

OSJ PRAYERS

Friday, October 21, 2011

Immigration

Last month, Dayton, Ohio, passed legislation that welcomes and integrates immigrants. The legislation encourages immigrants to start their own businesses, and also provides language services and identification cards. Ohio is also home to this week's G92 immigration conference, which includes a delegation of 20 Calvin students. Praise God for cities around the country that are welcoming the stranger and opening their doors to immigrants. Praise God for those with open hearts and minds to exploring immigration issues and advocating for just immigration policies. Please pray for the many students at the G92 conference, that they will grow in their understanding of the issue and will be equipped with tools and courage to advocate for their immigrant neighbor.

Israel-Palestine

Israel and Palestine agreed to and carried out a prisoner exchange process this week. In exchange for Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit, 1,027 Palestinian prisoners were released. It is hoped that the exchange will lead the way in promoting dialogue towards peace. Please pray for both Israel and Palestine that they will hear each other's voices and will respond peacefully. Pray for the Spirit's movement in their hearts and minds as they engage each other, and that they will reject violence and the loss of life in their efforts for justice. May the search for peace be a witness to God's power in establishing His kingdom on earth.

Haitians in Dominican Republic

Interpretation of a new component of the constitution in the Dominican Republic has resulted in a group of essentially stateless people. The law stipulates that only children of Dominican Republic parental heritage can be considered for citizenship. Children born to the large population of Haitian refugees and immigrants are prevented from claiming citizenship, and cannot acquire it in Haiti because they were born outside of Haiti. This has created a large group of people with no citizenship in either country and therefore no access to jobs or means of supporting themselves. Please pray for those suffering under this injustice. Pray for compassion towards the Haitian refugees and immigrants that those born in the Dominican Republic will be able to find jobs and the means of supporting themselves.

MDG 6: Malaria

Malaria deaths worldwide have fallen 20 percent in the last decade. Experts say that if targets continue to be met, a further three million lives could be saved by 2015. Please pray for malaria eradication efforts around the world. Uplift the many health care officials and researchers in their efforts to find a sustainable means of preventing and eradicating the disease. Pray for the many people suffering from malaria, that they will have access to treatment. Uplift those who have lost friends and family to the disease; may they find peace and hope in Jesus Christ.

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