National Day of Prayer

This Sunday, 22nd of March, there is a call for the church to join together in a National Day of Prayer. At 7pm on Sunday, Christians everywhere will be lighting candles in the windows of their homes as a visible symbol of Jesus, the light of the world.

In this rapidly evolving situation, there is, very understandably, a great deal of uncertainty, fear and anxiety.In a time of such *uncertainty*, we must remember what is *certain*: that God is on the throne, he is ultimately in control, and we can totally trust him through this valley.

In a time of such *fear* and *anxiety*, we are assured of the power of love over fear (1 John 4:18), and that the peace which transcends understanding can overcome every anxiety (Philippians 4:6-7).

Let us be a *non-anxious presence* as we step into the opportunity to be salt and light in fresh ways, bringing hope to those around us as we reach out with love.

And let us humble ourselves and pray.
That God's kingdom would come, his will would be done, and that he would heal our land (1 Chronicles 7:14).
We are encouraging Vineyard churches across the UK and Ireland to join with this day of prayer and action on Sunday.

With our love and prayers at this challenging time.
John & Debby Wright
National Directors, Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland

Prayer Points
During the National Day of prayer, you might find these prayer points helpful:

Leaders of our Nations
- For wisdom for those having to make weighty decisions in government
- For the Government advisors
- For the health of our leaders
- For God's wisdom and peace to be on them

The NHS
- For the leaders in the NHS as they plan for a surge of patients
- For doctors, nurses, paramedics, therapists, cleaners, 111 and support staff and all those selflessly serving our nation
- For the necessary equipment, medications and protective clothing to be made rapidly available
- For continued good health and protection over them
- For wisdom and peace for those making difficult decisions

The vital and emergency services in our nations as they serve during this outbreak
- For police officers, firefighters, the army and RAF
- For their health and safety
- The schools across the nations and the teachers working to care for the children of NHS and vital workers

For the end of Coronavirus COVID-19
- For breakthroughs in treatment and a vaccine to be developed
- For our nations to take seriously the measures put in place to protect us all
- For the Kingdom of God to break through and defeat this virus

Our communities, neighbours and the nations
- Those who have contracted COVID-19 and are trying to recover
- Those who are isolated and lonely
- Those who are fearful
- Parents of small children
- Those in the most at-risk categories: the elderly and those with pre-existing medical conditions
- Those suffering heartache from having lost loved ones
- Those who are suffering financially
- Opportunities to reach out and help others in creative ways
- For peace over children and young people in this time of uncertainty

For those facing uncertainty in their employment
- Those whose jobs are under threat
- Those who have lost their jobs
- Small businesses and the self-employed

The Church
- Your own church family
- Local churches in your area
- The leaders of our churches across the nations
- For the leaders and pastors of our churches
- The leadership of Vineyard Churches UK and Ireland
- The church across our nations and around the globe

Online messages of hope
- For our messages being shared both locally and across the nations to speak into the lives of those who are listening.
- For our message of hope to reach those who do not yet know Jesus

The Kingdom of God breaking in across our nations
- That we would be steadfast in the hope that God has given us
- That we would put our trust in God our Father
- For opportunities to share God's love and the beauty of the gospel message
- For God's peace that passes all understanding to guard our hearts and minds
- For many to turn to Jesus as their Lord and Saviour