#### AN INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA SPECIAL REPORT

## PRAYING () ABOUT THE BORDER CRISIS

Human Trafficking. Drug Smuggling. Dangerous Criminals. Misery, and Chaos.

## An Unprecedented Surge

Although the U.S. is experiencing the highest numbers of migrants in 20 years, Look at this graph from Customs and Border Patrol (CPB) depicting staggering rises over the last few years. The yellow line is 2022.



This is not just a numbers concern, although they are staggering, but also a concern about brutality, crime, and inhumanity. **IFA conducted an exclusive interview with Senator Ron Johnson**, one of 18 Senators who toured the border firsthand. He shared, "One thing that is not being publicized is the human trafficking element." He described one method they use: professional traffickers throw a child or baby into the Rio Grande River to draw the border patrol agents to the rescue, giving the traffickers the diversion needed to cross the border. We are seeing evil at the border in the form of trafficking, drugs, crime, chaos, and human misery.



ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION BY THE NUMBERS

#### 13,299

Number of unaccompanied minors crossing in July 2022

#### 131,330

Number of migrant children who have crossed the southern border year to date, FY 2022

#### 2,100,000

Total number of immigrants expected in 2022

Figures provided by <u>Washington</u> <u>Examiner</u>, <u>FOX News</u>, Western Journal, and <u>CPB</u>.

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA IFAPRAY.ORG

800-USA-PRAY

## **Danger on the Border Bleeds into the U.S.**

#### Children

Because children and families are often given preferential treatment at the border. criminals are exploiting children in many ways. Using kidnapped or purchased children to create a "fake family" to gain entry into the U.S. is actually common. Often these same children are used over and over again-recycled, they call it--as traffickers rent out the children to criminals to cross the border as a "family in distress." Once the criminals cross the border using the children, they abandon them as we saw in a heartbreaking video captured by bodycam from a border patrol agent recently. Another viral video showed two girls, ages 3 and 5, dropped over the border fence and left on their own. Agents were able to see them on surveillance and rescued them.

Other issues children face even after arriving in the U.S. are potential placement in substandard foster homes, separation from their families while parents are extorted for exorbitant payment to coyotes (another word for the human smugglers), and getting lost in the system of public assistance.

#### Drugs

One look at recent press releases from CBP reveals the chilling link between illegal border entry and the flood of drugs into the U.S. Cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl. Texas authorities alone seized 335.5 million doses of fentanyl since last March, which is enough to kill everyone of the U.S.

#### The open border is harming, not helping, people who need our prayers.

#### Growth of 'Other'

Traditionally, residents of Central and South America comprised the majority of migrants crossing the southern border. The number from 'other' countries radically increased. According to <u>Princeton Policy Advisors</u>, from March to June 2019, 13,000 migrants from other countries were arrested monthly at the southern border. For the same period in 2022, the average was 100,000.

#### Women and Girls

The journey to the border is especially dangerous for women and girls. Rape is so common that coyotes and caravan leaders provide birth control to women and girls as a standard precaution.

Sometimes the sexual assault continues by predators even after the women land in the U.S. "<u>Stash houses</u>" where newly immigrated migrants are kept by criminals become forced labor and prostitution camps with conditions no better than in the countries from which they supposedly escaped. It is all about the money, and the porous border enables and encourages illicit activity such as trafficking, smuggling, extortion, prostitution, and abuse.

**Border agents** witness these atrocities daily, intervening to help in tragic situations, all while attempting to maintain order. The weight of regularly seeing these horrors is a big burden for border patrol agents--many of them parents themselves. These agents need our prayer as they face a difficult task under weak leadership.

#### The Crime Flows In

These crimes are not halted once the criminals cross the border. They are bringing the drugs, the <u>gangs</u>, and the criminal activity into our nation--and into our communities. Crime by illegals is rising. <u>Arrests</u> in first 9 months of Fiscal Year 2022 total 9,381. In all of 2020 Fiscal Year, arrests totaled 2,438. These crimes include homicide, robbery, trafficking, DUI, and other violent crime.

#### **Overwhelming the Systems**

To deal with the overwhelming numbers of migrants, Texas and Arizona sent busloads to cities that had declared themselves sanctuaries for illegal border crossers. These formerly welcoming cities bristled. D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, rather than welcome 4000 migrants from Texas, called out the National Guard. She described the situation as a humanitarian crisis that has reached a "tipping point." Sen. Ted Cruz responded, "If 4000 is a tipping point, what do you call the THREE & A HALF MILLION illegal immigrants who've crossed our southern border??"

# How Do We Pray And Take Action About the Border?

THREE STRATEGIES FOR INTERCESSORS

### Pray against the spirits behind what we see operating freely at the border.

Where we see lawlessness, pray for a spirit of obedience and order. (<u>1 Cor 14:40</u>)

Where we see no value for human life by traffickers, pray for a spirit of freedom and for God's destiny for each of those who are being used. (Rom 8:21) Where we see a spirit of violence, pray for a spirit of gentleness. (Gal 5:23)

Where we see deception, pray for a spirit of revelation and truth. (Prv 14:25)

Where we see hopelessness, pray for a spirit of hope in Christ. (Ps 9:18)

2) Pray for those involved in making decisions about the border, those on the frontlines of border enforcement.

Pray for these leaders to have godly wisdom, insight, and understanding as they make decisions.



**Joe Biden** President



**Alejandro Mayorkas** Secretary of Homeland Security



**Chris Magnus** CBP Commissioner



**Raul Ortiz** Chief of U.S. Border Patrol

**3) Pray for the people and families** who are being lured and enslaved by the promise of easy immigration. Pray for protection from cartels and gangs. Pray for women and children who are easy prey to criminals and traffickers. Pray for unsuspecting migrants to know the truth about the people who are promising transport and crossing. Illegal immigration is wrong, but pray that those who do make it into our nation will be introduced to Christ. Pray for ministries and Christians offering help at the border and throughout the nation.

#### "People need to become aware of the full extent of this problem." -SENATOR RON JOHNSON

## **Prayer Points for Our Borders**

FOUR PRAYER POINTS FOR INTERCESSORS

1) Many law enforcement agents have been placed behind desks processing the influx of immigrants, rather than being on the front lines where they're most needed. Pray for protection for all police forces, border patrol agents, and the unsung heroes who are fighting to keep our borders safe.

#### Protection - (2 Sam 22:31, Ps 5:11)

Pray a hedge of protection around all law enforcement and their families. Pray Psalm 91 and ask the Lord to shield them from every threat and acts of violence as they carry out their orders. Ask the Lord to send his angelic

#### 2) The greatest danger at our borders are

cartels and traffickers who are taking advantage of the situation. Pray for legislation that calls it what it is, that cartels would be designated as terrorists.

Pray for the eyes of our legislators to be opened to what is really going on at the borders. (<u>Is 32:3</u>)

Protection and justice for the innocent and

**3)** Pray for **grants and funding for law enforcement and border control** to help with operations and recruitment. This will move them from behind the desk back to where they need to be.

Pray for legislation concerning our law

**4)** Pray for the **legislators, on both local and national level**. Many are working on trying to contain the crisis, but they need support. It is overwhelming. Pray they would put our nation's best interest first. (<u>Micah 6:8</u>)

Pray for protection as they are visiting

hosts to protect them at all times.

Strength and Courage - (Deut 31:6, Josh 1:9) Pray for strength in the face of adversity and for them to receive courage from God when they feel overwhelmed, and encouragement from those who honor their service.

Wisdom - (James 1:5, Ps 119:25, Col 1:9) Pray they would use wisdom in every situation so they would not act out in any way that is unlawful. Pray for discernment and eyes to see the best outcome in every situation. Pray for unity among law enforcement that they would work together.

exploited children and minors. (<u>Ex 22:22.23</u>, <u>Ps</u> <u>146:9</u>, <u>Ps 82:3</u>)

Pray for an exposure. Let the media show the full truth of what is going on. (<u>Dan 2:22</u>, <u>Lk</u> <u>8:17</u>)

Pray for safe borders once again. (Is 54:14)

Pray that the Lord would thwart and expose the plans of the enemy at the borders.

#### enforcement. (Ps 84:11)

Pray for fairness concerning our law enforcement. (<u>Ps 106:3</u>)

Pray for restoration & healing of our land (<u>ls</u> <u>61:7</u>, <u>2 Chron 7:14</u>)

#### facilities. (<u>Ps 91:11,12</u>)

Pray for favor concerning legislation and border safety. (<u>Ps 5:12</u>, <u>Ps 90:12</u>)

Protection for cities and people being personally affected and feel unsafe in their own homes. (<u>Ps 91:9,10</u>)