

Prayer – at CapChurch May 15, 2011 (Roger Hardy)

Our Father, we come to you, the creator of everything, the Father of heaven and earth, the one who holds all things in the palms of your hands.

We acknowledge that you are the God of all history, past, present and future. The rulers of our world, governments of our countries, leaders of our societies, families and their children all depend on your benevolent grace and patience day by day.

This day our Father, we are reminded from your Word that we should pray for those in authority over us. So we would ask that you would draw men and women who are in authority closer to your divine will, to your heart of love for mankind, and that they would adhere to your universal proclamation to love their neighbor as themselves and to treat others as they would want to be treated. We would ask that by the power of the love of God that the leaders of this world would become united in recognizing the dignity and equality of all men and women and that they would grant the same grace to the children of our world.

We would pray in particular for men and women in leadership who champion the rights of those living in countries ruled by oppressive regimes - where human rights are violated, where millions of women and children are slaves for the profit of their owners and masters. Lord, please provide resources to the legal agencies who fight for the rights of these victims in the courts of the countries in S.E. Asia, Africa and in our western world.

Father we would pray for Member countries of the United Nations who have pledged to fulfill The Millennium Development goals by 2015. We thank you for the progress that has been made. We would especially ask that the commitments that have been made to address maternal health in the developing world that they would continue to be upheld and that they would be made an even greater priority.

Father we pray this day for the thousands of children who have been affected by war. For child soldiers, for those traumatized and wounded in the conflict. We pray for agencies and individuals who provide counseling, health care and shelter for these victims in countries where it would seem that their world has gone mad.

Our hearts go out to the millions of children in our world who call the streets their home. To the millions of children who work every day in dangerous and abusive conditions instead of attending school, which is their legal right. To the millions of children who fend for themselves without parents because their parents have been lost to the ravages of AIDS.

These problem and conditions in our world are beyond our understanding. The more we hear and understand the more we depend upon the knowledge that you love the victims of these injustices more than anyone else. And so we would ask that we, your people, would listen carefully to your call to be your hands and feet to those of our world here in Canada and around the world.

And finally, Father, we pray for our new Canadian Federal government. We pray for Stephen Harper and MP s from across Canada that you bless them with a sense of divine purpose and a commitment that Canada will grow as a just society and be an example to the world for its generosity to all its citizens and an increased generosity to our brothers and sisters living in the developing world.

We pray this in the powerful name of your son Jesus, the Christ.

Amen