## Praying as families for those oppressed into the sex trade.

Sex tourism thrives in many nations, providing economic benefits but at the cost of reducing human beings to mere objects of pleasure. In places like Mumbai, India entire streets are dedicated to this trade, where lives are entangled in dire circumstances, compelled to generate revenue for the brothel operators. Heartbreakingly, children grow up witnessing their mothers engaging in sexual acts for survival. Some girls are coerced into the sex trade, even by their own parents, upon reaching puberty.

For the Banchhada tribe in Madhya Pradesh, India, the sex trade has acquired social acceptance, becoming a family business celebrated upon the birth of a girl child due to the revenue she is expected to bring. Tragically, the harsh realities persist, with women waiting on highways for customers, often orchestrated by their own relatives. In some eastern countries, women are ensnared in the flesh trade without a moral consciousness of its evil, blinded to believe it is an alternative way of life.

Several non-governmental organizations strive to aid these women and their children, who often feel helpless and unable to envision an alternative living. They are subjected to oppressive demonic forces that prioritize financial gain over human morality. The aged women, no longer useful in the trade, are callously discarded and treated as if they are less than human.

Jesus came to save every human and his love and salvation was shown to the lady caught in the act of adultery. He was called the friend of tax collectors and sinners (Luke 7:34). When a Pharisee invited Jesus into his house to host a dinner for him, the bible records a sinful woman who lived in that



Dav 17

town went to meet Jesus. She wept and began to wet his feet with her tears. She poured the perfume on his feet and kissed his feet. "When the Pharisee who had invited him, saw this, he said to himself, If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner." Despite her public identity as a "sinner", often associated with a person involved in selling their body, Jesus accepted her act of worship. He looked beyond societal judgments, recognizing her as a broken vessel desperately seeking God.

In Matthew 21:31, Jesus acknowledges the tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom of God ahead of others, emphasizing His care for those living in the agony of trauma and pain. As a church, we are called to stand in the gap for those ensnared by oppressive forces.

## LET US PRAY

Lord Jesus, our hearts ache for your precious children trapped in the darkness of the flesh trade. We fervently pray for their deliverance and guidance in their seemingly hopeless situations. Forgive our passivity and inaction towards this evil in our society. Have mercy on the children of these women and all involved in their rescue. Break the cycle of evil in their generations. We thank you for hearing our prayers. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



