

## Pray In These Times



After weeks of restricted movement, many people are getting fidgety. People want to 'get back to normal'. Some are feeling desperate. Some have had too much alone time. For many, the need to get back to work is critical because they do not have a support structure that enables them to financially survive staying at home indefinitely. The clash between concern for others and concern for self is growing. For

a growing number, concern for themselves is also becoming divided with difficult choices. One example: some people in Lebanon resumed protesting this week against their government's choices, especially COVID-19 restrictions saying, "we would rather die of the virus than starve to death" because we are not able to work.

A growing danger is that political perception and expediency is starting to take precedence over scientific and medical reality in public decision making, even as the health crisis continues to grow and spread with no end in sight. The hope of science developing a vaccine or treatment is important and essential as we move forward, though a vaccine is not a certainty. The economic impact on people is also a reality that must be addressed.

**This week, continue to pray** for those who are sick and separated. Pray for those caring for the sick and those working to find treatments and a vaccine. Also pray for those dealing with the economic realities created by this pandemic. Pray for those making the decisions that affect all of us as we move forward. Remember Jesus calls us to put people first and care for the 'least of these' among us – the poor; the sick; the prisoner; the homeless; the marginalized.

### ***This week, in your prayer time also remember:***

- **Do not forget the other needs in the world.** Violence, hunger, and other needs have not gone away!
  - Remember the Democratic Republic of Congo where the Mulongwe River has flooded leaving thousands of people displaced, including 25 Brethren families.
  - Remember the Dominican Republic where hunger is a growing problem, especially for the day laborers who own no land, have no work now, and so have no income with which to buy food. This problem exists, especially for the poor, in most of the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Getting food is an issue in Haiti and South Sudan too. A Global Mission and Service worker from South Dakota is stuck in South Sudan by travel restrictions. Remember him and his family.

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