



## How to Pray for... **PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS**



For more than a decade, HIV/AIDS was a modern-day plague that captured the world's attention. But when antiretroviral therapy (ART) seemed to turn HIV from a fatal disease to a manageable chronic illness, the world's attention moved on. Yet the reality is that 36 million people—nearly all of them in the Majority World—still suffer unbearably under HIV.

Shame and fear plague men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS. Most people still associate HIV/AIDS with “evil behavior”—prostitution or drug use. They also avoid those with HIV because they fear catching the disease. For many, slow death from untreated AIDS is preferable to the stigma of a diagnosis. It is common for people with HIV to be rejected by their loved ones and community... and even to be refused medical care at hospitals. Since most ART centers are in major cities, getting there each month for treatment is time-consuming, costly, and means lost income. Many stop taking the medication when they feel better and, as a result, the virus becomes drug-resistant. When infected people become too ill to work, families slip deeper into poverty. And as the disease passes through families, survivors suffer overwhelming grief at the loss of spouses, children, siblings, and parents.



## Please Pray With Us...

- For churches to accept and love people with HIV/AIDS and their families. Pray for churches to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the sick, the poor, those who grieve, and those who are left orphaned or widowed by AIDS.
- For people living with HIV/AIDS and their families, that the love of God would surround them, casting out all fear and rejection. Pray for them to have access to the medication and nutrition they need, for caregivers to have wisdom and compassion, and for widows and orphans to be cared for and accepted by their communities. Pray for comfort for those who mourn. Pray against depression and hopelessness. Pray for them to know Jesus as the giver of new life.
- Pray for a move of God throughout all areas of society so that this disease will be stopped, treatments would be more effective and attainable, and all people will be treated with justice and dignity.

***We encourage you to meditate on these verses and pray them over people affected by HIV/AIDS***

For I am convinced that neither death nor life,  
neither angels nor demons,  
neither the present nor the future,  
nor any powers,  
neither height nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation, will be able  
to separate us from the love of God that is in  
Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Romans 8:38-39*



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