



How to Pray for... **VULNERABLE PEOPLE AS IMAGE BEARERS**



One of the most widely-held beliefs in the world is that some people have more value than other people. It is everywhere, in every culture. And it is toxic. This belief fueled colonialism, the slave trade, and every genocide. It has allowed people to be mistreated based on race, gender, age, disabilities, religion, and economic resources.

The Bible tells a very different story—that God created humankind in His own image. Therefore every person has intrinsic value, purpose, and potential. Around the world, this truth has brought transformation to many lives. The widows in one Ugandan village stopped prostituting themselves and committing suicide because they learned they are valuable image-bearers. Realizing that daughters, as well as sons, are image-bearers, one Asian pastor became a passionate advocate for educating girls among a people who had never before sent their daughters to school. In India, this truth is transforming the way people think about and treat children with disabilities; before, they were considered a curse, bad karma, but now parents and teachers are nurturing these children's potential as image-bearers. The examples of changed lives are endless. It is a powerful truth, but knowledge alone can't create transformation; we need God's intervention.



**Reconciled
World**

For more resources or to join the RW prayer network, visit
[**reconciledworld.org/pray**](https://reconciledworld.org/pray)

Please Pray With Us:

- That vulnerable people would have the opportunity to learn that they were created in the image of God. Pray that God would deeply root this truth in their hearts and minds to give them hope and power to create solutions to the problems they face. Pray especially for women, children, people with disabilities, and those experiencing oppression because of their race or faith.
- That those perpetrating violence or oppression would learn and believe this truth, that it would cause them to respect others and that it would bring a change to their behavior toward them.
- For families. Pray for healed marriages and for parents to see the inherent value in each of their children, whether they are boys or girls, gifted or with special needs, the first child or the tenth.
- For just societies. Pray that governments will make and enforce laws that reflect the truth that all people have intrinsic value. Pray for those in conflict to understand that even their enemies are made in the image of God, and that this truth would bring peace among people of different ethnicities, nations, genders, faiths, and social classes.
- For those working amongst vulnerable people to know and teach biblical truth with the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:3-5).

We encourage you to meditate on these verses and pray them over vulnerable people.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in His image,
in the image of God He created them;
male and female He created them.

Genesis 1:26-27