If we go the extra mile to learn, recognize, educate, say something when we see something, then we have moved a step closer to a permanent solution.

Psalm 72:12-15--“He will rescue the poor when they cry to him; he will help the oppressed, who have no one to defend them. He feels pity for the weak and the needy, and he will rescue them. He will redeem them from oppression and violence, for their lives are precious to him.”

30. God, help us stand ready to step out against Human Trafficking.

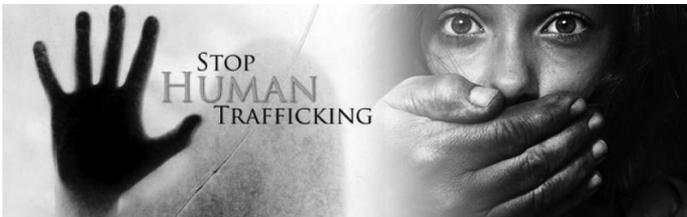
We are all soldiers in God’s army. We have to prepare to fight the battles He lays before us. Let us gather the weapons we need—the facts, strategies, courage, and prayer partners to fight this battle.

Ephesians 6:11 – “Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”

31. Lord, bring about an end to Human Trafficking.

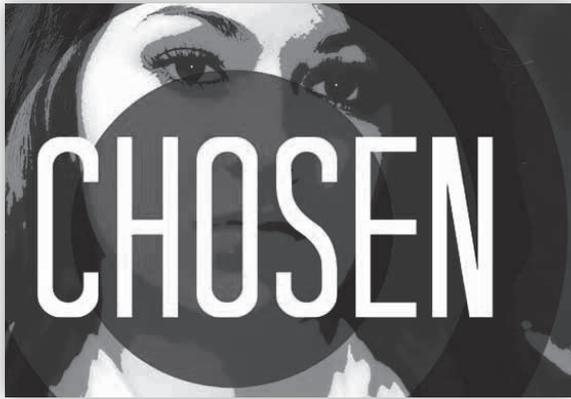
We pray that God will intervene in all areas of our world—the writing and enforcement of laws, an end to the demand, changed hearts that are filled with love and integrity, raised advocacy voices of hope, a paradigm shift—someday this horror will end!

Amos 5:24 – “But let justice roll down like waters, And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”



The Child Advocacy Center offers the documentary *Chosen — The True Story of America's Trafficked Teens*.

American's young people are engaged in a battle that few are prepared for. Equip your students, parents and average concerned adults on what to look for. Training includes two true stories of teens who faced the real-life encounters with trafficking.



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