

## COVID-19 – A call to worldwide prayer

Please join SIM, along with many of its church and ministry partners, for a day of worldwide prayer on Wednesday, March 11 asking God to stop the coronavirus, which causes COVID-19.

The virus began in China's Hubei province at the end of last year and has spread rapidly around the world. Even though the risk to life is assessed as low, there is a great deal of fear as more and more outbreaks are reported.

Several countries have placed towns and cities in lockdown and there is widespread disruption to travel. Some governments have warned the situation is likely to get worse before it gets better. There will be increased strain on healthcare workers, especially those serving on the front lines.

As many organisations and nations respond to the COVID-19 crisis, let us set aside March 11 to lift them and those affected by the virus before God. What seems to us to be a desperate situation is not impossible for God. May our prayers be heard and used by God to accomplish the impossible.

Our desire is for prayers to be raised continually on behalf of those infected and affected by the coronavirus, for the sick and dying, for the courageous health workers, for grieving families, for pastors trying to serve their churches and communities in China and beyond, for government officials and decision-makers who formulate policies and responses, for protection for those working in educating communities, and for all those waking up each day to the impact of COVID-19.

Though we are troubled, we do not despair. Though we grieve, we are not without great hope. For two millennia, the church has prioritised the sick and marginalised. We are called to do no less today. COVID-19 is another opportunity for the church to do what it does best, serve those who are in need in the name of the Lord and bring hope and light to dark places and circumstances.

**Crossing barriers with love to those living and dying without Christ**



May the God to whom we pray, the God who answers prayer, the God who walks with us through the valley of the shadow of death so that we may fear no evil, may *this* God turn his face towards us and, by his power and wisdom guiding all those involved, bring an end to the spread of COVID-19. May he bring many who live without the knowledge of Jesus into relationship with him.

For his glory and because of his unfailing love,

Joshua Bogunjoko  
SIM International Director

P.S. Please feel free to forward this letter and invite others to join in this day of prayer.



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