

“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” Isaiah 26:3

God of Wisdom, you know how many times we move forward all by ourselves. You know the troubles our impatience causes. You are omniscient and in our human weakness and pride, we are impulsive. Instead of asking for your guidance we set our minds on our will and not yours, and still you stay close by to pick up the pieces of our failed choices. How many times have we ignored the warnings of your Spirit in us and headed off to make mistakes that harm not only us, but others? Please help us trust you these next days when the world around us begins opening closed doors. You and only you know how helpful or harmful the choices your people make will be. You are trustworthy. When we lay all our indecisiveness at your feet, you will gather up our confusion, and point us in the the direction you would have us choose. Give us the courage to place our trust in your wisdom and direction, God. You always come to our rescue, Lord.

Sovereign God, we pray that those elected and appointed would acknowledge your authority and wisdom. Those who seek your counsel and listen to your direction will make right choices for the next few weeks as Americans try to start a much needed recovery from both the infectious virus and the financial crisis. As in all things of this world, there are two sides and differing opinions. There will be much controversy and opposition. Remind us that you want only goodness for us, we can trust you, and we need your peaceful intervention in our decision dilemma. Help us trust you, and not the world.

We all have a personal burden of choosing our responses to many closed doors which will open soon. We trust you because you are omniscient, you love us and you only want goodness for us. We trust your Holy Spirit in us. We know that if what we're about to do doesn't feel right, it probably isn't right, and waiting on you is our best choice. Open our minds to circumstances and feelings that help us make the right decision about sheltering awhile longer or claiming our right to go and do as we did several months ago.

Father God, we are praying new and unfamiliar prayers. We thought not long ago our lives were secure in the crowds and constant, away-from-home activity. Now our security is measured by how long we remain separated in our homes from the crowds we once enjoyed. Whether in days, in weeks, or in months, a time is coming when each of us will step out of safe places and resume being with people in public places. Give us discipline to recognize our humanness and temptation to assume we won't be exposed to the coronavirus. Remind us that decisions made by the minds of people apart from you may not be the right decisions for each one of us. When we ask for guidance that only your wisdom can provide, Father, please

- give us abundance patience to wait on your clear direction,
- give us discernment when plans you have for us differ from plans for someone else,
- give us control of judgmental thoughts about others, and
- give us your perfect peace and affirming trust in your plans for us.

“Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.” Psalms 55:22

Scripture teaches us that you, Lord, have taken the burden of our sins from us. You watch. and wait. and even wince when we don't ask for your help in our burdens of indecision. We can be confident that, if we have our eyes and ears open, you will show us the way. The best choice for us will always be your choice for us.

God of Wisdom, you know our minds are easily distracted and deceived by the world.'s influence over our choices. You know that we are self confident and quick to act first and ask later. Keep us steadfast in our reliance on you, and free us from fretful burdens of indecision. We are so grateful that you sustain us, love us, and call us your own. We ask in Jesus's Name for your help in knowing your perfect plan for our own response when doors tightly closed are opened soon. Amen

