

Topic - the needy (eg unemployed, homeless, sick, those with family / colleagues who are suffering etc.).

Heavenly Father,

We thank you that you are God of all. You are the shepherd to the lost; comforter of the broken hearted; healer of the sick; provider for the needy.

As we look at our city around us we see that many have lost hope, many are weighed down by the struggles of this life whether this is physical, mental or spiritual. Lord, you call us to look after those in need- the poor, the sick, the lonely and the oppressed. We are sorry father that we do not always show your love and compassion to those who need it.

By your spirit, give us your eyes and your heart. We ask that we would practically love those in need in our city. Just as your son laid down his life for us may we lay down our lives for others. May we love our neighbours as ourselves.

We bring before you now all those that we know who are sick, lonely, struggling with work or financial pressures, family breakdown or who have no roof over their head.

Lord we ask that those in positions of power would govern wisely and compassionately, providing the support for those suffering or in need.

May community organisations and businesses be wise in how they use their resources and may they work together to make a positive impact for the city of Sydney. May all citizens of this city be moved to give generously and act in kindness.

May we, as your people, bring honour and glory to your name by the way we love the outsider, the stranger and the downtrodden. Humble us Lord and help us to know that everything you give to us comes from you and is to be used for the growing of your kingdom. May we be generous with our money, our time and our hospitality and may you bring your blessing upon the people of this city.

Ultimately God we know that you offer true hope, unfailing love and unending comfort. May we help shine your light into the darkness and help others to turn to you in all times.

All this we lift up to you Lord, in your son Jesus' name, Amen.

Rebecca Babbington