

Praying for Children in Labor

CCTI Prayer Initiative for Children in Crisis

Who Are They?

Child labor is defined as the work that deprives children of their childhood. It denies them their potential and their dignity, and it brings physical, emotional or psychological damage. Child labor includes agriculture, manufacturing, quarrying and mining, and domestic service, all of which often occur hidden from the public eye. Poverty, social norms condoning it, lack of decent work opportunities for adults and adolescents, migration and emergencies all contribute to child labor.

Their Challenges:

Harmful Labor

Most of the children are engaged in excessive or heavy work that is mentally, physically, socially and morally harmful. Many of them are exposed to the worst forms of child labor, including activities like prostitution and drug trafficking.

Education

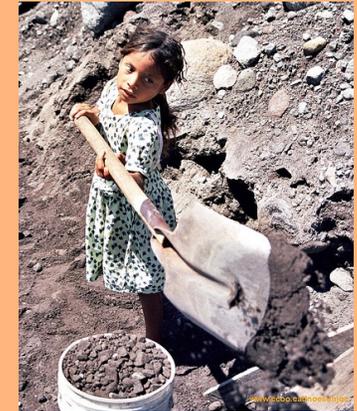
Most of these children do not go to school and have no time to play. The lack of proper nutrition and health care puts them at risk.

Poverty

Poverty is a key factor in children joining the workforce. Child laborers share the lowest pay, the worst conditions, and the fewest rights of all the world's workforce.

Slavery

Many children are often for sale and are victims of human trafficking. Most of the time they are recruited for prostitution or to become child soldiers. Debt bondage is recognized as a modern form of slavery, where children are taken away from the family as debt payment. These children are often found in prostitution, domestic services, agriculture and a variety of small manufacturing industries.



Nearly one in six children aged 5 to 14 globally are engaged in child labor. UNICEF estimates that about 215 million children between ages of 5 and 14 are forced to work in precarious circumstances that are detrimental to their development and health.

How to Pray:

Stop the Abuse and Exploitation of Children

For establishment of new laws that will protect the rights of children in labor and will defend them against abuse and exploitation.

“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.”
(Psalm 82:3 NIV)

Rest and Restoration

For the emotional, sociological and physical rest and restoration of those children who have been working in hazardous jobs.

“Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28 NIV)

Education and Health Care

For children in labor to enjoy their childhood and to be able to receive the education needed to have better opportunities for future employment.

“Defend my cause and redeem me; preserve my life according to your promise”
(Psalm 119:154 NIV)

Job Opportunities for Parents

For their parents to be able to find a job that will allow that to support their families.

“But you, LORD, do not be far from me. You are my strength; come quickly to help me.”
(Psalm 22:19 NIV)



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