Prayer Topic:

A Prayer Regarding Abuse in America

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:46-55, Psalm 7

Reflections of the Heart:

On any given day, infants, children, men and women all around us are facing some form of abuse: verbal, physical, sexual, or emotional. As kings of The King, we are to stand up for righteousness. Let's pray fervently for those who are suffering in silence and expect our King to rescue them.

Scriptural Prayer:

Exalted Father, we thank You for being our Strong Tower. We thank You for watching over Your children. Thank You for hearing the cries of the righteous and for answering us when we call. Lord, all the earth will shout joyful praises to You and sing about the glory of Your Name. We, Your children, will tell the world how glorious You are. Your enemies cringe before Your mighty power. Lord, we praise You! It is good to sing praises to You, our God. It is pleasant and fitting to give You praise. You heal the brokenhearted and bandage their wounds. Lord, You are great and Your power is absolute. Your understanding is beyond comprehension.

Honorable Father, You have not ignored or belittled the suffering of the needy, nor have You turned Your back on them. But, Lord, You hear Your people when they call to You for help and You rescue them from all their troubles. Therefore, we cry out to You for help for those who are being abused in our nation; mentally, physically, verbally, emotionally, or sexually. We rebuke the spirits of anger, wrath, violence, low self-esteem, fear and lack of self-control that motivates people to intentionally harm those around them. We cancel generational curses of domestic violence and sexual assault from the bloodlines of the people in our nation, especially from those in the Body of Christ. Lord Jesus, You are the Strong Tower that the righteous can run to and find safety. We decree that the victims of violence and assault will lift their eyes to You and find safety. We declare that You are their refuge and strength; always ready to help in times of trouble. We rebuke the spirits of fear and intimidation that would cause them to remain silent and stay in their current, unhealthy situation. We cancel every lie that the enemy has decreed over their lives through the aggressor about their self-worth. We decree that they will confess Your Word over their lives and understand that they are the head and not the tail, blessed and not cursed, and that they are more than a conqueror through Christ Jesus. Lord, they will call on You and You will answer them; You will be with them in trouble; You will deliver them and honor them. You will satisfy them with long life and show them Your salvation. They have been created in Your image and Your plans for their lives are for good and not evil, so that they will have a future and a hope.

List the names of anyone the Holy Spirit brings to your mind while you are praying this prayer and commit to praying for them this month:

Holy Spirit, we especially cry out for the children and minors who are being abused. Please rescue them and give them the boldness to tell a trusted adult about their current situation. Heal the wounds that have been inflicted upon them and restore their confidence in adults as well as themselves. Help them to find good, Godly friends who will walk alongside them and love them so that they will not feel isolated and alone. Please open the eyes of righteous people around the victims, especially our children, so that they will recognize the signs of trouble and are directed to find help. Please lead the aggressors to recognize the need for and to receive help.

Righteous Father, please forgive the aggressors for violating those around them. Forgive us as a nation for turning a blind eye to violence. Forgive us for normalizing and making excuses for this kind of behavior. Forgive us as a nation for placing the blame on the victims. Forgive us for our seemingly unlimited appetite, or tolerance for violence, sexuality and vulgarity in the entertainment we consume via music, movies, the internet and other popular culture. Forgive us for creating and accepting such a hostile and violent atmosphere in our nation. Forgive those parents who have inflicted their children with mental, emotional, physical and spiritual abuse. Forgive us, the Body of Christ, for being insensitive to the needs of victims of abuse. Lord, forgive me for *(list*

<u>any sins that you have committed</u>). Holy Spirit, remind the victims of abuse of those they need to forgive and help them to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. (Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show you names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say aloud, "I forgive <u>name of person(s)</u>." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)

Holy Spirit, help the victims of abuse not to yield to temptation but deliver them from the evil one.

Sovereign Lord, You are the triumphant One. You laid the foundations of the earth and determined its dimensions. You kept the sea inside its boundaries and locked it behind barred gates, limiting its shores. You are the Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent King and we adore You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 34:17, Psalm 66:1-3, Psalm 147:1-5, Psalm 22:24, Psalm 34:17, Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 46:1, Deuteronomy 28:13, Romans 8:37, Psalm 91:15-16, Genesis 1:27, Jeremiah 29:11, Mathew 6:13, Job 38:4-5,8,10

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