



A Crisis Response Prayer Guide

Nearly every day brings news of another crisis in our nation and world. While some are created by humans, many are natural disasters that few could foresee and none could prevent—floods, hurricanes, earthquakes. Our hearts break as we watch and hear about people struggling in the aftermath. As believers, we yearn to help, naturally calling on the Lord to comfort those in pain, and Matthew 8 and Psalm 46 remind us that God is our refuge and strength no matter what crisis may befall us. He can calm the storms—even the ones within us—and provide us with help, hope, and a place of rest. Here are 20 ways to direct those prayers.

Pray for Families and Victims

- For mercy and hope in times of grief and loss
- For compassionate neighbors and friends
- For healing and strength from their faith
- For help with job loss and property damage
- For safe havens where they can rest

Pray for First Responders

- For safety and perseverance
- For thorough preparation and information
- For sufficient equipment and reliable communication
- For creative problem solving with victims
- For safe travel for responders from other areas

Pray for Relief Workers and Agencies

- For access to those who need aid the most
- For knowledgeable and compassionate volunteers
- For successful fundraising activities
- For influential and honest leadership
- For sufficient food and clean water for the victims

Pray for Communities

- For unity and compassion in recovery and rebuilding
- For outstanding leadership
- For strength to face overwhelming obstacles
- For quick responses from governmental and community relief agencies
- For protection of valuable and vulnerable resources from theft and looting

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
Psalm 46:1-3 ESV