Prayers for Those Caught in Human Trafficking

We stop now, we quiet ourselves Lord, to be mindful of the horrifying reality that so many of Your children, so many of our fellow humans, are trapped in, traumatized by, or mourning for those caught in human trafficking. We stop and focus because we know Your heart is with these, Your children, and we too want our heart to feel all the pain, empathy, and love that is within You.

Shape our hearts Lord, to love like You

In these moments of quiet reflection, we find the courage to feel the pain of these victims and survivors. We risk carrying their pain inside of our hearts because we know You have already gone before us in love to bear our pain. Setting aside distractions, shutting out the noise, we look not at our own lives, but at the world we live in, and we choose to lament. We cry out for the world to be made whole, and for all things to be reconciled.

Shape our hearts Lord, to love like You

We pray today for children without families or homes, facing horrors that no one should ever face. We pray for women bought and sold to be used. We pray for those trapped laboring against their will, their bodies and spirits being broken. We pray for those who are isolated and alone, kept from the most basic of human need for connection and love. We pray for all who have become a commodity, bought and sold without dignity or care.

Shape our hearts Lord, to love like You

Jesus, You called us to follow You in the hardest action we know, loving our enemies. Even as You were being murdered, You forgave those who carried out the injustice, those who inflicted Your wounds, and those who participated with their voice or consent. So, we too pray today for those we want to categorize as our enemies. We pray for the traffickers, for johns, for those who purchase or exploit others with or without knowledge of the trauma they inflict. We acknowledge their humanity, brokenness, and need for You as we do for their victims.

We pray, Lord that their hearts would be changed and that they would see the value in each person they encounter, that they would see them as created in Your image. We pray Lord that You would help those who are complicit in trafficking because they too are being coerced or feel trapped without choice. We pray that they too would experience justice, freedom, and healing. We pray that You would perform a great miracle, and turn captors into liberators, co-conspirators into abolitionists, and broken human beings into Your healed and restored children. Teach us to work for change through love, always.

Shape our hearts Lord, to love like You

Spirit, we ask You to provoke Your church into action. Move Your people to join with You in the healing of this world. Let us never rest, satisfied with the world as it is, until You return in finally glory and reconcile all things. Spirit, breath into our lives a renewed hope for a world where all are set free and a renewed strength to labor to this end. Give us Your strength in our weakness and Your wisdom in our folly. We love and worship You.

Shape our hearts Lord, to love like You

A DAILY PRAYER
for the Reality of a WORLD WITH SLAVERY

Today, O Lord, we choose to put our trust in You. We trust You because You have heard the cries of Your children caught in slavery. We trust You because You do not cause the suffering in our world, You do not ignore the suffering of our world, no, You chose to come and endure our suffering. We trust that You are working to heal our world, especially the brokenness of slavery. Help us today to be part of this reconciling work. Help us today to be good news for a broken world. Help us today to trust in Your love and choose to love the world as You do.

AMEN