HOW TO PRAY FOR THOSE IN CRISIS
THE COMPASSIONATE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.” —2 CORINTHIANS 1:3, NKJV

When crisis strikes, you can be part of a powerful ministry that God uses to bring comfort to people all around the world. The Bible says, “The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (James 5:16, ESV). If you have a heart to pray, here are some words and thoughts from Scripture that can help you as you intercede for others.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR THOSE IN CRISIS

- Bless those who mourn and comfort them. Matthew 5:4
- Turn their mourning to joy; help them rejoice rather than sorrow. Jeremiah 31:13
- Strengthen them with all power, according to Your glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. Colossians 1:11
- Give them strength to love their enemies and pray for those who persecute them. Matthew 5:44
- Remove any fear of man, who perishes like grass, and give them courage because of Your unfailing presence. Isaiah 51:12; Deuteronomy 31:6
- Revive them as they walk in the midst of trouble; stretch out Your hand against the wrath of their enemies and save them with Your right hand. Psalm 138:7

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• Comfort their hearts and establish them in every good word and work.  
   2 Thessalonians 2:16–17

• Help them not to be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.  
   Romans 12:21

• Open their hearts so they will come boldly to Your throne of grace and find mercy and grace to help in time of need.  
   Hebrews 4:16

• Give them a hunger for You so that they will call on Your Name and be saved.  
   Romans 10:13

• Deliver them from the power of darkness and transfer them into Your Son’s kingdom; redeem them through His blood and forgive their sins.  
   Colossians 1:13–14

• When crisis hits close to home, open a door for me to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and help me share it with gentleness, wisdom, and clarity.  
   Colossians 4:3–4; 1 Peter 3:15

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**DON’T GIVE UP!**

Keep praying for the region, city, or people that God has put on your heart. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He told the parable of the insistent friend (Luke 11:5–10), to encourage them to persevere in prayer. “Everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened” (v. 10, NKJV).

For more resources on prayer, visit [BillyGraham.org/PrayerResources](http://BillyGraham.org/PrayerResources).
When Billy Graham’s wife, Ruth, was a young student at a boarding school in current-day North Korea, she suffered from horrible homesickness. Her older sister encouraged her to pick a Bible verse and put her name in it. When she did, God gave her great peace, and this grew into a way of praying. What better way to talk with God and lift up others than by using His own words and promises. That approach to praying Scripture is used inside, to help you as you intercede for those in crisis.

“He therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” —HEBREWS 4:16, NKJV