

# Get Involved: Pray

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## EMBRACE Prayer Group May 2012

Everyone has experienced (or will experience) a challenging situation or period of time in life. Whether it is a challenge within the workplace, church or home, we are most often left with the choice of how we will handle the challenge. Will we walk away and ignore it? Will we face the challenge with some hesitancy, cautious not to make matters worse for ourselves or others? Or will the circumstance we find ourselves in force us to face it head-on? Will we choose to embrace the challenge?

Depending on the person and situation, our response to challenges will vary. How we choose to respond will often determine whether or not the challenge can usher in a new opportunity, for with each new challenge there is a new opportunity.

In Northern Ireland today, as in all places around the world, we face many challenges. Two such challenges are developments in human trafficking and immigration detention. This month EMBRACE will explore these two challenges in more depth at our *AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30 pm in Edgehill College, Belfast.*

As we take a closer look at the challenges facing us today, let us also remember the opportunities they afford us to provide hospitality to the 'stranger' and to make God's love truly visible to all those we encounter.

*Contributed by Jenna Liechty Martin, EMBRACE Volunteer*

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### **This month, we give thanks for...**

- Churches and organisations that provide practical responses to the challenges that people face, whether they be new to the country or long-time residents
- People with special insight and understanding about how we might best engage with challenges around immigration
- Opportunities for learning, growth and relationships that often emerge as a result of challenges
- God's promise to be with us always, even in the midst of life's most challenging circumstances

### **And we pray for...**

- Individuals and organisations who work with people who have been trafficked, providing support services and hope in difficult situations
- Staff working at Larne House, the detention centre in Northern Ireland, and for all those who find themselves detained
- Insight, wisdom and courage for all of us as we engage with the challenges of life

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Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and to pray with us throughout the month. Do you have a topic and/or an item of concern or joy that you would like to share with the EMBRACE Prayer Group? If so, please contact [jenna@embraceni.org](mailto:jenna@embraceni.org).