

## No Place for Violence Here A Prayer for Justice and Repentance

Loving God, we praise you! Today we praise you in particular for how you care for the vulnerable. You are the God who sees all, even in the secret and hidden places, even behind closed doors and in our homes, you see and hear, you love and you act. We praise you because you are the God of compassion and justice who actively works towards dismantling injustice.

Almighty God, when we look at the world around us we recognise how desperately we need you to come and set things right. May your kingdom come and your will be done in (insert suburb).

Holy God, we recognise how far we fall short of your ways. Today we want to confess the times we have turned a blind eye to violence and abuse in the families around us, we confess our ignorance of the scale of it. We ask for forgiveness for anything we have done, any words we have carelessly said, any actions that would cause people to stay in unsafe situations.

We ask for forgiveness for times when we have not done what we should have done or could have done to support victims, or to challenge violent or controlling behaviour in our church and our community.

We want no part in abuse of any kind, whether it's physical, emotional or spiritual. Bring to light the things that are hidden. By your Holy Spirit, enlighten us and transform us. Enable us to courageously step into a future free from violence.

We ask in the powerful name of Jesus.

Amen



**No Place for Violence Here**  
**A Prayer for Families and Households**

Loving God, we pray today for households experiencing violence.

We pray for any for whom the home is not a safe space; we grieve with them and for them. May they know how great is your love for them, how deeply you cherish them, and how personally you value them. May they find the strength to seek help, friends who will support them, and places they can feel safe.

We pray particularly for children for whom the home is not a safe space; we grieve with them and for them. May they know how great is your love for them, how deeply you cherish them, and how personally you value them.

We pray for peace to reign in our households. Please come and change our hearts. May we place our identity in you, not needing to control others, because we trust that you have the best for us. We ask that our relationships would be places where we experience your love reflected through the lives of those we love.

Holy Spirit, keep transforming our character to be more like Jesus. Help us to be a church family that is compassionate, kind, patient, gentle, self-controlled and loving. Help our families and households to be places where compassion, kindness, patience, gentleness, self-control and love reign. Show us how we can be part of your good transformative work right where we are.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen



**No Place for Violence Here**  
**A Prayer for Victims and Perpetrators and those Seeking Solutions**

Our God, we lift up in prayer those who right now are feeling unsafe in their homes. In particular we lift up women and children who are the victims of domestic violence in any form. We ask you to protect them. Give us the strength and wisdom to help protect them. May they find the strength to seek help, friends who will support them, and places they can feel safe. Please provide them with the resources and support they need to break free from the situation they find themselves in.

We pray for the perpetrators of violence who make their homes unsafe spaces, We grieve with them and for them. May they know how great is your love for them, how deeply you cherish them, and how personally you value them. May they find the strength to seek help, friends who will support them, and the ability to repent of their sin and choose a different way.

And God we pray at a very practical level for our community – for those involved in support services, for governments, for police, for legal representatives and others involved in seeking solutions to these issues. Help them to respond and care for the most vulnerable. May funding be released for community lawyers and legal aid, crisis phone lines, men’s behaviour change programs, and money to build crisis centres and long-term affordable housing. May there be a transformation in our country and in our churches.

We ask in Jesus’ name.

Amen

