

April and May's Prayer 2010

Dear Praying Women of Our Prayer Team:

Scriptures concerning babies and children: There are many, these are only a few. Go online and research: Bible Verses about Children...

You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:13-14

Then said He unto the disciples, "It is impossible but that offenses will come: but woe unto him through whom they come! It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he cast into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones." Luke 17:1-2

The most vulnerable humans on our planet are babies and children...no choice of any kind concerning their birth, affected by everything around them, unprotected and unshielded when without the adults God originally assigned to bear and care for the children. When we consider their plight at this time in history, all sensible, reasonable, and caring adults are appalled. For most of us, we feel inadequate in being helpful in tangible ways. However, we are invited to "pray about everything"...and if we are listening for the heart-cries of God, there must surely be those sorrows for the children of the world. And beyond praying, there are ways we can become involved. As we pray, we need to ask God what He wants us to do.

I would like to share some things and tell how you may check these out for yourself.

If you were born after 1972, consider yourself a Survivor of the Abortion Holocaust. ONE THIRD of your generation has been killed by abortion in the United States of America. Did you know that 46 million abortions (from countries that report) were performed worldwide in 1995 alone. 26% of all pregnancies were terminated that year by abortion.

In the United States there were 2 abortions in 1926. In 1942 there were 58 abortions.. In 2005, we had 820,151 abortions.

You may check this out online:Abortion in the United States

Or www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/ab-unitedstates.html

You may also just go online and type in: Abortions worldwide, or Abortions, your own country...even your city.

According to UNICEF:

Abused and neglected, millions of children have become virtually invisible, says their report:

Hundreds of millions of children are suffering from severe exploitation and discrimination and have become virtually invisible to the world, in a major report that explores the causes of exclusion and the abuses of children experience. Millions of children disappear from view when trafficked or forced to work in domestic servitude. Other children, such as street children, live in plain sight but are excluded from fundamental services and protections. Without focused attention, millions of children will remain trapped and forgotten in childhoods of neglect and abuse.

Child trafficking is the recruitment, smuggling, transporting, harboring, buying or selling of a child through force, threats, fraud, deception, or coercion for the purposes of exploitation, prostitution, pornography, migrant work, sweat shops, domestic servitude, forced labor, bondage, or involuntary servitude. It is one of the fastest growing crimes in the world, and the net market value of this is over \$12 billion dollars a year.

Trafficking children into the sex industry is done because there is a demand. Children have become sexual commodities to be bought and sold for the pleasure of exploiters. These children are scarred for life.

Did you know that right now in Yemen, some of Yemen's most influential Islamic leaders, have opposed a ban on child brides. The practice is widespread in Yemen, where because of gripping poverty, bride-prices are hard to pass up by the poor.

We need to pray concerning child trafficking: You may go online and look at:

www.unicef.org/sowc/index_30450.html

www.ratanak.org

www.worldvisionacts.org/?q=childslavery

[//love146.org/roundhome/support](http://love146.org/roundhome/support)

In the small country of Malawi, in southeast Africa, there are 14 million residents, half of whom are under 15 years of age. Four million live in poverty, 1.2 million children are orphaned, 1.3 million children are in child labor and 39% of married persons are children 15-18 years old. Their children are subjected to physical violence and sexual violence, witchcraft, early marriage, child labor, exploitation and other cultural practices which make them at risk for poor physical and mental health, HIV infection, homelessness, and poor parenting in the future.

In New York city: over 60% of children have been exposed to violence, in their daily lives. Nearly half of these children were assaulted at least once in the past year, and about 6 percent were victimized sexually...among these 60%.

Nearly one in ten children in NYC said they saw one family member assault another in the past year...more than one-half of these children reported having been assaulted at some point in their life. These results were obtained in telephone interviews of 4,549 children ages 17 and younger between January and May of 2008. NYC Criminologists and Washington Attorney General called this “staggering” for one city in the United States.

If you will go online and research Single Parents in the United States...you will find that in 2007, there were 13.7 million single parents.

If you will do this research in the industrialized world, you will find that 15.9% of children live in a single parent situation.

If you think these things are not happening like this in your city or country, try researching the problems. You will be surprised at what you will find. It is depressing...many Christians do not like to think about depressing things. But if you were a little child, a young teen girl or boy, would you want to know someone cared, and was praying, and offered to God to be His voice and His caregiver in these issues?

And, as part of the Kingdom of God, one so cared for and blessed and protected and loved and nurtured...does God not want us to be “our brother’s keeper”...if Jesus loves the little children of the world, how will the children know this?

Lois, Hephzibah House