

Gracious God,

There are so many needs in our lives and throughout the world. I think of people facing death every day because leaders in the world believe power is the way. They seem to see the world created for them to amass wealth and power. Lord I pray for the people effected by the decisions of the leaders who are controlled by the ways of the world, lying, hurting others without regard for their humanity, they, the leaders have no understanding of trusting in you and speaking words of peace, kindness, nonjudgmental, giving thanks for what you have done, instead we hear complaints nonsensical words - more for building themselves up than for encouraging us to walk in love, in ubuntu. Lord raise leaders up that will not be afraid to trust in your way.

We are created in your image to do the work you have prepared for us.

Give us enough foolishness to believe that you can use us to make a difference in this world and we, you God and us, can do what others say is not possible. Lord, it was not Elijah who brought the fire on Mt Carmel. It was you but he listened to you. We forget that you call us to serve you, not you serving us. I think I forget that we are made in your image and we see that image in your son Jesus. We are called like he was to walk in love, trust in love even unto the cross. Like Elijah I want to give up, it is too hard for me to deny self and pick up the cross and to believe that a walk of love will make a difference. That turning the other cheek, walking with humility, having patience, being gentle is how you would have your people live with others. However, lord you sustain me and in so many ways you remind me that your kingdom is better than what I, we, can create.

Help us, sustain us, encourage us, and speak to us in that still small voice when we lose hope in your way.

In the name of your son, Amen