



COMPASSION AND THE WORKING CHILD

A SMALL GROUP PRAYER GUIDE

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2017

A Call to Prayer.

Oakseed Ministries International, a ministry assisting urban ministries among the poor, calls God's people to pray for the 246 million children caught in the web of child labor and for those who minister among them.

Ground Rules.

1. Encourage short prayers that focus on one topic or idea. Allow time for others to continue that same topic before going on to another topic. It is hoped that people will pray many times, rather than offering one long multi-topic prayer.
2. Do not spend a lengthy time explaining what you are going to pray about, just pray.
3. Silence is OK.
4. Reading a few relevant Bible verses is appropriate.
5. The leader is to lead in prayer, but not monopolize the time of prayer.
6. Encourage people to include in their prayers concerns on the topic that they may be personally involved in or people and ministries that they know who are involved with the working child.
7. The outline allows for transition breaks during the prayer time. As you move into the next prayer session, it is important for the leader to provide a focus for this new section.

Purpose.

To act with compassion on behalf of children who are denied the opportunity to know God's calling for their life. Child labor cannot be stopped unless God intervenes. It is for this purpose and to this end that we pray, asking God for the impossible.

Prayer Outline.

- I. Pray for a greater understanding of the problem. Pray for insight into the heart and compassion of God for children caught in the bondage of child labor.
- II. Pray for the children who have been taken away from their families.
- III. Pray for the needs of families who cannot survive unless their children work.
- IV. Pray for protection for children who are forced to do work that is a threat to their physical and emotional health.
- V. Pray for the release of children in bonded labor who often are paid only a few pennies a day and are forced to work long hours.
- VII. Pray for peace in the lands where strife, conflict, and greed lead to wars that steal children to fight in battle.
- VIII. Pray for governments and their leaders to uphold the laws that protect children from exploitation.
- IX. Pray for God's people to stand up and speak on behalf of 218 million children who are denied the right to pursue God's calling for them.
- X. Pray for those who bring the Good News of Jesus to the oppressed children of the world caught in the web of child labor.

Oakseed Ministries International is celebrating 25 years of faithful ministry and service. Since 1992, Oakseed Ministries has been assisting indigenous ministries by serving abandoned children and the poor in the Developing World's largest cities, bringing the good news of Jesus through word and deed.