

SHIPS

We opened our doors to trouble, Father.

The ship arrived in our port,
With travellers showing symptoms of this virus.
Health warnings and advice were somehow ignored,
And we opened the doors,
Allowing them into the community.
The consequence was immediate and traumatic—
infection;
death.

It is right that we should have shown compassion
and provided care;
But we were careless
In protecting our community
From things that would infect our bodies,
And damage our health.

We are also sometimes careless, Father,
In protecting our community
From things that would infect our minds
and our hearts,
And damage our mental health,
our emotional health,
our moral health,
our spiritual health;
Our lives
and our relationships.

Am I sometimes careless, Father,
In protecting myself
From things that would infect my mind
 And my heart,
And damage my life
 and my relationship
 with you?
Help me, Father, to protect the borders of my heart.

*Keep vigilant watch over your heart; that's where life starts.
(Proverbs 4: 23, MSG)*