

Get Involved: Pray



EMBRACE Prayer Group December 2015

I am sure all of us have been horrified at the recent atrocities in Paris. Again, it has made us question our hearts on the refugee situation. The question is, do we still have a moral obligation to welcome foreigners, who are fleeing wars and other dangers in their countries, even though we do not know who we may be welcoming to our community.

As Christians across this country, how do we respond to this crisis of need facing our world today? Do we give in to fear and do nothing, or should we speak out, stretch our hands and be a welcoming community?

As Christians, I believe we must respond to humanitarian crises, and be ready to embrace and help all those in need, whoever they are, from wherever they come.

We are called to pray for our leaders who are on the frontline, that they will be wise in their decision making, as they deal with the crisis of asylum seekers and refugees.

We should pray that the hearts and minds of EU citizens will be open to accommodate those who desperately need help as they flee conflict and persecution in their home lands.

The Scripture instructs us not to grow weary in doing good, whether it's convenient or not, both in season and out of season.

This, I believe is the call of all who believe in the sacrificial love of the Saviour Jesus Christ, who himself became a child refugee in Egypt as he was fleeing the atrocities of King Herod.

Embrace the stranger in your community this Christmas season with your heart, through your actions, and pray for wisdom of mind.

Contributed by John Mbayo

God, no one is stranger to you.

In your kindness look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger.

Watch over migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, those separated from their loved ones, those who are lost and those who have been exiled from their homes.

Bring them safely to the place where they long to be, and help us always to show your kindness to strangers and those in need.

Bless the work of those seeking to bring them relief.

Awaken compassion and urgency in governments and all whose decision making can make a difference

and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace;

We ask this through Christ our Lord, who too was a refugee and migrant who travelled to another land searching for a home. Amen

Source: Mothers Union (<http://www.mothersunion.org/content/prayers-refugee-crisis-europe-and-middle-east>)