

Lord have mercy – a prisoner’s family

Not every experience has to be a bad one and not every failure is an absolute failure. It is how you approach it; you failing doesn't have to be considered a catastrophe. This so called "failure" can be your solution, your ladder to excelling as a better you. A step to self-actualisation as Maslow would say. This time can be a time of reflection and improvement but only if the captive chooses it.

As for us out here, it can be a time to grow stronger, to focus on our futures as individuals so that when our loved ones come out we have something more to offer them back and together be bringing more to your table, creating a stronger foundation. This experience can strengthen your relationship with your loved ones, by meditating and reflecting on what needs to be improved and putting it in practise.

But this is a time where we all need to pray for mercy from God and forgive one another. There is no point being lost in bitterness, when we should be grateful to be alive. There are families fighting with cancer, families in Syria being bombed. Our loved ones are just on time out, with God (from my perspective). God can teach and offer our loved one far more than what we could ever want to offer or influence. Only He can truly set the captive free as he did in Acts 12 when he set Peter free. Times may not always be easy, but I know God's plan for my beloved, the father of my lovely little boy are far better than anything I could have wished for him, but only if he opens the doors to his heart and soul to our wonderful and powerful God. Only if he prays for mercy and means it, putting ego aside. Ego tries to seclude you from God, EGO according to Dr Wayne Dyer is "Edging God Out". We all need to remain humble, we all need to forgive and be forgiven.

I have written a prayer for the prisoners to join me from their perspective. But I feel we can all benefit from it.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy of my ignorant actions of how they have impacted not just myself but my loved ones too. Lord have mercy of those that have come against me and I against them. Lord you say in **Romans 12:19: Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.** Father you are the owner of all gold and silver and even of our own lives. Forgive me Lord please for trying to take things into my own hands, in which the devil used to deceive me, where he so easily set up a trap for me. Forgive me for the times I have hurt a child of yours for crossing my way, or simply out of boredom. For we all belong to you none more than others, we are all precious to you. Lord comfort my family and friends in this time, comfort me, and fill that void with which I tried to replace you before. Place the Holy Ghost's fire in me, place the fruits of the Holy Spirit in me; for you say In **Galatians 5:22-23; the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control.** I cannot do this alone oh Lord. Lord protect my loved ones and myself, cover us under the shadow of your beautiful wings, Lord move mountains in our lives so that we may prosper in this life and in our after lives, cover us with your precious blood. Father

give us strength when we feel weak, health when our bodies want to shut down, patience when we are being tested.

And lastly Father: **(The Serenity Prayer)**

Grant me the serenity
To accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
Forever and ever in the next. Amen

Jesus we exalt you, we love and we open our doors to you, as our Lord and Saviour, in your name we pray.

Amen.