

## **PRAYERS FOR HAITI | A PRAYER FOR RESTORATION**

Christ the King Presbyterian Church | [www.ctrkraleigh.org](http://www.ctrkraleigh.org)

We created these prayer guides to help adults and children pray for the situation in Haiti by formulating prayers based on Psalms 123, 124, and 126. The prayer guides follow a specific order: a prayer of lament (Psalm 123), a prayer of confidence (Psalm 124), and a prayer for restoration (Psalm 126). You are encouraged to pray these prayers in that order.

If you follow the guides, you will find yourself spending more time thinking about your prayer and writing out your prayer than you do actually praying it. That's not a bad thing. You are approaching Almighty God, the King of Universe, the Maker of Heaven and Earth. Thoughtful prayer is often appropriate.

The prayer guides are just that, guides. They are meant to help you as you think about what to pray. If you use them, spend time thinking about the Psalms that you find before each prayer. Spend time thinking about the situation in Haiti. Write down your thoughts as directed. Once your prayer is written out, get on your knees (a posture of humility) and read your prayer to God. Allow all that God has made you to be to be part of the prayer. (For example, think about the prayer and allow your emotions to enter into your prayer.)

You can find recordings of each Psalm read by Pastor Steve Brown and a song based on that Psalm on our website at <http://www.ctrkraleigh.org/resources/haiti-prayer-guide/>. You may find listening to these recordings helpful in directing your thoughts toward God.

The prayer guides are based on guides created by Richard Pratt in *Pray with Your Eyes Open*.

What follows are the adult's and children's guides for a prayer for restoration.

## PRAYER FOR HAITI | A PRAYER FOR RESTORATION

*Adult's Guide*

### Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
 we were like those who dream.  
 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
 and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
 then they said among the nations,  
 "The Lord has done great things for them."  
 The Lord has done great things for us;  
 we are glad.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
 like streams in the Negeb!  
 Those who sow in tears  
 shall reap with shouts of joy!  
 He who goes out weeping,  
 bearing the seed for sowing,  
 shall come home with shouts of joy,  
 bringing his sheaves with him.

King Jesus, I look to you with amazement because of your wonderful promise of restoration. I think about tears turning to loud laughter and shouts of joy.

I remember a time you have brought about that restoration for your people. As I think about that time,

I see,

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(as you think about a time that God restored his people's fortunes, write down a couple of things you see)

and I hear,

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(as you think about a time that God restored his people's fortunes, write down a couple of things you hear)

and I feel,

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(as you think about a time that God restored his people's fortunes, write down a couple of things you feel)

How good you are to us, O Lord! You have great things for us; we are glad.

I remember a time you have brought about that restoration for me. As I think about that time,

I see,

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(as you think about a time that God restored your fortunes, write down a couple of things you see)

and I hear,

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(as you think about a time that God restored your fortunes, write down a couple of things you hear)

and I feel,

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(as you think about a time that God restored your fortunes, write down a couple of things you feel)

How good you are to me, O Lord! You have great things for me; I am glad.

As I think about the ways you have restored the fortunes of your people in the past, as I think about the way you have restored my fortunes in the past...

As I think about the situation in Haiti, I cry out, "Do it again, Lord! Do it again! Restore the fortunes of your people in Haiti. Do it again!"

As I think about you restoring the fortunes of the people in Haiti,

I see,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian people, write down a couple of things you see)

and I hear,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian people, write down a couple of things you hear)

and I feel,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian people, write down a couple of things you feel)

Do it again, Lord! Do it again!

As I think about you restoring the fortunes of the children in Haiti,

I see,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian children, write down a couple of things you see)

and I hear,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian children, write down a couple of things you hear)

and I feel,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian children, write down a couple of things you feel)

Do it again, Lord! Do it again!

As I think about you restoring the fortunes of the churches in Haiti,

I see,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian Church, write down a couple of things you see)

and I hear,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian Church, write down a couple of things you hear)

and I feel,

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(as you think about the God restoring the fortunes of the Haitian Church, write down a couple of things you feel)

Restore the fortunes of your people in Haiti, so that the nations will look upon your mighty work and say, "The Lord has done great things for them."

You have done great things for us, O Lord. Do those great things again for your people in Haiti.

Come, Lord Jesus come! Speed the day of your return.

**PRAYER FOR HAITI | A PRAYER FOR RESTORATION***Children's Guide***Psalm 126**

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.  
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then they said among the nations,  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”  
The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like streams in the Negeb!  
Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with shouts of joy!  
He who goes out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
bringing his sheaves with him.

In Psalm 126, God's people tell him how happy they are that he has made them stop crying and start laughing.

**Thinking about the Psalm**

Draw a picture of a person in Haiti crying. Tell your mom or dad what made them cry.

Now, draw a picture of that same person laughing and shouting with joy.

What changed? What made that person stop crying and start laughing?

**Praying the Psalm**

Write out or speak a prayer to God, telling him about the people in Haiti that are crying. Ask him to help those people stop crying and start laughing.