



Thank you for joining **Bright Hope's COVID-19 World Prayer Day for the Poor.**

COVID-19 is a terrifying, life-threatening enemy to the extreme poor. Without adequate resources like clean water, adequate medical supplies, proper sanitation and hygiene solutions, **these vulnerable communities are in desperate need of the Lord's intervention.** As the pandemic spreads across the globe, we cry out to the Lord for His divine protection for those living in extreme poverty.

We encourage you to use your prayer hour(s) to reflect on the Lord's character, His people, and His love for the extreme poor. This **prayer guide** includes some resources to get your started. Use them as a guide or follow your own promptings from the Holy Spirit to spend the time as He directs.

1. Familiarize yourself with the needs of the extreme poor as it relates to COVID-19.

Read through a section of Bright Hope's *COVID-19 and the Extreme Poor* to familiarize yourself with the needs of the poor as it relates to food security (page 3), medical and sanitation (page 4) or social distancing (page 5).

2. Meditate on God's word and His character.

Select one or more of the following verses to meditate on God's word and His character.

Psalm 46:1-3 - God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not fear when the earthquakes come and the mountains crumble into the sea. Let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge!

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 - All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

Habakkuk 3:17-18 - Even though the fig trees have no blossoms and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren, even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the Lord! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!

Psalm 91 - Read Psalm 91 aloud, keeping in mind that God's promises and provision are constant around the globe.

¹ Those who live in the shelter of the Most High
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

² This I declare about the Lord:

He alone is my refuge, my place of safety;
he is my God, and I trust him.

³ For he will rescue you from every trap
and protect you from deadly disease.

⁴ He will cover you with his feathers.

He will shelter you with his wings.

His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

- ⁵ Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night,
nor the arrow that flies in the day.
- ⁶ Do not dread the disease that stalks in darkness,
nor the disaster that strikes at midday.
- ⁷ Though a thousand fall at your side,
though ten thousand are dying around you,
these evils will not touch you.
- ⁸ Just open your eyes,
and see how the wicked are punished.
- ⁹ **If you make the Lord your refuge,
if you make the Most High your shelter,**
- ¹⁰ **no evil will conquer you;
no plague will come near your home.**
- ¹¹ **For he will order his angels
to protect you wherever you go.**
- ¹² They will hold you up with their hands
so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.
- ¹³ You will trample upon lions and cobras;
you will crush fierce lions and serpents under your feet!
- ¹⁴ The Lord says, "I will rescue those who love me.
I will protect those who trust in my name.
- ¹⁵ When they call on me, I will answer;
I will be with them in trouble.
I will rescue and honor them.
- ¹⁶ I will reward them with a long life
and give them my salvation."

3. Praise and worship the Lord through music.

Prepare for worship by listening to one or more of the following hymns and worships songs. Let the lyrics be your praise to our Holy God and ongoing prayer for the poor and most vulnerable that we serve.

- [Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus](#)
- [Way Maker](#)
- [Great is Thy Faithfulness](#)

4. Pray for those living in extreme poverty.

Food security

- Pray for the people that sell their goods and services in the local market each day. They have been shut down and have no way to earn a living.
- Pray for the millions of people who rely on informal markets to be able to buy food each day for their families.
- Pray for the parents, who feel the weight of this burden, and now must find a way to feed their children meals each day that they have no provision for.
- Pray for the children who are going hungry because schools are closed and they are no longer receiving regular meals through their school or after school program; and they have no way to



learn while the schools are closed since they have no access to internet or resources to attend a remote school.

- Pray for the elderly who rely on the church for meals and care who have no other option for support now that the churches are closed due to governmental restrictions.

Medical and Sanitation

- Pray for rural community clinics that have no formal doctors and limited resources to care for the sick, who are unprepared and under resourced to deal with Covid-19. Pray that medical items like masks, gloves and gowns become available to wear while caring for the infected.
- Pray for those infected needing care from a hospital, that they would be able to afford the long journey, the cost of the treatment, and that there would be beds and ventilators available. In Haiti, there are 30 ICU beds for 11 million Haitians and in Uganda there are 55 intensive care beds for more than 42 million people.
- Pray for those who live in rural areas and do not have access to a hospital, medical clinic, or the ventilators that are required for severe cases of coronavirus.
- Pray for the communities where there are a shortage of healthcare workers, such as in Haiti, where there are 7 workers for every 1000 people and in Zambia where there are only 2 doctors in the entire province where our communities are located.
- Pray for those living in communities where they lack indoor plumbing and electricity, making it nearly impossible to properly and regularly wash and sanitize.
- Pray for those who are forced to travel to crowded public wells and water sources to retrieve water.

Social distancing

- Pray for those who can't socially isolate because they live in a crowded slum like in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Pray for those who have to go out in public to purchase or retrieve water.

5. Close by praying The Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Thank you for joining our US and field staff, our board, church partners and allies as we lift up the extreme poor during this critical time of need. The Lord is faithful. We pray a special blessing of thanksgiving, protection and health on you and your family. Regardless of your circumstances, may you know God's ongoing presence, comfort, love, grace and peace and continue to share it with others.