

## Written prayers

### Meditative prayer for people who are homeless

*Display an image or images of homeless people (such as the ones below) as you read out this meditation based on Psalm 139's words, and inspired by the teaching of Matthew 25:31-46. You could explore having the reader of this piece stand somewhere they cannot be seen to bring through the meaning even more powerfully.*



You have searched me, LORD,  
and you know me.  
You know when I sit and when I rise;  
you perceive my thoughts from afar.  
You discern my walking around and my huddling down;  
you are familiar with all my ways.  
You know my fears, my struggles,  
you understand my memories and my empty comforts.

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## Meditative prayer for people who are homeless

Before a word is on my tongue  
you, LORD, know it completely.

Where can I go from your Spirit?  
Where can I flee from your presence?  
If I go up to the high street, you are there;  
if I make my bed under the arches, you are there.  
If I beg by the station, or sit in this doorway,  
even here your hand can reach me.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me  
and no one will find me in this alleyway,"  
even the darkness will not be dark to you;  
you will always still see me.

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
I carry your image with beauty,  
even when no one but you recognises your reflection in me.

All the days you planned for me were written in your book,  
before one of them came to be.

Your plan for my future is full of hope.  
Your thoughts about me are constant God!  
I can't finish counting them even when I lie awake all night.