

Forward

I want to express my appreciation to the writers who contributed to the making of this Call to Prayer.

I am also deeply grateful for those who intercede in prayer on behalf of victims of human trafficking. The most effective weapon in combating this tragic abuse is prayer to our all-powerful God. I have witnessed, firsthand, God's ability to bring rescue and complete healing to children who have suffered at the hands of traffickers.

May God bless you, the reader, as you call to Him to rescue the captives and to heal the brokenhearted.

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"Of all things, guard against neglecting God in the secret place of prayer." - William Wilberforce -

Prayer Point One: Eyes to See the Hurting

"Lord, you have heard the desire of the humble; You will prepare their heart; You will cause Your ear to hear, to do justice to the fatherless and oppressed, that the man of earth may oppress no more."

Psalm 10:17-18 [NKJV]

It is so easy in our very busy world to lose sight of the multitudes around us who are lost, hurting and crying out for help. Our hurried lives can sometimes create a deafness to the cry of the one. But God sees the multitudes. He hears the cries of the one and His heart is moved with compassion.

In the 40 plus years that I have been a Christian, I have served faithfully in the local church teaching Sunday school, leading youth groups, preaching, doing administration work, etc. I have been very "busy" for the Lord for many years. In the midst of this busyness a cold hard reality hit me one day: I did not have a heart for the lost: God's heart. I was busy doing the "stuff" but missing what God wanted me to see.

It was on a short term mission trip that God captured my heart, and I saw the world as I had never seen it before, through God's eyes. My unseeing eyes could now glimpse the multitudes and my deaf ears could catch the cries of the one.

Too often, we get caught up in doing all the things we think are right and good, but miss the opportunity to look up and see the harvest fields. Matthew 9:35-36 says that Jesus went into all the villages preaching, teaching and healing all the diseases among the people. But when He SAW THE MULTITUDES, He was moved with compassion. Matthew 18:10-14 tells of the God's heart for the ONE in the parable of the lost sheep. "Even so it is not the will of Your Father who is in heaven that ONE of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:14 (emphasis added).

There are MULTITUDES trapped in the world of human trafficking and in the midst of that multitude rises the individual voice of each ONE crying out for freedom. God has called His people to respond to these souls by loosing the bonds of wickedness, undoing heavy burdens, letting the oppressed go free and breaking every yoke. (See Isaiah 58:6).



Let's Pray . . .

Dear God, please cause Your people to rise up and embrace the neediest children. Please fill us with deep love for children who are alone. We ask that you would place these lonely ones in families. Please work through Your body, the church, to bring healing and restoration to these precious ones.

So be it. Amen.



"All Kingdom ministry begins with, is sustained by, and will triumph through prayer."
- Jack W. Hayford -

Prayer Point Two: Families for the Lonely

"God places the lonely in families; he sets the prisoners free and gives them joy."

Psalm 68:6a [NLT]

Like thieves who look for unlocked cars and houses with flimsy locks, child traffickers look for easy targets. They look for young people who are unsupervised and unprotected.

Orphans, kids in foster care and runaways are all highly vulnerable. One group of at-risk youth is tragically labeled as "throwaways." These are children who have been kicked out of their homes or whose runaway status has gone unreported to authorities. How can they even begin to recognize their inherent value as God's beloved creations?

Like all of us, orphans, runaways, throwaways and kids in foster care hunger for acceptance. They long for a sense of family belonging. This very longing is what makes them vulnerable to abuse.

Many traffickers pretend to care when they first meet these lonely young people. They offer words of support and acceptance. This concerned exterior is nothing more than a tragic lie, a technique used to trap and control fragile people. The tremendous cost to the children seems irrelevant to those who seek to profit from their abuse. But God's view of these children could not be more different or more touching. His heart is deeply moved by their plight. "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18. Our God is a rescuer and a restorer. He alone can fill the role of the Father who will never abandon these hurting children.



Let's Pray . . .

Dear God, please cause Your people to rise up and embrace the neediest children. Please fill us with deep love for children who are alone. We ask that you would place these lonely ones in families. Please work through Your body, the church, to bring healing and restoration to these precious ones.

So be it. Amen.



"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had absolutely no other place to go."

- Abraham Lincoln -

Prayer Point Three: The Freedom of Sexual Purity

"For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever."

1 John 2:16-17 (NIV)

Human trafficking, like other businesses, operates on the basic economic principle of "supply and demand." If humans are the supply, what then is on the other side of the equation driving the demand? Among other driving forces, human trafficking is fueled by the sin of lust.

Humanity's sinful nature and Satan have worked together to create an extravagant array of options for sexual pleasure outside God's perfect model of sex between a man and woman within marriage. These options for sexual pleasure include homosexuality, pornography, orgies, strip clubs, prostitution and other such immoral practices.

Satan can distort God's perfect model of sex according to the Bible and, in his deceptiveness, there are times where he may wrap something very harmful in the guise of something attractive or innocent. The question is, where will we choose to draw the line? A little immodest dress or occasional lustful thought may seem harmless compared to those "immoral" practices.

Maybe you have remained sexually pure in that you have not engaged in sex outside of marriage. However, purity is not just about saving sex for marriage or refraining from immoral sexual practices – purity is a way of life and deals closely with the attitude and condition of the heart. (See Matthew 5:28).

As Christians, we are told to not tolerate impurity of any kind in our lives. Ephesians 5:3 states, "But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people." Personally, it's taken some time for me to be convinced of the "not even a hint" part. The road to purity and holiness is difficult to travel. How easy it is to get caught up in all that the flesh desires. We may start out with the best of intentions but there are times when temptation is so great that sexual purity begins to seem like more of a fantasy than a realistic goal. Yet, all is not lost.

The body of Christ can help in this area. Ephesians 5:27 gives the vision of Christ presenting the church to Himself in splendor without spot or wrinkle. As a practical application, we must use the full armor of God to address the topic of sex and purity in the church. Scripture, sound teaching and prayer are all valuable weapons that can be used in this battle against lust. We must not be afraid to address lust in our own lives or be afraid to lovingly address this sin problem in others for we have a God who will graciously forgive us, and lead us on a path of purity.



Let's Pray . . .

May we strive for purity and, in all our ways, seek to honor God with our bodies. May we not condemn others who are struggling with sexual sin. Instead, may we adamantly expose the deeds of darkness and seek to bring healing and health to those who are struggling with sexual sin. Father, direct our attitudes and hearts toward a healthy view of sex according to the Bible. Forgive us when we go astray and fall into sexual impurity. Cleanse us and lead us in Your perfect and holy ways.

So be it. Amen.

"Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees."

- Corrie ten Boom-

Prayer Point Four: Paths of Escape

"Are you not the same today, the one who dried up the sea, making a path of escape through the depths so that your people could cross over?"

Isaiah 51:10 [NLT]

Chapter fourteen of Exodus describes the Lord's faithfulness in making a way of escape for the ancient Israelites. They had been trapped in slavery for generations but, in His time, God rescued them by miraculously opening an escape path for them. He parted the Red Sea.

In fact, God has a long history of rescue. His actions show His power and His great compassion for the oppressed.

He performed a miracle to save two boys from slavery. (See 2 Kings 4).

He worked through a princess to save a baby's life and a prostitute to save the lives of two Israelite soldiers. (See Exodus 2 and Joshua 2).

He sent angels to save Lot and Daniel from death. (See Genesis 19 and Daniel 6).

When Peter was in prison, God sent an angel to guide his escape. Peter was sleeping inside a prison cell, chained to two guards. He was awakened suddenly by an angel who told him to get dressed and follow him. The experience must have seemed surreal because Peter literally thought he was seeing a vision.

Acts 12:10-11 tells what happened next:

"They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were anticipating."

Truly God is capable of amazing things! He is all-powerful and is moved by compassion. He hears the cries of the oppressed and cares deeply about their pain. He has shown Himself to be a God of miraculous rescue.

Let's cry out, together, on behalf of some of the neediest people among us – for victims of human trafficking. Let's ask our all-powerful God to create paths of escape for them as He has done for others in the past.



Let's Pray . . .

Dear God, please bring rescue. Please create paths of escape for the victims of trafficking. Please give them eyes to see these paths and empower them with the courage to run. Bring these precious people to safety by Your mighty hand.

So be it. Amen.



"Prayer is weakness leaning on omnipotence.

- W.S. Bowd-

Prayer Point Five: Freedom for Slaves

"The armies of Israel captured 200,000 women and children from Judah and seized tremendous amounts of plunder, which they took back to Samaria. But a prophet of the LORD named Oded was there in Samaria when the army of Israel returned home. He went out to meet them and said, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, was angry with Judah and let you defeat them. But you have gone too far, killing them without mercy, and all heaven is disturbed. And now you are planning to make slaves of these people from Judah and Jerusalem. What about your own sins against the LORD your God? Listen to me and return these prisoners you have taken, for they are your own relatives. Watch out, because now the LORD's fierce anger has been turned against you! Then some of the leaders of Israel—Azariah son of Jehohanan, Berekiah son of Meshillemoth, Jehizkiah son of Shallum, and Amasa son of Hadlai—agreed with this and confronted the men returning from battle. 'You must not bring the prisoners here!' they declared. 'We cannot afford to add to our sins and guilt. Our guilt is already great, and the LORD's fierce anger is already turned against Israel.' So the warriors released the prisoners and handed over the plunder in the sight of the leaders and all the people. Then the four men just mentioned by name came forward and distributed clothes from the plunder to the prisoners who were naked. They provided clothing and sandals to wear, gave them enough food and drink, and dressed their wounds with olive oil. They put those who were weak on donkeys and took all the prisoners back to their own people in Jericho, the city of palms. Then they returned to Samaria."

2 Chronicles 28: 8-15 [NLT]

The ancient Israelites attacked Judah and killed many of their own relatives. Then, they captured 200,000 others to keep as slaves.

In response, God's prophet made it very clear that keeping these slaves would invite God's anger and punishment. The slave-owners and their families would suffer. This frightened Israel's leaders.

They decided to feed the captives, treat their wounds, clothe the ones who were naked and return all of the captives to their own countrymen.

The captors did not release the slaves out of compassion. They released them out of selfishness . . . but they did release them.

It would be wonderful if human traffickers suddenly cared enough about their victims to set them free. But wouldn't it also be wonderful if, like the ancient Israelites, they released them out of a desire for self-protection? The point, after all, is that slaves must be set free. Any method God wants to use is a good one — compassion, fear of reprisal, attentive neighbors, law enforcement action. Any path He chooses to bring rescue to slaves means that human beings will be free.



Let's Pray . . .

Holy and all-powerful God, we pray for rescue by any means at all. We cry out to You to free the slaves – in our country and around the world.

You alone are able.

So be it. Amen.



"Satan trembles when he sees the weakest Christian on his knees."
- William Cowper -

Prayer Point Six: Wisdom and Discernment

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him"

James 1:5 [NKJV]

Discernment: Knowledge of the truth regarding a situation or a person

Wisdom: The ability to use knowledge

It is very important for every believer to understand that we have been given a tremendous gift - an open door to God's throne. Jesus paid an incredible price to provide us this privilege and it is God's desire that we will walk through that open door and go to Him with our needs.

As we engage in the fight against human trafficking, it is absolutely vital that we intercede continually in prayer. God alone is the source of the strength, power, wisdom and discernment we need to be victorious in battle.

The enemy knows the power of our prayers and will try his strategies to stop us. Remember, Jesus conquered and defeated Satan when He went into combat with the hosts of darkness and met the demands of justice to make possible man's redemption from Satan's power. Jesus left Satan defeated and paralyzed. We have been given legal right to bind the power of the enemy and loose his captives through our prayers. This process demands a solid confidence in the Word of God.

There is no place for timidity or wavering in the believer, but only a willingness to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Satan is no match for the child of God who knows his blood bought position in Christ – the position that gives confidence to work with God in prayer. According to Proverbs 2: 1-6, we have available to us God's wisdom and discernment to use as we need. Through prayer, we can have the ear of God and receive help and direction. Through prayer, we can also become a dangerous foe to the hosts of darkness.

Come to your Father God boldly, covered by the blood of Jesus, using the mighty name of Jesus as you expect your answer. He will NEVER FAIL you! You are as powerful as your prayer life.



Let's Pray . . .

Father, we come boldly to your throne of grace and thank you that you have made available to us your wisdom and your discernment. Guide and direct us in this battle against darkness. May we have Your battle strategy to combat and overcome the enemy so that the captives may be set free.

So be it. Amen.

Ephesians 6:10-18 . 1 John 5:14-15 . Psalm 27:1-3&5 . Luke 10:19 Hebrews 4:16 . Proverbs 2:1-6 . Colossians 2:13-15



"Each time, before you intercede, be quiet first, and worship God in His glory. Think of what He can do, and how He delights to hear the prayers of His redeemed people. Think of your place and privilege in Christ, and expect great things!"

- Andrew Murray -

Prayer Point Seven: Protection for Frontline Warriors

"Then Amalek came and fought against Israel at Rephidim. So Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose men for us and go out, fight against Amalek. Tomorrow I will station myself on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.' Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought against Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. So it came about when Moses held his hand up, that Israel prevailed, and when he let his hand down, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy. Then they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it; and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other. Thus his hands were steady until the sun set. So Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword."

Exodus 17:8-13 [NASB]

The Amalekites launched an unprovoked attack against Israel in the valley of Rephidim. The tactics of the Amalekites were especially loathsome because they did not attack the armies of Israel – instead they attacked the weak and weary ones at the rear of the camp – the ones who were too ill, too weak or too young to protect themselves. (See Deut. 25:17-18). Israel needed to be victorious in battle against this treacherous and sly enemy. Moses formulated the battle strategy for the next day: He instructed Joshua to mobilize and lead an army to fight against the Amalekites in the valley while Moses, with his hand lifting up the staff of God in a symbolic act of prayer, stationed himself on the hilltop with Aaron and Hur. As long as Moses' hand was lifted up, Israel prevailed; when it was not, Amalek prevailed.

We learn from this passage that the battle was waged on two fronts that day - in the valley with Joshua and the army of Israel battling the Amalekites, and on the mountaintop with Moses, assisted by Aaron and Hur, interceding for the protection of Joshua and his men and victory in the battle.

Based on this scripture we understand that, although Joshua and the army had to do their part by fighting against the Amalekites, the victory was actually determined by persistent intercession.

Those who are engaged in frontline battle against human trafficking face an enemy no less sly and treacherous than the Amalekites. These frontline warriors cannot win this battle alone; they need our prayers for protection, wisdom and discernment as they go forth in the battle. Will you join the battle and pray for them?



Let's Pray . . .

We pray a hedge of protection around those who battle on the frontlines against human trafficking. Thank you, Father, that You are faithful to strengthen and protect these from the evil one. We ask that You would contend against those who contend against these frontline warriors and that You would protect these warriors from all deception. We ask and thank You for generously releasing Your wisdom upon them.

So be it. Amen.

"No pressure is greater than God's power."
- Charles Stanley -

Prayer Point Eight: Unity in Battle

"How good and how pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Psalm 133:1 [NIV]

I have heard it said, "Snowflakes are one of nature's most fragile things, but just look at what they can do when they stick together." The same point is illustrated again and again in nature...a single raindrop being of no great effect coming together with many to fuel the rushing forces of the great Amazon; a single small termite easily disposed of, but when matched with a great army of the same, quickly disposing of great structures. It is when we are united in oneness of purpose that our strength is exponentially multiplied.

There was once a community in which about thirteen churches worked for 20-40 minutes each. They bagged beans, rice, lentils and spice. At the end of that time, over 1 million meals were ready to feed starving people in places most of them had never seen, or even conceived of visiting. This is the power of the collective. In a battle of such significance, we, united against human trafficking, can make no allowance for division. We must unite - each one doing the thing they are best equipped to do, working together for a great purpose.

While the evil may appear insurmountable, the force of our unity in the cause of Christ Jesus - to set the captives free - combined with the power of the Unconquerable One is a winning cause. It is the unity of those in the fight that will deal the winning blow that crushes and wrecks the ugly roots, stem and fruit of this great evil that runs rampant through the earth.

When we fight each other, we all lose. As Paul said, "if you keep biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other." (Galatians 5:15)

The richness of our gifts, strengths and passions in regard to this cause is unmatchable. Let us all be united in purpose, using those gifts side by side and contending with the true opponent, while supporting, encouraging and strengthening each other as one!



Let's Pray . . .

Jesus, may we always trust in Your great power. May we understand the strength with which You have equipped us. May it be seen as a truly "good and pleasant thing" when we work together in unity. Show us how to work together. Reveal to us where the seeds of division may be growing and help us to root them out. May we work together in Your name as one body of believers to see that captives are freed, souls are saved, and wounds are healed. Bring together those who fight for the helpless, and teach us to learn from one another, yield to one another, serve beside one another and share with one another. In Your perfect, holy and mighty name.

So be it. Amen.



"There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer."

- A.T. Pierson -

Prayer Point Nine: God's Provision

"Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in heavenly realms"

Ephesians 6:11-12 [NIV]

When considering the enormous numbers and incomprehensible evil involved in the trafficking of another human being, it is easy to become overwhelmed with thoughts of hopelessness and defeat. In our own limited human wisdom and strength it is a battle that does not bring great promise for victory.

But the good news is that we do not wage this warfare in our own wisdom and strength. God has provided HIS armor, HIS battle plan, and HIS assurance of victory to us. Ephesians 6:13 instructs us to put on the full armor OF GOD so that when the day of evil comes, we may be able to stand our ground. It is in the power of Almighty God that we stand against the schemes of the evil one and it is through the Son of the Most High that we are assured victory in this battle against evil.

We must recognize the spiritual battle we are in and understand that the weapons of our warfare are "not carnal but mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds." (2 Corinthians 10:4 NKJV)

As much as God has provided us with weapons for a spiritual battle, He surely does provide for the practical needs of battle as well. It takes money and personnel to rescue and care for victims of human trafficking. It takes money and personnel to bring freedom to the oppressed. God knows our needs and will supply them all according to HIS riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (From Phil. 4:19 NIV)



Let's Pray . . .

Father, we thank you for providing armort hat we can wear into battle against the powers of darkness. Direct us in battle that we may obtain victory for those who are being oppressed. We ask that Your blessings be poured out on those who are battling on the frontlines so that no need goes unmet, whether it be personnel to wage the war or financial provision to meet practical needs. We thank you that you know what we have need of before we even ask, and that you have made provision for us.

So be it. Amen.



""Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold of His willingness." - Martin Luther -

Prayer Point Ten: Restoration for Victims

"For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Luke 19:10 [NASB]

Many familiar with the story of Zacchaeus the tax collector automatically associate the verse above with conversion and salvation. This scripture does of course address salvation, but consider that the word "save" appearing in this verse is actually a transliteration of the Greek word "sozo,", which has a broader meaning, that is, to be saved, healed and delivered, or in other words, to be made whole. (See Strong's Greek 4982).

Those who have been trafficked have suffered indescribable loss. They have lost their innocence and many have lost their health, family, peace of mind, hopes and dreams. Their hurt is deep. But, we know the One whose mission is to seek and restore to wholeness that which was lost. And we know that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much. (James 5:16 NKJV)

So, let us pray fervently for these trafficking victims – for healing and restoration of every area of their lives, so that there will be nothing missing, nothing broken in any of them.



Let's Pray . . .

Father, we thank You for being a God of restoration. Your Word says that You do not change so we know that You are still Jehovah Shalom - the God of peace, the God of wholeness. We ask that You would restore to wholeness every area of the lives of these trafficked ones.

We ask and thank You for healing for their bodies, souls and spirits. We thank You that the plans that You have for them are good - to give them a future and a hope. Lord God of peace, we ask that You would sanctify these and that the spirit, soul and body of each one of these would be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So be it. Amen.

"Prayer is the greatest of all forces, because it honors God and brings him into active aid." - E.M. Bounds -

Prayer Point Eleven: Justice and Mercy for Traffickers

"I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me."

Acts 26:17b–18 [NIV]

When I first learned about present-day slavery, I felt an overwhelming compassion for the victims. I was grieved over the torment, violence and entrapment suffered by these human beings. My heart was broken to learn that children are brutalized in this way. I also felt grateful for my own freedom.

In a very short time, though, I came to feel even more grateful that I am not a perpetrator of this vicious crime. My heart is as capable of choosing evil as anyone's. I was saved by God's grace early in my childhood. I was trained to be mindful of the feelings of others. Still, I have chosen selfishness so many times.

What did the traffickers experience before arriving at this place – the place that propels them to abuse others so mercilessly? Were they victims of abuse before they began victimizing others? Undoubtedly, many were. But can they really be hardened to the tremendous cost of their actions? Can they truly believe that human beings have no value at all? What is their sense of their own worth?

I long for every human trafficker to come to justice – to be caught and imprisoned, to be prevented from destroying more lives.

I also call out, though, for God to bring freedom to these troubled men and women – not freedom from prison or consequence, but freedom from the hardness and greed that fuels their abusive behavior. And I ask that they would be saved from spending eternity separated from their Creator.



Let's Pray . . .

Lord God, may every trafficker be captured and stopped. May they be held accountable and serve a fair prison sentence. And as they serve their terms in prison, please meet their deepest spiritual and emotional needs.

May they experience both justice and mercy – as You are both just and forgiving.

May both slave and slaveholder find salvation and true restoration.

So be it. Amen.



"The prayer power has never been tried to its full capacity. If we want to see mighty wonders of divine power and grace wrought in the place of weakness, failure and disappointment, let us answer God's standing challenge, 'Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not!'"

- I. Hudson Taylor -

Prayer Point Twelve: A Future and a Hope

"For I know the plans I have for you,' says the LORD.
"They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11 [NLT]

When people are trafficked, they are abused layer by layer so that their traffickers can rob them of self-determination and the sense of human dignity that would empower them to fight back.

After enduring this control for months or years, it must be frightening to even hope for something better. We are told in Proverbs 13:12 that "Hope deferred makes the heart sick."

While this is all true, there remains a far greater truth: Our God is a great and mighty God! He is in no way limited by human circumstance.

The verse above was a part of a message from God to a group of people who had been captured and forcibly moved to a foreign land. Right in the midst of their exile, God had plans to give them a future and a hope – and God's plans ALWAYS come to pass.

The sixth chapter of 2 Kings relates an experience shared by Elisha and his servant. The passage also reveals God's capacity to see the hope and the truth that we, as people, often miss.

"Alas master, what shall we do?" This was the cry of Elisha's servant when he saw that they were surrounded by the enemy army. Elisha's confident reply was, "fear not, for those who are with us are more than those with them."

"Then Elisha prayed, 'Lord, I pray You open his eyes that he may see.' And the Lord opened the young man's eyes and he saw: and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha."

The threatening circumstance was real. Elisha and his servant were surrounded by an enemy army. But the greater truth prevailed: they were also surrounded by God's heavenly hosts who were there to defend them.

Oh, may the slaves in our world today experience the greater truth – God's power. May He intervene on their behalf with His great and mighty hand!

Then, may He bring to pass what they may be too afraid to even wish for: a future and a hope. May He bring "beauty for ashes" for these precious ones and bring them to a wholeness that causes them to smile at the future.

Let's Pray . . .

Dear powerful God, please usher in Your power. Please bring rescue and safety to the enslaved. Then, Lord, please fulfill their deep personal longings – relational, educational and professional. Please heal them so thoroughly that they can have healthy marriages and families.

We ask that You would bring such healing and restoration to their hearts that they, like Jeremiah, would cry out, "O Sovereign LORD! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!" Jeremiah 32:17

Oh, Lord, may the slaves be freed and empowered with a future and a hope.

May their rescue and restoration bring glory to Your mighty name for You are worthy to be praised!

So be it. Amen.

