

A Prayer for the Needy

Bethany Noble

Heavenly Father we thank you that you see the forgotten and the broken in our world, and that you sent your Son for the lowly and oppressed.

We do not take it lightly the responsibility You have decreed, "To love our neighbor as ourselves", and we ask for Your forgiveness for times when we have failed to operate out of love.

Lord we pray for our fellow brothers and sisters in Sydney whose poverty goes beyond physical hunger and thirst. We pray for those who are lonely and forgotten.

For those who are sleeping in our parks and begging on the streets, that you would open our eyes to provide support and care for them.

We pray for the children who go to school hungry and the elderly who cannot afford the necessities, that we would be part of the solution.

And we pray for the new immigrants and those seeking asylum. Help us Lord be a nation and community that welcomes without judgment.

We thank you that Your word says that 'You are close to the broken hearted' and that the 'poor will inherit the kingdom of heaven'. Be close to these people forgotten by our society.

Lord, we pray that today, we will look beyond ourselves, and we will love the least of these. That we will smile at strangers and serve each other.

We ask lord that businesses, governments and individuals will work towards an ethical and fair society. That profit will not come at the expense of others.

And we particularly lift up the leadership of our country. We pray for creative solutions and that Your grace will govern our leaders to make decisions that will provide opportunity and not harm those struggling.

Thank you for the opportunity to love just as Jesus showed us to.

We pray this together in your Name,

Amen