

## Suicide Prevention

Scripture Praise Focus: *“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)*

Dear Heavenly Father,

We praise you that all the plans you have for students who are caught in thoughts of suicide are plans that promise them a future and hope beyond their wildest dreams. Reveal to them the hope they have in you and dispel the despair they feel engulfing them.

Unlike people and circumstances, hope will never disappoint them because you, O Lord, have given them your Holy Spirit to fill their hearts with love. We ask that students on our college campuses who struggle with suicidal thoughts would feel how dearly you love them. Turn each one, we pray, from the lie that tells them that to destroy their life is better than to live the life that you have given them.

Father, we pray that as they hope in you, they would find the peace they long for. We pray that they would recognize your sovereignty over their lives; they are not their own: they were bought with a price. Jesus suffered and died for all the wrongs they and others may have committed. No one else's death is required.

We ask that they would recognize that suicide is murder and against your commandment. May they recognize your ability and desire to heal all their hurts. There is nothing too hard for you. May they see the benefits of going through hard times and recognize that your power is sufficient to give them everything they need to live a godly life.

Refocus their minds, Lord, to think about things that are true, honorable and right; things that are pure and lovely and admirable; things that are excellent and worthy of praise (Philippians 4:8).

Turn their minds from darkness to light. We pray that our campuses would provide trained, wise counselors and therapists able to help. May our churches provide prayer and spiritual support.

Surround these young people with godly, caring friends and family willing to listen without passing judgment. Help them find medical help, if needed, and access to suicide prevention hot lines.

We pray that our colleges and universities would provide a supportive and safe environment where our students can learn. Finally Lord, we pray that you would supernaturally intervene to crush the power of the enemy to steal the lives of our children.

Thank you, Father, for being faithful to accomplish your word in the lives of our students. You do not lie or change your mind; you fulfill all your promises (Numbers 23:19).

Even your armies of angels work to accomplish your purposes (Psalm 103:21). And we know along with the apostle Paul that you will complete the good work begun in each one of these of these students until the day when Christ Jesus returns (Philippians 1:8).

We pray this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen!

Song for meditation: Blessed be Your Name by Matt Redman