

PLEASE DO SHARE WITH ALL YOUR NETWORK. Thank you.

Dear Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors,

We are seeing the Coronavirus spreading across the globe, and fear along with it. As well as the impact of the virus on people's *health*, we recognise its destructive impact on many aspects of our economy and society here in UK.

Public gatherings are being banned. Schools, universities and places of work are being closed. Shop shelves are emptying quicker than they can be filled, as people panic buy.

At this time of fear and foreboding, how can we respond as God's children?

We need to remember:

- that our Father God is sovereign; He knows what's happening and He is able both to heal and to turn suffering to good
- that our heavenly Father is full of compassion for *all* those He has created; He has good plans for our lives
- that He has called us to shine like lights in the darkness, to bring healing and hope to all who will receive it

He calls us to pray – not out of fear, but with confidence.

Here is a simple prayer we can use:

Father God, please bring comfort to those who have lost loved ones,
healing to those who are sick,
strength to those who are caring for them
and wisdom to those who are organising the response.

In it all, help us Your people to trust in You and be carriers of hope & reassurance, healing and peace in every situation. in Jesus' name, Amen

Jesus said:

"I have given you the keys of the Kingdom. Whatever you bind/forbid on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose/permit on earth will be loosed in heaven."
(Matt 16:19)

Our prayers are powerful and effective. They matter. They make a difference.

So, at this time, let us in the Street Pastor movement be people who pray with faith and confidence:

- for Coronavirus to be bound
- for healing for those who are sick

- for those seriously affected in other ways and facing the prospect of hardship or loss to turn to God for help,
- for wisdom and courage for those in authority, that they would make decisions aligned with God's will
- that in our different areas we will find both practical and spiritual ways to share the love of God with the community around us

One person shares:

"In my prayer time this morning I felt led to put cards through my neighbours' doors, letting them know that I'm a Christian, that I'm praying for them and that I'd be happy to give any practical help I can over the coming days and weeks – including picking up prescriptions and groceries."

What an inspiration!

Let each one of us take a few moments to ask the Holy Spirit if there are any creative ideas He wants to give us for our own community. This is a time we can show people that we genuinely care about them.

Here are three **prayer declarations** that you may find helpful:

We pray and declare according to your word Lord God: No weapon (virus) formed against the UK and your people shall prosper. Isaiah 54: 17

Heavenly Father, we stand against this viral attack upon our nations, and say 'Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven'.

As God's people together, we agree that the spread of this virus will be slowed down. We say "No!" to death. We pray in the authority of Jesus' name. Matthew 18:18-19.

As a Prayer Team we encourage you to stand firm in the faith, keep trusting in the Lord and keep praying His word of truth into our community and nation.

"May the Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, Who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word."

Louise Isaac and the Prayer team