

Open Your Eyes

It is easy to sit back and just enjoy life in a little world of our own creation; disregarding unpleasant things that may be going on around us; only listening to information and opinions that agree with our view of the world, seeking only the company of 'like-minded people.'



It is easy to put the responsibility for bad choices, even wrong doing on someone else's shoulders by staying silent, by denying truth, by painting the world to fit our own world view and, hoping that what we do not want to face will 'just go away.'

It is easy to excuse words and actions we know to be wrong if we convince ourselves that getting something, we want is more important.

The problem is that there are consequences for such choices whether we ignore that reality or not, and they will hurt others and ourselves even if we try to deny it and may not intend the harm.

Too often people have fallen into this alluring trap of complacency and self-deception only to discover that doing so has helped destroy the very things that they are intended to protect and preserve.

Lord, help us to be willing to look at the world with open eyes and acknowledge that sometimes our views may be part of the problem not the solution.

Help us to accept that, no matter how well intentioned we may be, we are sometimes wrong.

Remind us that Jesus' new way of living did turn the world upside down for his disciples and their neighbors! Do not let us forget, it was well meaning people, a lot like us, who were unwilling hear Jesus' radical Good News, and sent Jesus to the cross. . .

Remind us that it was often the people who were outsiders who Jesus sought out and who heard, believed, and lived the Good News the most faithfully – the Good Samaritan, Zacchaeus, Paul, to name a few.

This week pray for:

- **Nigeria** Members of Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN, Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) report that the security situation is getting worse in northeastern Nigeria. Recent Boko Haram attacks on the villages of Delle and Lassa are only 30 miles from EYN headquarters. People had to flee those villages and people in the surrounding area are living in panic. Keep them in your prayers.
- **People dealing with the aftermath of storms and flooding**

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