

## INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK PRAYER

## Dear God,

We come to You giving You thanks for Your love, Your grace, and Your mercy. We also thank You for the gift of life and all of the blessings that You have bestowed upon us. You, O God, are the God of Abraham, Isaac, Sarah, and Elizabeth, and we stand in awe of Your power and the amazing ways that You have and continue to bring forth possibilities out of impossible situations. Right now, O God, we petition You, as we stand with women, men, and couples who are impacted by infertility and who dream of being mothers, fathers, and parents raising children, with loving hearts. God, we pray Your grace and favor upon their lives. We pray for those who are waiting, for things that are heavy on their hearts, and burdens that they bear. Lord, have mercy and mend their hearts where they might be broken; lift up their bowed down heads to the hills from whence comes their help, and be a Balm in Gilead for those whose hearts may be wounded. Give direction for those feeling they are at the end of their rope. We ask that You would bless them with the gift of a child, either through natural conception, alternative family building options, or adoption. We stand with them to offer them comfort, courage, and compassion. We pray fervently that they will experience new hope in You, moment by moment, and day by day. We boldly circle them in prayer and offer this prayer up to You Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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## INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK LITANY

LEADER: To the God of all creation, the One that spoke humanity and the whole world into being. We thank You for Your gift of life and for all of Your many blessings.

PEOPLE: Lord, we humble ourselves before You and acknowledge Your sovereignty as we unite our voices together and stand on the Covenant You spoke to Abraham, Sarah, Rachel, Hannah, Elizabeth, and Zechariah when You told them that they would be blessed with a child. Lord, You are God, and aside from You, there is no other. Lord, please hear our prayer.

LEADER: We lift up our voices and cry out on behalf of the approximately 7.3 million couples/women in the United States who experience infertility, of which 11.5% of them are African American.

PEOPLE: Lord, please hear our cry.

LEADER: God, We ask that You will grant healing and hope for those who have suffered the loss of a child through miscarriage, who have not experienced success with assisted reproductive technology, those waiting for a child via adoption, and those who may not be able to have a child.

PEOPLE: Lord, we ask that You would mend broken spirits and lift up bowed down heads, and that You will bless Your people according to Your power.

LEADER: We cry out, and ask that You help us to be a bridge and advocate for programs that increase public awareness of the challenges of infertility, as well as reproductive health care disparities and greater access to comprehensive coverage for health care and treatment.

PEOPLE: Lord, bless us with wisdom to learn how to be present; give us the words to speak, and bless us with hearts of compassion to listen, as well as support women and couples impacted by infertility and to support those who dream of being parents and raising children, with loving hearts.

LEADER: Today, we lift up our voices and pray for those who call on You with their hearts and unnecessarily suffer in silence; for those who hide behind fear and shame because of cultural norms or lack of information and education about infertility and reproductive health; for those who lack support and access to treatment and services.

ALL: Lord, make us instruments of Your service. Allow those who are experiencing infertility to experience the hope and encouragement of Christ through us. We ask that You would grant the gift of a child for these couples, either through biological procreation, assisted reproductive technologies, or adoption. We submit this request to You in the power, name, and authority of the risen Savior, Jesus the Christ. So it is, AMEN!

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