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30-DAY

# PRAYER GUIDE

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**NEWLY  
UPDATED**

**FAITH IN ACTION**



## 30-DAY PRAYER GUIDE

It can be difficult at times to know how to pray when faced with a glaring injustice. There are moments we may not know what to say; we may feel our prayers are insignificant in the face of something as dark and destructive as the commercialized sex market.

However, God, in His wisdom, knew we would face these challenges and continually reminds us through Scripture that prayer is one of the greatest gifts and tools He has provided to His children (James 5:13-16). We've also been granted the power of His Spirit, who serves as an intercessor when words seem to fail us (Romans 8:26).

The purpose of this 30-Day Prayer Guide is to draw us into the Word as a body of believers, to remind us of God's love and care for all His children regardless of their current circumstances, and to help direct our prayers as we become more engaged in the broken world around us. Scripture references are by no means exhaustive, but we hope to inspire you to make a bold appeal to God on behalf of every man, woman, and child who has suffered harm through sexual exploitation.

This booklet provides excerpts to include in daily devotionals to share with your congregation during anti-trafficking month, or during the month leading up to the National Day of Prayer. Pray through it with your life team or small group, or share it in an adult education class at your church. However you choose to use these pages, our hope is that your heart will be strengthened to pray in new ways. Shared Hope's goal is to provide a joint effort for faith communities to battle sex trafficking through prayer. Thank you for being a part of it.



## + DAY 1

## YOU HAVE THE POWER TO DO SOMETHING

*While [Jesus] was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume...She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head. Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume?"... "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me...She did what she could..."*  
— Mark 14:3–8 (NIV)

### Thoughts:

Jesus said Mary did a beautiful thing by doing what she could. Mary did one simple action, something she could do immediately with what she had to make a difference.

Sometimes the issue of sex trafficking is overwhelming, and it is hard to know where to begin. We need to strengthen laws, spread awareness, increase shelters, raise funds, train professionals — the list goes on. But if we each do what we can, together we will make a huge impact.

### Prayer focus:

- Wisdom to know how to become involved in combatting trafficking.
- To be alert and responsive when God shows you how to engage.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God, your Word promises that you knew me before I was born (Jeremiah 1:1), and I trust you to help me fulfill your plans for me. I will look for ways to help others, but trust that you will lead my steps each day as I walk with you to make the greatest impact I can with the life you have given me. Give me the strength to continually use my talents and not bury them, and to hear your voice and take action where I can.

### Take Action:

Check out Shared Hope's resources at [sharedhope.org/resources](https://sharedhope.org/resources) to reinforce your efforts to fight sex trafficking. These tools are easily accessible and can be shared with your networks.

## + DAY 2

### I WILL TAKE ACTION TODAY

The dark and destructive commercialized sex market has thrived through time. Find comfort in knowing that you are not in this battle alone and that God in His wisdom knew we would face these challenges. Let us pray in faith!

#### Scripture:

*Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think.*

—Romans 12:2 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

Could Paul have anticipated what “the pattern of this world” would come to? Today, some video games allow players to have first-person sex with and then murder “prostitutes.” Because of websites that make buying sex with a child as easy as ordering a pizza, the world is a dangerous place for our children and youth. Other “patterns of this world” — like watching pornography, going with the guys to the strip club, or laughing at jokes that stigmatize prostituted women — contribute to cultural tolerance for the commercialization and exploitation of men, women, boys, and girls.

#### Prayer focus:

- Ask God to help you be aware of words and actions that will honor and support those who have been victimized through sexual exploitation.
- Ask for boldness to influence and encourage friends and family to avoid destructive and harmful behavior.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, hear my heart's cry as I bring before you all the evils that I have become aware of. I admit I feel powerless, but I know that I can change the way I think and speak. Help me to always show love and respect for every individual and give me the words to speak to those around me to help them also honor others. Help me embrace your heart for all people and exhibit it through my words and actions.

#### Take Action:

Visit the **Take Action** page at [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction) and learn more about how we are leading the movement to end child sex trafficking in the U.S.

## + DAY 3

## INVADING THE DARKNESS WORLDWIDE

There is power in numbers, and there is infinite power in prayer. We have seen firsthand in our work that prayer has the power to heal and restore! Thank you for being part of this army, praying to end child and youth sex trafficking.

### Scripture:

*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*

—Micah 6:8 (NIV)

### Thoughts:

We are reminded that justice, mercy, and humility before God are all part of an integrated response. Neither justice alone nor mercy alone is the response God requires. Furthermore, neither is it acceptable to resist an attitude of humble submission to His leading.

### Prayer focus:

- Having the proper measure of justice and mercy.
- A humble heart before God.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Dear God, when I see blatant evil, I am tempted to rant and rave and want to destroy those who are hurting others. Help me understand that buyers and traffickers are broken people too, in need of your mercy. Help me be patient as you extend mercy to them; help me trust that you will judge rightly. Help me not be angry in my own pride but to humbly trust you are working.

### Take Action:

Please continue to offer up prayers for our **partner programs** around the world by visiting [sharedhope.org/restore](https://sharedhope.org/restore). Together, we are making a difference!

## + DAY 4

### PRAY FOR MEN TO ENGAGE AND DEFEND

Our goal is to provide you with the framework to understand God's heart on the issue and know how to pray. We appreciate your commitment to be a part of it!

#### Scripture:

*Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.*  
—Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)

#### Thoughts:

On Father's Day 2006, Vern Smith, husband of Shared Hope's President and Founder, Linda Smith, created Defenders USA. Born out of the belief that men are naturally wired to defend, this group of men takes a pledge to oppose the commercial sex industry in all its forms and defend their families and friends against it.

#### Prayer focus:

- That men everywhere would honor their calling as defenders of women and children through words and actions.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God in heaven, in your infinite wisdom you designed men with the instinct to defend the vulnerable. I pray today that men everywhere will feel that noble call on their lives and will respond as you show each one how he can act or speak to defend his family, his community, and his culture.

#### Take Action:

Visit the **Take Action** page at [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction) and learn more about how we are leading the movement to end child sex trafficking in the U.S. We are challenging men to sign the Defenders Pledge and invite friends to join them!

## + DAY 5

## PRAYING FOR VICTIMS TO COME TO SAFETY

Just as in any exercise that requires discipline to “build muscle,” daily prayer teaches us to be strong and confident in our requests to Almighty God. It teaches us consistency, so our thoughts immediately turn to prayer when we encounter a battle waging against us. Be strong and courageous. God is with us!

### Scripture:

*But I will call on God, and the Lord will rescue me. Morning, noon, and night I cry out in my distress, and the Lord hears my voice. He ransoms me and keeps me safe from the battle waged against me, though many still oppose me.*

—Psalm 55:16–18 (NLT)

### Thoughts:

David wrote this Psalm at a time when his safety was threatened. He was no stranger to severe danger, and neither are trafficked victims. Research indicates that trafficking victims often face post-traumatic stress disorder because of the intense, prolonged period of danger and fear they endure during their trafficking experience. Danger eagerly awaits them at the hands of a violent pimp and aggressive buyers; even encountering a law enforcement officer can elicit fear for victims.

### Prayer focus:

- The protection and safety of sex trafficking victims.
- The safety of those who seek to rescue victims of trafficking.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord God, your Word tells us that the enemy seeks to devour the innocent (1 Peter 5:8). I pray now for your hand to hold back the devourer from his pursuit of more victims. Equip believers in the appropriate professions to support survivors on their journey of restoration.

### Take Action:

Want to give a gift to support Shared Hope's restoration programs? Your donation will help prevent the conditions that foster sex trafficking and equip us to restore and empower survivors. Find out more about our impact goals at [sharedhope.org/donate](https://sharedhope.org/donate).

## + DAY 6

## PRAYERS OF ADVOCACY

Our hearts break for those helpless against this evil, vulnerable because of their youth and circumstances, and unable to see a way out. Reading Linda Smith's book *Renting Lacy* is difficult, but it can start your journey to be a tool in God's hands. Thank you for joining this battle.

### Scripture:

*Rescue those who are unjustly sentenced to die; save them as they stagger to their death. Don't excuse yourself by saying, "Look, we didn't know." For God understands all hearts, and he sees you. He who guards your soul knows you knew. He will repay all people as their actions deserve.*

—Proverbs 24:11–12 (NLT)

### Thoughts:

These are sobering words! We are not accountable for what we do not know, but we are held responsible once we do know. Keep in mind that there is no directive to solve the problem, but there is clear direction to do something to assist the oppressed once we become aware. That "something" is a very personal matter between you and God. One response that is always correct is to pray.

### Prayer focus:

- Now that I know, what would God have me do in obedience to this direction?

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Oh, God, I can't un-know this! I want to stop it but feel so helpless in the face of such an enormous evil. I feel that anything I might give is insignificant. Clear my head of these untrue thoughts. Jesus honored the widow who gave her last penny because she gave all she could; help me understand what you want of my talent, time, or treasure and how to take action, and I will do it.

### Take Action:

Pray for God to show you what you can do to make a difference. Explore the **Advocacy Action Center** at [sharedhope.org/actioncenter](https://sharedhope.org/actioncenter) and enter your ZIP code to take action on a campaign impacting your state.

## + DAY 7

### PRAY FOR THE PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN

When we realize that this is an age-old battle, we also become aware that God is very engaged in the fight. From the beginning of time, He intended everyone to be equal in His sight when He wrote in the very first chapter of Genesis (verses 26–27), “Let us make mankind in our image...Male and female, He created them.” All are to be respected as being in His image. God’s heart that no one be misused or abused in any way is clearly shown throughout Scripture. We are privileged to be fighting by His side.

#### Scripture:

*Guard me, O Lord, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from violent men, who have planned to trip up my feet. The arrogant have hidden a trap for me, and with cords they have spread a net; beside the way they have set snares for me.*

—Psalm 140:4–5 (ESV)

#### Thoughts:

Children are the targets of traffickers who use deliberate deceptions designed to entrap them. Unfortunately, many youth naively step into the trap and, much too late, realize they did not choose but were chosen. Helpless to resist the violence and abuse, the only way to survive is to submit. This is why Shared Hope produced our awareness resource for young people — *Chosen* — to keep more from being caught in the snare.

#### Prayer focus:

- The protection of vulnerable young people from the lies and deceptions of traffickers.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Heavenly Father, you are the good, good Father. You have warned us that Satan is the evil father of lies. Lies are his native language, and he whispers those lies through sex traffickers who prey on the vulnerability of immature, confused, and needy adolescents. He promises heaven and then delivers them into a hell on earth. I pray that you, Lord, will protect them and open their eyes to deception before the trap is sprung.

#### Take Action:

Want to give a gift to support Shared Hope’s awareness programs? Your generosity will help us educate children and youth on how to stay safe and how to defend their friends. Give today at [sharedhope.org/donate/](https://sharedhope.org/donate/) to support our prevention education programs (details at [sharedhope.org/prevent/](https://sharedhope.org/prevent/)).

## + DAY 8

### PRAYERS AND OUTREACH FOR SURVIVOR STRENGTH

God, in His wisdom, knew we would face these challenges. Shared Hope encourages you to connect with your faith community. You can educate, empower, and equip them to understand how to end child sex trafficking. Kids are safer because Shared Hope works to develop tools to help communities recognize the signs of trafficking.

#### Scripture:

*...Know the danger I'm in, the traps hidden in my path. Look right, look left — there's not a soul who cares what happens! I'm up against it, with no exit — bereft, left alone. I cry out, God, call out: 'You're my last chance, my only hope for life!' Oh listen, please listen; I've never been this low. Rescue me from those who are hunting me down; I'm no match for them. Get me out of this dungeon so I can thank you in public.*  
—Psalm 142:3–7 (MSG)

#### Thoughts:

For those who fall into a sex trafficker's trap, David's words of desperation resonate deeply. They see no refuge and feel no one cares. In what practical ways can I “find” them and let them know I care? “The goal of faithfulness is not that we will do work for God, but that He will be free to do His work through us” (Oswald Chambers). Each of us is given the talent to share. Perhaps you can volunteer with a local organization to lend business expertise or organizational skills; many organizations offer training in how to become a mentor for a survivor. Care and consistency are key!

#### Prayer focus:

- To have the privilege of connecting with someone who is crying out to the Lord.
- To be the hands and feet and hearts sent by God to bring the truth of deliverance to them and to represent His compassion for them.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, I want to be an instrument of the peace and hope that only you can bring. I ask that anything I am enabled to do on behalf of someone trapped in trafficking not be motivated by my “goodness” or reflective of my effort. Please let any contact I have with a victim or survivor reflect that you are working through me. Purify my motives and help me show your compassion, your love, your grace.

#### Take Action:

Check out Shared Hope's Faith in Action resources at [sharedhope.org/faithinaction](https://sharedhope.org/faithinaction) to help you connect your faith community with tools to educate, empower, and equip them to understand how to end child sex trafficking. The tools include scriptural guides for men, women, and youth for 4-week discussion groups as well as tools to educate your community at large.

## + DAY 9

### GOD WILL GIVE DIRECTION WHEN WE UNITE IN PRAYER

Given the limits of human understanding, it is usually impossible to see how circumstances, personal or global, are under God's sovereign control. Still, the faithful person, called by God, will trustingly join with Him in the outworking of His good plan.

#### Scripture:

*So we are convinced that every detail of our lives is continually woven together for good, for we are his lovers who have been called to fulfill his designed purpose.*

—Romans 8:28 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

While this verse can be taken as very personal and applied to each individual who loves God and is called according to His purpose, it might also be taken to mean that He works things together for good when a group of believers are seeking to do good according to His sovereign plan.

#### Prayer focus:

- Faithfulness and trust that I do not need to understand His plan for the particular person or situation in order to be effectively used in that plan.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God, I admit that I do not get it. I do not understand how the injustices and wickedness of this earthly experience can work for good for individuals trapped in such evil situations. Yet, I know the testimonies of many survivors of sex trafficking do actually attest to this mystery of restoration. Help me see things from your perspective, not mine.

#### Take Action:

Encourage officials in your state to fight child sex trafficking! Learn more about the Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking: *State Action. National Change.* at [act.sharedhope.org/actioncenter](http://act.sharedhope.org/actioncenter).

## + DAY 10

### WISDOM FOR LAWMAKERS

Focused prayer reminds us of our finite strength and abilities to do anything that will have lasting effects. But God, in His infinite power, has promised to give us what we need and to never look at us with criticism or ridicule for our weaknesses.

#### Scripture:

*If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him.*  
—James 1:5 (AMPC)

#### Thoughts:

Strong anti-trafficking response is dependent, in part, on the wisdom of leaders and lawmakers. The laws and policies they create directly affect survivors' access to provision and justice. State and federal laws also dictate sentencing for traffickers and buyers and no longer arrest the victim for the crime perpetrated against them. Our leaders must be willing to address these issues if we want to make progress in the movement to end trafficking.

#### Prayer focus:

- Wisdom for leaders in creating or amending laws to provide sufficient penalties for traffickers and buyers and maximizing access to justice for victims.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, I ask for wisdom for our lawmakers. First, that they become fully aware of the reality of sex trafficking and how insidiously it occurs, and then that they will be bold enough to act on that knowledge. I further ask that if it is your will for me to personally occupy one of the seats in a decision-maker office, no matter how large or small, that you will make that apparent to me and give me your wisdom.

#### Take Action:

As you pray for our lawmakers to have the strength and wisdom they need to pass meaningful legislation that will serve and protect victims, you can be confident that you are sharing the Lord's heart with those prayers. Visit [sharedhope.org/resources](https://www.sharedhope.org/resources) to find out more about how our policy team assists legislators in writing effective bills.

## + DAY 11

### FAITH, TRUST, AND PRAYER FOR DIRECT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Many professionals who partner with Shared Hope attend our national JuST Conference, where you can hear them share their wisdom, expertise, and training and see their commitment to bring justice to victims of sex trafficking. Today, we are honored to pray for them and stand with them in their daily efforts.

#### Scripture:

*For as in one physical body we have many parts (organs, members) and all of these parts do not have the same function or use, so we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah) and individually we are parts one of another [mutually dependent on one another].* —Romans 12:4–5 (AMPC)

#### Thoughts:

In our years of supporting anti-trafficking programs worldwide, one resounding lesson holds true: collaboration is key. Those who were called to professions that directly impact sex trafficking victims — like law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, counselors, and shelter and service providers — must be equipped with the knowledge, resources, and strength necessary to accomplish their very important role.

#### Prayer focus:

- Wisdom, knowledge, resources, patience, and safety for professionals — direct service providers, medical professionals, prosecutors, judges — and all those who serve victims of trafficking in any way.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God, there are so many people who influence the sex trafficking survivor's journey, and each has a unique view of that individual through the lens of their profession. Please give each survivor contact with law enforcement, legal professionals, and restorative service providers who have understanding and compassion and will provide just the right support at the right moment to enable restoration.

#### Take Action:

Visit the Faith in Action page at [sharedhope.org/faithinaction](https://sharedhope.org/faithinaction) to see the continued list of prayers for our partners who work tirelessly for victims and survivors of sex trafficking.

## + DAY 12

### HEALING FOR SURVIVORS

Shared Hope is honored to have walked with many survivors and to have learned how they found the strength to find their personal freedom. So many have shared stories of faith and how they found God to be with them in the midst of horrific circumstances. Each story reminds us that we do not know how to restore, but God does. Why do we pray? Because He finds amazing ways to heal hearts, souls, bodies, and minds – through our faithful prayers.

#### Scripture:

*So now I live with the confidence that there is nothing in the universe with the power to separate us from God's love...There is nothing in our present or future circumstances that can weaken His love...There is no power...that could ever be found in the universe that can distance us from God's passionate love, which is lavished upon us through our Lord Jesus Christ...* —Romans 8:38–39 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

It is freeing to know that nothing we do can make God love us any less or more! His love is unchanging and infinite. That can be difficult to accept when we feel ashamed or worthless, but it is true. Because of the stigmatization of prostitution, sex trafficking survivors often struggle with shame and feelings of worthlessness. Traffickers view them as a paycheck, buyers view them as objects for sexual gratification, and society views them as criminals. But God views them as worthy of His unchanging, unfailing love.

#### Prayer focus:

- Survivors of trafficking to know that they are loved by the Lord.
- Christian mentors for survivors to encourage and support their release and healing.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord God, even for survivors who know who you are, there is the pervasive feeling of guilt and shame that can eclipse the knowledge that you are a God of love and second chances. Guilt and shame can obscure the knowledge that nothing can separate anyone from your love. If it is that hard for those who know you to accept your unchanging love, how much harder for those who do not know you yet! I pray that you find them and show them how very much you love them.

#### Take Action:

Join the **Stop the Injustice campaign** at [act.sharedhope.org/VIThQel](https://act.sharedhope.org/VIThQel) and be a part of demanding protection, not punishment, for survivors.

## + DAY 13

### TRAFFICKERS AND BUYERS: PRAY THEY SEE WHAT THEY ARE DOING

It is comforting to know that we are not in this battle alone. Not only is God on our side in our efforts to set free each person being oppressed, but we are also part of a larger body of believers with unity of heart to see Him move to make a difference worldwide. We may never know the results of our prayers, but we know we are making an impact as we pray. So never underestimate what your voice accomplishes! The Bible tells us that there is a power of darkness that roams the earth to kill, steal, and destroy, but our prayers can help change even the hardest, most wicked heart.

#### Scripture:

*Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. —Romans 12:17–19 (NIV)*

#### Thoughts:

It is so difficult to hear the horror stories of trauma, violence, and degradation that our survivor friends have faced and NOT want to take revenge on the one who caused it! But we are reminded to leave it to the One more powerful than we are. Vengeance is not our job. What if, instead, we prayed for the traffickers and buyers? If a nation of faithful, praying people ask the Lord to change hearts, can we make a dent in the prevalence of those who seek to exploit our children? Let's find out.

#### Prayer focus:

- For traffickers' and buyers' hearts and actions to change.
- The Lord to remove the scales from their eyes so traffickers and buyers can see their destructive behavior and turn from it.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, this may be a difficult one to pray with a sincere heart (but let me try). Open my eyes to the likelihood that some very terrible things may have been the experience of the trafficker or buyer that turned them into offenders. Inevitably, hurting people hurt other people. I pray that you will bring healing for the wounds that have formed their thinking, convict them of their sin, and cause them to repent. *Nothing* is beyond your reach! Graciously, show them how you can heal and reform their hearts.

#### Take Action:

Sign up to become a Weekend Warrior at [sharedhope.org/weekendwarrior/](https://sharedhope.org/weekendwarrior/), and each week receive an email with resources you can share to inform others how to join the fight against sex trafficking. These tools are easily accessible and can be shared with your networks in less than 10 minutes each week, and they make an immediate impact.

## + DAY 14

### HEAR WHAT IS NEEDED AND KNOW HOW TO TAKE ACTION

God has entrusted each of us with gifts, talents, and skills to share so that we can be strong for someone else. However, no one person is just like another, so it is important that we ask God for His purpose and plan for us individually. While there are many good things we might do, we must determine if they are God things.

#### **Scripture:**

*We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.* —Proverbs 16:9 (NLT)

#### **Thoughts:**

What is it about you that uniquely equips you to elevate someone else's life? If we ask, take the time to listen, and look around us, we will begin to see where we fit and what tools we have to make a difference. As good stewards of what we have been given, we are instructed to engage our minds and not just our emotions in decisions about where God would have us share a portion of our earnings and possessions. We cannot lose when we seek to do things that please Him.

#### **Prayer focus:**

- That I may discern worthy causes that merit my support.
- A spirit of sharing cheerfully from the blessings I have received.

#### **Here is a prayer you might pray:**

You, Lord, have abundantly blessed me, and I ask that you guide me in where and how I can give of my “3 Ts” — my time, talent, and treasure. Direct me and help me give from what you have so generously given me, with a grateful and cheerful heart.

#### **Take Action:**

Want to give a gift to support Shared Hope's restoration programs? Your donation will help us prevent the conditions that foster sex trafficking as we restore and empower survivors. Find out more at [sharedhope.org/donate](https://sharedhope.org/donate).

## + DAY 15

### PRAY FOR SURVIVORS FINDING INNER STRENGTH TO RECOVER

As we pray to end sex trafficking, we are reminded that wars are never easy. Our freedom as a nation was won by those with stout hearts and passionate resolve to see liberty and justice for all. Our “boots on the ground” experience may look very different, but we still must steel ourselves to continue to pray until we see victims freed, effective laws passed to protect and provide for them, and justice served for those involved. Our prayers are making a difference. We cannot stop!

#### Scripture:

*I am worn out with weeping and groaning. Night after night I flood my bed with tears...my eyes of faith won't focus anymore, for sorrow fills my heart. God has heard all my pleading and has taken hold of my prayers and answered them all.*

—Psalm 6:6–9 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

So many of David's cries to the Lord are echoed in the cries of the prisoners of sex trafficking. The prison of the spirit endures for a very long time, even after physical freedom, and is often debilitating and accompanied by symptoms of complex trauma. Many survivors claim the healing of their spiritual and emotional injuries was the turning point in their journey to recovery.

#### Prayer focus:

- That sex trafficking victims who are still in bondage or still suffering will have assurance that the Lord hears them and will deliver them.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

It weighs heavily on my heart, God, when I picture these youth and children caught in such a filthy trap. They may not know you yet, but you tell us that knowledge of you is imprinted on every heart. Based on that truth, I pray that from deep within the soul of every person still in bondage — whether they consciously know you or not — they will call out to you in their day of trouble. Bring them out of their prison that they may give thanks to you and glorify your name!

#### Take Action:

Let your state's legislators hear your voice on campaigns that will help end child and youth sex trafficking and protect survivors. Visit the Advocacy Action Center at [act.sharedhope.org/actioncenter](http://act.sharedhope.org/actioncenter) and take action today.

## + DAY 16

### JUST RESPONSE FOR PERPETRATORS

Our goal is to provide you with the framework to understand the signs of trafficking better, understand God's heart on the issue, and know how to pray and take action. We trust you have been finding new insight from His Word and can clearly see that although He is a God of mercy, He is also a righteous judge who will not endure evil forever. We trust in the timing of His almighty judgments.

#### Scripture:

*God, your righteousness is revealed when you judge. Because of the strength of your forgiveness, your anger does not break out every day. Yet if one does not repent, you will not relent to sharpen your shining sword... You have bent and strung your bow, making your judgment-arrows shafts of burning fire... Look how the wicked conceive their evil schemes... They dig a pit for others to fall into, not knowing that they will be the very ones who will fall into it. Every pit-digger who works to trap and harm others will be trapped by his own treachery.*

—Psalms 7:11–16 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

May we always remember that God is a righteous judge! He is indignant about the evil done to His precious ones, and He alone is in control of the just outcome for evildoers. As His emissaries here on earth, we do our best to deal justly through civil and criminal responses, but we must always keep in mind that we have a very limited understanding of His greater purposes.

#### Prayer focus:

- That God will remind us that His ways are not our ways, and He will ultimately provide a just response to the buyers and traffickers who perpetrate violence against precious ones.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God of JUSTICE! I shudder with anger because of the rampant evil being done to innocents; I admit that if I were in charge, there would be revenge! Remind me that YOU are the One who will deal with the wicked. Your Word tells us again and again that you love mercy and that you DO JUSTICE. On earth, you provide for good people in law enforcement and our judicial system to bring down some of the wicked, and I thank you for that while we wait for the fulfillment of your final administration of justice.

#### Take Action:

Please continue to offer up prayers for our partner programs around the world. Learn more about how to pray at [sharedhope.org/faithinaction](https://sharedhope.org/faithinaction) and pray along with others through Prayers of Hope. Together, we are making a difference!

## + DAY 17

## RESTORATION FOR SURVIVORS

Many of Shared Hope's staff have become well-acquainted and built friendships with survivors who have come through some of the worst kinds of injustice. Their stories can take your breath away and make your heart ache for what they have endured. But watching their incredible resiliency, their strength of character, and their fortitude to stand strong for others, we are amazed. So today, we pray for strength for survivors, and we stand in faith, believing they will be restored!

### Scripture:

*And then, after your brief suffering, the God of all loving grace, who has called you to share in his eternal glory in Christ, will personally and powerfully restore you and make you stronger than ever. Yes, he will set you firmly in place and build you up.*  
—1 Peter 5:10 (TPT)

### Thoughts:

We are told that there is an eternal reward after suffering for those who are called by Christ. Of course, Christians differ on what it means to be called, but we can unite around the ideas that suffering will end and that God has eternal and glorious plans for those that believe in Him.

### Prayer focus:

- That all those suffering will be restored and strengthened.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Today, I want to tell you, Lord, how thankful I am for the testimonies of so many who have not only survived the brutality of sex trafficking but have been given voices to proclaim your incredible grace and mercy! They are not only survivors but thrivers, but they give so much encouragement to advocates like me who hear these hopeful stories to keep on fighting. God, I pray today that you would provide avenues for rescue and restoration for many more.

### Take Action:

Check out Shared Hope's resources at [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction), which will provide avenues for your own efforts to fight sex trafficking. These tools are easily accessible and can be shared with your networks.

## + DAY 18

## PORNOGRAPHY AND ITS ENTICEMENTS

American culture has become more over-sexualized in recent decades; “anything goes” if it will sell a product, entertain, or make a statement. Much of it is touted as “freedom” or “empowerment” when, in fact, it can bring bondage and addiction. U.S. citizens account for the biggest population of the world’s consumers of pornographic materials and purchasers of commercial sex. The impact on a growing generation under the influence of seeing such disrespect and objectification breeds a population that feels entitled to use another person for personal gratification, to take whatever they want if they have the power to do so, and to purchase whatever is available on the market, no matter what it costs another individual. Wholesale sexual activity breeds competition in vulnerable populations of children and adults who see their worth only in their appearance or how they perform.

### Scripture:

*For the Lord has a hidden storehouse of wisdom made accessible to his godly ones. He becomes your personal bodyguard as you follow his ways, protecting and guarding you as you choose what is right.* —Proverbs 2:7–8 (TPT)

### Thoughts:

A multibillion-dollar industry exists for the sole purpose of mainly targeting men and boys to believe that viewing pornography or buying sex is normal and harmless entertainment. The wisdom that comes from knowledge of the Lord is a shield against the pull of the culture into these lies and perversions.

### Prayer focus:

- For all the men and boys in my life (and even the girls and women), that they will resist the siren song of pornography and the deceptions of people that will attempt to lure them into using others as objects of sexual satisfaction.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Adapted from a child’s prayer song, “Oh be careful little eyes what you see...for your Father up above is looking down in love...oh be careful little eyes what you see...” You, Lord, see everything that we permit to pass the eye-gate and penetrate our conscious and subconscious. You see the filth that our society has relentlessly and recklessly put out for the little eyes of our children and the eyes of grown-ups who desire to act out what they have seen. Today, my prayer is that you would protect the eyes and hearts of those I love, especially the men and boys who are so dear to me.

### Take Action:

Learn more about Shared Hope’s Defenders program and what this group is doing to engage men in the fight to stop exploitation and the demand for this destructive market. Visit [sharedhope.org/takeaction](http://sharedhope.org/takeaction) to join the Defenders.

## + DAY 19

### PRAYING FOR SELF-AWARENESS AND REMOVING LABELS

There are many misconceptions about child sex trafficking. For many of us, we hear a story describing a young girl on a street corner, what she wore, where she was, what she was doing. These stories are filtered through labels and assumptions in our minds. Consider this: What if we knew that she was being forced, even beaten or starved, if she doesn't comply? And what if we knew she does not get any of the money made in each sexual transaction — that she can't leave if she wants to? Now, what do you think?

#### Scripture:

*Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.*  
—Proverbs 3:27 (NLT)

#### Thoughts:

The “good” that each of us can do can be something that seems dramatic, like opening a shelter for sex trafficked victims...or it might be something barely noticed, like looking into the eyes of someone you suspect is “in the life” and smiling encouragingly. Trafficking victims talk about the constant disdain given them from the glances of every “normal” person. Your smile at them might be the best thing that happens to them today.

#### Prayer focus:

- Let me be conscious of the fact that my facial expressions and gestures say a thousand words.
- Help me not to judge by appearances.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, we all experienced the requirement to wear a mask...my expressions in public may have been hidden, but the mask does not hide my thoughts; in fact, it may give me more freedom to think uncharitable things, knowing my feelings will not show on my face! So I ask you, Lord, that you would purify my thoughts and help me remember how Jesus answered the “Who is my neighbor?” question. .

#### Take Action:

Check out Shared Hope's resources at [sharedhope.org/resources](https://www.sharedhope.org/resources) — scroll down to the materials you can share with your family and friends. Social networks are the perfect place to post a link to a warning sign poster and help others recognize the signs of trafficking!

## + DAY 20

### STRENGTHEN THE FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL PERVERSION IN OUR CULTURE

Thank you for continuing to pray with us. Prayer is not an easy thing. In fact, it is likened to wrestling in the Scriptures. There is no detachment in wrestling; it is direct and constant contact. In the Old Testament, Moses, David, and Jacob (to name a few) grappled with God. Did they immediately receive an answer? No. Was the answer they did receive the one they wanted? Not always. And yet, our biblical forerunners asked and then trusted and continued to rely on an Almighty Father who loved them. When we wrestle with God in prayer, we come to believe our petitions matter. We have hope by faith that our situation will change. Our challenge is to stay fully engaged. Survivors are counting on us.

#### Scripture:

*O our God, won't you stop them? We are powerless against this mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help.*  
—2 Chronicles 20:12 (NLT)

#### Thoughts:

In the battle against sex trafficking, all of us have felt powerless in the face of the great assault of pornography and sexual perversion on our culture. Yet, the Lord's response to this plea, found later in verse 17, is moving and encouraging: "Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them and the Lord will be with you."

#### Prayer focus:

- My powerlessness is an opportunity to rely on the all-powerful Lord.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God, thank you for the many examples you have given us in the Bible of situations where you assured your desperate followers to "be still and know that I am God." You seem to love to show up suddenly and powerfully when your children are facing impossible odds. Today I stand in total and humble agreement with you — that yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever ... Amen!

#### Take Action:

Please continue to offer up prayers for our partner programs around the world. Visit [sharedhope.org/faithinaction](http://sharedhope.org/faithinaction) and continue praying for our partners.

## + DAY 21

### COMMAND YOUR STRENGTHS TO SERVE THE POWERLESS

Sometimes the tsunami of evil in our world makes us feel powerless and helpless. We know we are incapable of changing an entire culture, finding and walking with every single victim of trafficking until they find restoration, locking up every perpetrator of violence on the innocent, or passing enough victim protection laws to set the world right again. This is when we must raise our eyes and see the God who can do all these things. The Almighty One wants to partner with us through our prayers and put our hands in His to do the work that will bring about lasting change. This is where our hope lies. This is where we find our strength and courage. This is where we truly make a difference.

#### Scripture:

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*

—Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

#### Thoughts:

This is not just a suggestion; it is a command not to be afraid. The command is repeated often in the Old Testament. What a comfort to know the Lord your God is with you wherever you go!

#### Prayer focus:

- I cannot obey this command without help. Help me be strong, courageous, unafraid, and undismayed.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Oh, dear God...you know me. And although you already know this, I am neither naturally strong nor courageous nor unafraid! I can't be any of those things unless you equip me! Thank you for directing my attention to so many of the Psalms, such as 121, that remind me that YOU are my source of courage.

#### Take Action:

Visit the Take Action page at [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction) and learn more about how we are leading the movement to end child sex trafficking in the U.S. We challenge YOU to enlist your friends to join too!

## + DAY 22

### TRUST IN GOD'S PLAN TO OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD

There is hardly a more dramatic story in the Bible than the story of Joseph, nor a more defined illustration of how God uses man's evil intent to bring about great good. He was betrayed by his own siblings — falsely accused, enslaved, forgotten. We can readily associate those very things with the plight of those who are trafficked for sex. Let us be encouraged by how God turned the evil directed at Joseph into blessing and preservation for an entire nation. As you continue to pray, be reminded that God hears us and that He will answer!

#### Scripture:

*You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*  
—Genesis 50:20 (NIV)

#### Prayer focus:

- For trust in God that everything that happens is part of His plan, whether I can see it or not.
- For trust in the Lord's goodness.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Father, the Word you have given us is a treasure, and I am directed to trust in you with all my heart. I am admonished not to lean on my own understanding. I know you will make my paths straight if I acknowledge you (Proverbs 3:5–6)! I admit that most often I DO rely on and trust my own understanding — not just about my own circumstances, but I question how you are addressing the injustices of this world! Lord, forgive me for thinking I could do better! Your ways are so much higher!

#### Take Action:

Visit [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction) and choose one way that you will take action today. For instance, select the Advocacy Center, input your ZIP code, and send the prewritten email to your lawmakers. Just hit send to make a difference!

## + DAY 23

### PATIENCE THROUGH THE PROCESS OF HEALING AND RESTORATION

It is a joint effort of our faith communities to battle sex trafficking together through prayer. Our hope is that you have an even better understanding of God's heart on the issue and that you know your prayers have been effective.

#### Scripture:

*We know that all things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose.*  
—Romans 8:28 (RGT)

#### Thoughts:

We offered one view of this verse on Day 9, but there are other interpretations. Another, shared by many, is that God causes all things that happen in a Christian's life to become part of the working out of His good plan for that believer. That good plan may be temporal, spiritual, or eternal, or all of these things, but in the end, we are made in the image of our loving God.

#### Prayer focus:

- For the humility to recognize that God's ways are not my ways. He will bring about freedom and restoration in His perfect timing.
- For faith to trust His plan for each individual life.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord God, you gave humans the ability to love you because you first loved us. You gave us the ability to reason and analyze our circumstances — to keep us safe, process information, assess situations, guide us to good decisions, and much more. I am thankful for that ability, but I need your help to believe that your hand is above all my circumstances...indeed, Lord, help me to trust that yours is the mighty and benevolent hand that guides everything in the lives of all those who ask for your help.

#### Take Action:

Not sure where you fit into the fight against sex trafficking? Visit [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction) to see ways we are leading the movement...and how you can join.

## + DAY 24

### PROTECT THE VULNERABLE THROUGH EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Shared Hope has an army of volunteer Ambassadors of Hope across the nation. They reach their communities in every way possible to share prevention education, helping people understand what trafficking looks like, the tactics of traffickers, the vulnerabilities of victims, and what an effective response is. Through your prayers and participation in bringing awareness, children and youth are safer.

#### Scripture:

*Even though I was helpless in the hands of my hateful, strong enemy, you were good to deliver me. When I was at my weakest, my enemies attacked – but the Lord held on to me...he brought me into a beautiful, broad place. He rescued me – because his delight is in me!*  
—Psalm 18:17–19 (TPT)

#### Thoughts:

Traffickers target victims in their weakest moments. Many vulnerable children who become separated from their families during a natural disaster, children who experience the calamity of abuse in their own homes daily and run away in desperation, are momentarily free from one horror only to be confronted by something even worse.

#### Prayer focus:

- May the strong arm of God protect children all over the world from those too mighty for them to resist.
- May those in captivity be brought out from the darkness into a broad place where there is air and light and freedom.
- May we learn how to educate young people so they won't be vulnerable to the tactics of predators who would ensnare them.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

God, sexual exploitation seems to be the ultimate calamity for a child. For that child, the calamity continues to live inside the spirit and soul as self-blame, guilt, and shame. Please free children everywhere from ever experiencing such abuse; free those who have been victims from the devastating effects of the trauma – physical, emotional, and spiritual. I thank you that you are able to do this in Jesus' name.

#### Take Action:

Want to take your advocacy further? Are you passionate about preventing sex trafficking in your community? Visit [sharedhope.org/aoh](https://sharedhope.org/aoh) to learn more about our Ambassadors of Hope volunteers – they are making a difference in their own neighborhoods and regions!

## + DAY 25

### TRUST THAT GOD HEARS OUR CRIES

What a comfort to know that God responds to our pitiful cries to Him. Sometimes those cries are in response to the anguish we feel when we suffer or when we see the suffering of others, and it's difficult to understand the "why." Yet His response may not be an explanation; rather, it is simply an assurance that He will guide each step of the way through the adversity. Thank you for stretching your faith and continuing in this prayer journey. Be encouraged; God hears and answers!

#### Scripture:

*...He will be gracious if you ask for help. He will surely respond to the sound of your cries...he will still be with you to teach you...Your own ears will hear him. Right behind you a voice will say, "This is the way you should go," whether to the right or to the left...*  
—Isaiah 30:19–21 (NLT)

#### Prayer focus:

- To trust God when I do not understand what He is doing and why.
- To have eyes that notice signs of His guidance and ears to hear His instruction moment by moment.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, I have been praying that I would be obedient to your instructions and trust in your good purpose for me individually, as well as for those I love and care about. I continue to pray that I will trust in your goodness and sovereign will. Sometimes it's hard to keep my eyes on you, especially when I see the suffering caused by human trafficking. But I know you have given mankind free will so we can love you out of our own choice. And that free choice is extended to anyone on this earth. I am grateful you are with every person in the midst of hard times. Help me trust you more. Help me understand and forgive my inability to see things as you see them.

#### Take Action:

Encourage your officials to fight child sex trafficking in your state! Learn more about the Report Cards on Child & Youth Sex Trafficking: *State Action. National Change.* at [act.sharedhope.org/ohkbppq](http://act.sharedhope.org/ohkbppq).

## + DAY 26

### HEALTHY RECOVERY IN RELATIONSHIPS FOR SURVIVORS

We were created to be in partnership and relationship with others. The verse below tells us that "God places the lonely in families." What a beautiful promise! Many are familiar with loneliness, wishing for a friend, family member, or spouse who can provide a warm smile, a comforting hug, a gentle word. Traffickers know that we are built for relationships and commonly use this to exploit their victims. Traffickers often promise friendship, romance, or family but instead supply violence, control, and manipulation. When we are born into a family that cannot provide that nurturing environment, we can know that God can place us with others who will care for and surround us with His love. Your prayers help those trapped in trafficking discover hope and find their way out of the nightmare and into loving, healthy relationships.

#### **Scripture:**

*God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy.*  
—Psalm 68:6 (NLT)

#### **Prayer focus:**

- Pray that survivors who do not have healthy family relationships or friendships will find them.
- Healing for families of survivors so that they may one day experience reconciliation.
- Joy for survivors in the freedom they now have.

#### **Here is a prayer you might pray:**

The family was your idea, God, to give us a place to belong and be accepted. Certainly, you knew that model would be disrupted early on in the world you created, never to be perfect again. Nevertheless, thank you for families that are healthy. Thank you for families that are sometimes dysfunctional but still work. Thank you for families that have adopted or taken in foster children who can be so vulnerable to trafficking. Bring reunion and reconciliation to survivors and their families. And provide a family within your body of believers for those who have none. I pray all this in your great name!

#### **Take Action:**

Check out Shared Hope's resources at [sharedhope.org/resources](https://sharedhope.org/resources), which will reinforce your own efforts to fight sex trafficking. Share a link to one of these tools with someone you know today.

## + DAY 27

## PEACE FOR THOSE WHO SUPPORT SURVIVORS

This world is fraught with dangers, but those who intervene and assist victims of sex trafficking out of “the life” are often on the front lines. Sex traffickers have assigned a dollar value to their victims, and they will not give in easily to their walking away. Therefore, threats and violence may pursue anyone who intervenes, and survivors themselves are in grave danger as they find the strength to escape. We are praying for survivors and those who are called to be there for them. They need our prayers every day.

Safety and security are two of our basic needs, which is probably why the Lord spoke so often about resting our cares and troubles in His hands and finding peace in our faith in Him.

### Scripture:

*I leave the gift of peace with you — my peace. Not the kind of fragile peace given by the world, but my perfect peace. Don't yield to fear or be troubled in your hearts — instead, be courageous!*  
—John 14:27 (TPT)

### Prayer focus:

- Pray for the peace of service providers — to not be afraid of those who would try to harm them, or to be caught up in the worries over provision.
- Pray for the peace of the prosecutors and law enforcement — against any threats to their families for the work they do.
- Pray for the peace of survivors — that they'll be protected from those who would try to harm them physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Today I lift up to you, Lord, all the professionals and advocates involved in helping sex trafficking survivors escape their circumstances. It may be a physical escape brought about by a law enforcement officer. It may be a judicial escape through a court that expunges a child's unjust criminal record. It may be an emotional and psychological escape from reliving the trauma experienced. May all these allies and survivors experience your perfect peace and protection.

### Take Action:

Want to make a contribution to support Shared Hope's restoration programs? Your gift will help us prevent the conditions that foster sex trafficking as we work to restore and empower survivors. Find out about our goals at [sharedhope.org/donate](https://sharedhope.org/donate).

## + DAY 28

### PRAY FOR PROTECTION OF THE VULNERABLE WORLDWIDE

We grieve for the women and children who have been subject to human trafficking and sexual slavery through the acceptance of their own country's culture, including here in the USA. We must also lift up the hundreds of thousands of children who have been enslaved and sold into sex slavery through the darkness of cultural or religious customs, such as temple prostitution. We know the Lord is stronger than the dark forces of our world and can bring a miracle of peace, deliverance, and freedom for those trapped in harmful traditions. Our faith is in Him "who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine."

#### Scripture:

*So I kneel humbly in awe before the Father...I pray that he would unveil within you the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods your innermost being with his divine might and explosive power...[that] the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and...his love will become the very source and root of your life.*  
—Ephesians 3:14–17 (TPT)

#### Prayer focus:

- Swift deliverance for the women and children enslaved by the dark customs of their culture, that they would be set free.
- That God will grant wisdom and success to those seeking to help them find freedom.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, every nation of the world belongs to you and is under your authority. You have told us, though, that there is a spiritual struggle in the heavenly realms between forces of evil and angels of light. I pray today that people from around the world would be freed from oppression of the demonic spirits that have laid claim to countries and territories. Bring them knowledge of you, the True God, and the freedom that comes from knowing you!

#### Take Action:

Please continue to offer up prayers for our partner programs worldwide. Together, we are making a difference! Visit [sharedhope.org/what-we-do](https://sharedhope.org/what-we-do) and find out what our partners are doing to restore survivors.

## + DAY 29

## THE POWER OF PRAYER PROVIDES STRENGTH

Your consistent prayers are making a difference! People like you have prayed for victims to be free of drugs, find new life in God, and be restored. Continue to pray for faith-based communities to embrace survivors as they seek a sense of belonging and community; it might be the only family they have. We must not doubt the power of our prayers, like the ones you are and have been praying for victims of trafficking! We work with many excellent shelter and service providers that serve as a conduit for His promises like the Scripture below. They offer residential care and essential programming to facilitate restoration. Your prayers help lead victims to them for safety!

### Scripture:

*He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint. —Isaiah 40:29–31 (NLT)*

### Prayer focus:

- Pray that God will fill shelters with the residents He has selected.
- Pray that He will give wisdom and discernment to those seeking to start a shelter, that it will fulfill the purpose He has for it.
- That survivors will receive access to the services and restoration they need.

### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, thank you for the people who are providing shelter and restorative services to survivors of sex trafficking. Thank you for those who provide outreach to locate victims and enable them to escape and find safety. Provide the finances needed for these services to continue and for more to be offered — and for homes to be filled. I also pray that healed survivors are able to find employment with organizations where they will make a positive and eternal impact on the healing journeys of others.

### Take Action:

Help us secure justice for survivors of sex trafficking instead of them being treated like criminals. Let your state's legislators hear your voice to help end child and youth sex trafficking and protect survivors. Visit [act.sharedhope.org/hitvvan](http://act.sharedhope.org/hitvvan) to stop the injustice against victims.

## + DAY 30

### PERSISTENT PRAYER FOR POWERFUL CHANGE

Your tenacity to participate in our 30 Days of Prayer means so much. The momentum of the prayers of this army is building. We encourage you to continue the battle to end child and youth sex trafficking while on your knees. Never, ever give up. Your prayers are powerful!

#### Scripture:

*When justice is served, the lovers of God celebrate and rejoice, but the wicked begin to panic.*  
—Proverbs 21:15 (TPT)

*This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Judge fairly, and show mercy and kindness to one another.*  
—Zechariah 7:9 (NLT)

#### Thoughts:

When the U.S. legislative session is under way, many bills are drafted and filed, and committees assemble to discern which ones will pass and which will not. The U.S. Congress reviews bills that will impact justice for trafficking victims for decades to come. We are relying on prayer, advocacy, and the wisdom of our legislators to pass laws that will bring justice and enable restoration for trafficking victims.

#### Prayer focus:

- Pray for the passage of necessary federal legislation that brings justice and restoration to victims and swift consequences to traffickers.
- Pray for the passage and enactment of state laws that further God's plan for justice.

#### Here is a prayer you might pray:

Lord, I am asking you to inspire bills at every level that protect survivors from being criminalized as a result of their trafficking victimization. Give us continued wisdom to establish protective responses; prevent the conditions that foster the sex trafficking of children and youth; and help us support survivors' access to justice for online abuse. I praise you in advance for your mercy and grace in responding to these requests.

#### Take Action:

Shared Hope's Institute for Justice and Advocacy gives you tools that are as simple as entering your ZIP code in order to send pre-selected lawmakers — in your state and at the federal level — effective communications to encourage them to make a difference. Visit [sharedhope.org/takeaction](https://sharedhope.org/takeaction).

[ NOTES ]

Thank you for being a powerful change agent through prayer.  
Our hope is to continue to partner with you through the Faith  
in Action page at [sharedhope.org](http://sharedhope.org). God bless you!



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