



A Prayer For Guidance

Lord, we are in a time of unprecedented uncertainty. For many the future does not look bright. Instead, it appears threatening and foreboding; mean spirited and nasty. Too many of those who claim to be leaders are calling out the worst in the people around them instead of enabling people to be their best

selves. Some even celebrate being nasty, mean spirited, and cruel. Many people feel powerless; feel they are being pushed down a path they did not chose – a path that will bring hardship and suffering for many. Give us faith to put our trust in you. Give us wisdom and courage to speak the truth in love when our speaking can help those in need; the marginalized; the scapegoats among us. Call us to seek your path and use our hands and feet as you call us to do as we work for the good of our neighbors whoever they are and where ever they face injustice. Remind us that our neighbor is anyone in need whether they think like us or not. Remind us, you love does not have strings attached. Remind us that you call us to seek justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). Amen.

LLF

This week pray for:

Children and parents being separated and kept apart by the government. Many of these families are fleeing violence and persecution in Central America. Their safety is not certain if they are returned to their place of origin. Experts say that the trauma separation is causing the children will inflict life-long damage . . . The government has said some of the children will not be returned to their parents . . . Lord, remind us that these families are your children with the same rights that we have ourselves. Stir us to speak out for them. Families belong together.

Pray for those who set government spending priorities. The U.S. has the highest child poverty rates in the developed world (25%). 1½ million American households live in extreme poverty. The top 1% of U.S. adults earn 27 times as much as the bottom 50% of adults. The U.S. already spends more than 60% of its money on military spending, yet only about 12% is spent on human services and education. Even so, the House just approved \$717 billion for military spending with no plan for how it will be paid for . . .

The U.S. is the most dangerous country in the developed world in which to have a baby. 50,000 women suffer life-altering injuries and 700 die in childbirth here every year – at least half of these are preventable. Having babies is getting safer in most of the world but more dangerous in the U.S. Pray for all pregnant women and stir us to seek the best for them.



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