

# BRIGHT HOPE : 2021 PRAYER GUIDE // // //

Sometimes it feels overwhelming to think about the desperate needs of the extreme poor. And often we may wonder if our gifts and prayers even make a dent in the problem. It's like trying to wrap your arms around a gust of wind. But for our amazing God, who hung the universe on nothing and holds the oceans in His hands, *nothing is impossible!* And not only does He amaze us with His power, our loving Father cares deeply about the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of every human being on earth. And He has a special place in His heart for the extreme poor!

This prayer guide will help you pray for some of the top needs of the most vulnerable people on earth. **May it inspire you to pray boldly and faithfully, never underestimating the power of God's answers to your prayers!**

## 1. ORPHANS & VULNERABLE CHILDREN

An estimated 140 million children around the world have lost one or both parents. Pray that these precious, vulnerable children would know God as their Father and Provider. Pray that God would protect them and put people in their lives to nurture and care for them.

*My whole being will exclaim, "Who is like you, Lord? You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them."*  
// Psalm 35:10



## 2. HUNGER & THIRST

Nearly 800 million people don't have access to clean, safe water, or enough food. These are staggering statistics. Pray for the provision of nutritious, ongoing food sources, so that no one will go to bed hungry and no child's development will be impaired. Pray for affordable clean water solutions that prevent waterborne illnesses.

*The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever!* // Psalm 22:26



## 3. HEALTH & MEDICAL CARE

Every 5 seconds, a child under age 15 dies—most often from a preventable cause. Pray for access to affordable, high-quality medical care, and pray that more education could be given about hygiene, sanitation and other preventable and treatable health issues that can become life-threatening.

*"But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds," declares the LORD.*  
// Jeremiah 30:17



## 4. AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK

An estimated 79% of those who live in poverty live in rural areas. For many, crops and animals are the main source of food and income. But devastating droughts and floods, as well as the absence of quality seed and agricultural training, hinder their success. Ask the Lord to prosper the work of their hands and to multiply their harvests.

*Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone.*  
// Zechariah 10:1



## 5. EDUCATION

**Across the globe, 264 million children don't go to school.** Though the reasons are numerous, every child deserves the opportunity to go to school. Please pray that parents would understand the power of education to help their children break out of generational poverty. Pray that God would financially provide for parents who can't afford it, and that more schools would be built for children who live in remote places.

*It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others. // Ephesians 2:10*



## 6. BIBLES & CHURCHES

**Oftentimes, the extreme poor don't have access to the Bible, and their church leaders may have little to no biblical training or access to spiritual resources.** Pray for increased access to the Word of God and pray that strong churches would grow in breadth and depth as many come to faith in Christ and are discipled.

*Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. // Psalm 119:105*



## 7. BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

**Just under 50% of Sub-Saharan African children live in extreme poverty.** Pray for them, their families and caretakers who are suffering under the crushing burden of just trying to survive. Pray they will find physical and spiritual Hope, strength to persevere, and access to resources and opportunities that will help them break the cycle of generational poverty.

*For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight. // Psalm 72:12 - 14*



# Thank you for praying for the extreme poor!

**Continue praying by joining our Bright Hope Prayer Text Team.** Receive a few texts a month with real-time prayer requests from places of extreme poverty.

**[BRIGHTHOPE.ORG/PRAYER-TEAM](http://BRIGHTHOPE.ORG/PRAYER-TEAM)**

**Sign up to receive our weekly blog email.** Read transforming stories of God at work in the nations, resourceful articles about poverty, and learn inspiring ways to bring Hope to those living on less than \$2 a day.

**[BRIGHTHOPE.ORG/BLOG](http://BRIGHTHOPE.ORG/BLOG)**

**I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy. // Psalm 140:12**

**READY TO MAKE AN ONGOING, ETERNAL IMPACT?  
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**BRIGHT HOPE**