

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION UK

# Pray for Justice

EVENT RESOURCES



IJM

IJMUk.ORG

# YOUR PRAYERS ARE BRINGING JUSTICE AROUND THE WORLD

Thank you for joining us in praying for lasting justice around the world. This is a great time to lead your church or group in praying for an end to slavery and we'd love to help!

Sometimes we can feel overwhelmed by the extent of slavery and injustice and don't know where to begin, but be assured that meeting with God and talking with Him about ending slavery is exactly what He wants. He is the God of justice, mercy and compassion and has heard the cries of His people. He calls us to "knock on the door and ask" for what is on our and His heart - to see an end to slavery for ever.

## ORGANISING A GATHERING

1. **Decide on a date and time**, in collaboration with church and/or youth group leaders.
2. Think about how you can **promote your event** so that lots of people come (church notices (written & spoken), website, social media, word of mouth, etc.). Be aware that numbers to evening events sometimes drop in winter months so think with your leaders about how you can promote and make it as easy as possible for people to come.
3. Grab a couple of **friends to help** you organise. There is an event framework below.
4. Are you happy to **lead the evening** or would you like help? Speak with your leaders about this.
5. Find someone to **lead worship**.
6. Make sure you plan **enough time** to set up the evening.
7. Remember to find a couple of people to help you **pack down** at the end.

## EVENT FRAMEWORK

This is a framework designed for two hours from 7.30-9.30pm and with enough people to split into more than one group, but please feel free to adapt to your context.

7.30pm:	Drinks and biscuits/cakes
7.45pm:	Welcome; <b>Introduction to IJM</b> and the evening; praying on the <b>Armour of God</b>
7.55pm:	<b>Worship</b>
8.10pm:	Prayer rotation ( <b>Intercession / Creative prayer</b> )
8.40pm:	Prayer rotation ( <b>Intercession / Creative prayer</b> )
9.10pm:	<b>Worship</b>
9.20pm:	<b>Listening to God</b>
9.30pm:	Finish

## WE WANT TO PRAY FOR LONGER/SHORTER

Please do! Consider how you might adapt the framework for the time you have. It may mean spending specific time worshipping once, or adding in an extra time of corporate prayer or of educating yourselves on the issue of injustice.

If you need more help, please get in touch at [prayer@ijmuk.org](mailto:prayer@ijmuk.org).

*Thank you for praying!*



## RESOURCES

Below are suggestions and links to information you might want to share throughout your evening.

### INTRODUCTION TO IJM

Some who come to your event may not know about the extent of slavery and injustice around the world and what International Justice Mission is doing to combat it. Below are some pointers to help you kick-start. Remember also to **explain what you're going to be doing** during your event.

- There are an estimated [40.3 million](#) people trapped in slavery right now.
- **Slavery** is the use of lies, violence or threat of violence to force another person to work for little or no pay in abusive and often violent conditions.
- Slavery is illegal almost everywhere but it still exists because there is no-one to protect people. In many places, laws simply aren't enforced by the police and courts, so traffickers know they can get away with preying on the poor without fear of any consequences. According to the United Nations, [4 billion people live outside the law's protection](#).
- International Justice Mission is a global organisation that **protects the poor from violence** in the developing world. IJM is a team of a thousand lawyers, investigators, social workers, community activists and professionals who work in our 17 field offices and 6 partner offices. They work to combat slavery, property theft, sex and cybersex trafficking, sexual violence, police brutality and citizens' rights' abuse.
- IJM **rescues** victims, **restores** survivors, brings **criminals to justice** and **strengthens justice systems** - vital in ensuring lasting change.
- They are seeing **proof that change is possible**. So far they've rescued more than 40,000 people from violence and oppression, trained over 46,000 officers and officials (since 2012) and helped to convict more than 1,300 perpetrators. IJM teams are helping to protect more than 150 million people from violence in the communities where they work.

### ARMOUR OF GOD

The enemy hates it when we pray – he can't stand it when we are interceding (praying on behalf of others – standing in the gap) for God's kingdom to come. Please use Ephesians 6:10-20 to pray together for the Spirit's protection during and after the meeting.

*'For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places' (v12).*

### WORSHIP

If you have someone who can lead worship musically, then wonderful! If not, here are some other ways to worship:

- Use **YouTube or a CD** (make sure it's loud enough for people to feel comfortable singing). Do words need to be printed/put on PowerPoint?
- With quiet music in the background, use the **Psalms** – each choose a Psalm and read it out to the group, slowly and with expression. This could be done in smaller groups.
- Again, with quiet music in the background, use **paper, pens, paint, etc** to creatively worship. It doesn't need to be a work of art. Or worshippers could find a verse in the Bible which expresses something of their honour to God and write/paint it.
- Spend time speaking aloud the **names and descriptions of God**. Then small prayers of praise for who he is and what he's done. This can be done in smaller groups. Try really hard to keep this on topic – it's easy to start asking him for things instead of praising!

## INTERCESSION

Intercession simply means to stand in the gap. It's when we seek God on others' behalf. This is some time for those praying to speak with God alone or in groups. There are some cards available so people know what to pray about.

## LISTENING TO GOD

This is a time to wait on the Holy Spirit. How does He want to impact each of you individually and as a group? What does he want to say to you and about justice? It may be appropriate at the end of this time to ask if anyone has received a word or picture etc from God that they'd like to feed back to you.

If there is something that you think IJM would like to hear, please do email [prayer@ijmuk.org](mailto:prayer@ijmuk.org).

## CREATIVE PRAYER IDEAS

Below are lots of creative prayer ideas. Pick any which you think will help those at your event to pray individually or in small groups - there is no need to do them all.

### BREAKING CHAINS

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, stories from the field, paper slips, stapler, pens.

Participants read the stories, write their prayer and create a paper chain. Have a think about whether you want to symbolically break the chain at the end of your meeting.

### REPENT AND DREAM

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, table, play dough/plasticine/similar.

Mould something representing the injustice of slavery for which we corporately need to repent. Spend time reflecting as you mould. Squash it and create out of the remnants your dream for the future of those who have suffered as victims of slavery.

### WORLD MAP

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, world map (and Blu-tack), post-it notes, pens.

This can either happen on the wall or the floor. You can mark the places around the world where International Justice Mission work (not necessary). Those praying write on a post-it for a particular place or issue and stick on the map. They can then spend time praying.

### PRAYER JOURNEY

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, screen (laptop/tablet) and internet connection.

Visit [prayerjourney.ijm.org](http://prayerjourney.ijm.org) where participants can work their way through the journey of a child who has been the victim of sexual assault.

### HEALING THE BROKEN-HEARTED

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, large paper heart, non-allergenic plasters, pens.

Write the name of a person, or something to represent a person, somewhere in the world who is broken-hearted. Stick it on the heart. Spend time in God's presence bringing that person before him and allowing your heart to be broken for them.

### JENGA

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, Jenga blocks, IJM fact sheets, permanent markers.

There are many things about which International Justice Mission would love you to pray. Using the factsheets, write your prayer on a block and add it to the Jenga tower. As it grows, maybe take someone else's block out, pray for what they've written and add it to the top again.

## ASK GOD ANYTHING...

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, string or rope strung between e.g. two chairs, cardboard pieces (e.g. a cardboard box torn up – doesn't need to be this!), pegs, pens.

You have the opportunity to ask God anything. Write the question you're desperate to ask him. It could be about injustice or anything else about which they are thinking deeply at the moment. Peg it up. Spend some time listening to God – is there anything he wants to say back to you?

## REBUILD THE WALL

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, large paper (large sheets or wallpaper roll), thick pens.

Draw a large wall of bricks (doesn't need to be perfect!). Those praying will each write in a brick.

## PRAISE OUR FATHER

**What's needed:** Prayer station card, candle (matches and tin foil)/lamp/lightbulb.

It is good to be reminded that God has won the ultimate victory; as John 1:5 says, light will always beat the darkness. If using a lit candle, please be aware of health and safety (we suggest putting the candle on tin foil). It doesn't ultimately matter which item you choose as it is simply a visual-aid.