

# pray for ★ columbus

## April 2023 Prayer Guide

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### ANSWERED PRAYERS

- Praise God for the **increase in unity around how to reduce the demand for paid sex in Columbus**. On March 8th She Has a Name (SHAN) gathered nine stakeholders in this area and were encouraged by the shared ethos around caring for *all those impacted*, including those who have purchased sex, view pornography, or struggle with addiction that leads them to purchase.
- Praise God that a **third spiritual support group for survivors of human trafficking has launched recently**. Let's continue praying for this to grow!

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### SPECIFIC REQUESTS

- Ask God to **open the spiritual eyes and ears of every person in our city who is in bondage**. Pray for the blood of Christ to cover homes that have been hurt by bondages. Pray for patience, forgiveness, and healing in family relationships that have been affected by addictions.
- Pray for Christ-centered ministries that lead people to Jesus' true freedom like [The Refuge](#), [She has a Name](#), [Out of Darkness](#), [Open Doors](#) and others. **Pray for their provision, more laborers and effectiveness in ministry.**
- Pray for our governmental leaders and those in authority to have **wisdom to best implement laws and programs that help safeguard our communities from bondages**.
- Pray for **God's heart of compassion in His church** to address addictions and to have wisdom to walk with those afflicted.
- Pray for **radical conviction and repentance to those who enslave and traffic others. May there be a complete end to the demand for trafficking and drugs.** Pray that drug traffickers would encounter Jesus and be radically transformed.
- Specific, measurable prayers for our city:
  - **Ask God for a dramatic decrease in all forms of violent crime in Columbus over the next two years.**
  - **Ask God for every single Columbus City School to have a Church or Christian nonprofit partnership.**
  - **For the percentage of Christians to increase faster than the population.**

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## April 2023 Personal Prayer Guide

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### PRAISE and THANKSGIVING

- **Praise Jesus for the FREEDOM He offers us!** Meditate on all Jesus has done for us to break chains of sin and addiction. (See *Isaiah 61:1-4, John 10:10, 2 Corinthians 3:16-18, 5:17, Romans 8:20-21,* )
- **Praise God above any idol. He is worthy!** (see *Revelation 4:11, Revelation Chapter 5, Philippians 2:9-11, and 1 Chronicles 16:25*)

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### CONFESsion and INTERCESSION

- **Ask God to speak to you personally about anything in your life that you are putting above Him. Invite the Holy Spirit to convict you** of anything that may be an idol in your life. **Yield to God's prompting** if confession or forgiveness is needed.
- **Bless your family, neighborhood and all of Columbus with the freedom found only in Christ.** Pray specifically for Holy Spirit conviction over those who traffick others and those bound with addiction.
- **Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor!** Ask God for liberation for all bound in chains in our city.
- **Pray for radical encounters with Jesus** for those caught in addiction. Ask God to work powerfully in their lives so they seek true healing over and above a short-term fix.

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### PRAY ALOUD

Jesus, we desperately need you to come and intervene in our city. So many are caught in addiction without You and without hope. Others are victims of human trafficking and see no way out. Show Yourself mighty and strong on their behalf. Rescue those whose hearts are broken and bound. Break off chains in Your mighty Name! Together, we proclaim the year of Your favor where thousands will walk out of bondage and into freedom. Send Your Holy Spirit to minister and bring conviction to those who sit in darkness. May we see Your glory through transformed lives in our city! In Your beautiful, strong Name we pray, Amen