

PRAYER DIARY

APRIL 2021



THURSDAY 1 APRIL

MENA

At the start of this new month and Prayer Diary, ask God to give you new energy and hope in your prayers for the MENA.

FRIDAY 2 APRIL

GOOD FRIDAY

“‘He himself bore our sins’ in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ‘by his wounds you have been healed’” (1 Peter 2:24 NIV).

Thank Jesus for His sacrifice today, and pray that many more across the MENA will believe in Him.

SATURDAY 3 APRIL

25 YEARS OF SAT-7

Praise God that SAT-7 has been broadcasting for 25 years. Pray for His guidance for SAT-7’s leadership and ask for His blessings for the future.

SUNDAY 4 APRIL

EASTER DAY

Happy Easter! Some Christians in the MENA are also celebrating Easter today, though many follow the Orthodox calendar in which Easter falls on 2 May. Pray for all who are celebrating today, that they will know the power of the risen Jesus.

MONDAY 5 APRIL

PRAY FOR BAHEER IN IRAQ

“Your programmes have helped me in so many ways in my spiritual growth. Thank you for your kindness in serving Christians from afar. The grace and peace of Christ be with you dear friends at SAT-7 and may you be successful in the glorious name of the Lord.”

North Africa

TUESDAY 6 APRIL

NORTH AFRICA

Over the next few days our prayers focus on the region of North Africa, which encompasses Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Sudan and South Sudan. Praise God that there are Christians and churches in each of these countries.

WEDNESDAY 7 APRIL

IT IS WRITTEN

A new programme with inspiring testimonies from Algeria is airing on SAT-7 ARABIC. *It is Written* shares the stories of new Amazigh (Berber) Christians in short 3-5-minute episodes. Pray that these testimonies will help many across North Africa to meet Jesus.

THURSDAY 8 APRIL

FROM KAMLA, A VIEWER IN EGYPT

“Thank you God for everything you give us, and because you love us. Thank you God for all SAT-7 KIDS programmes and please always be with the team in the future. And please protect all the countries that have problems and viruses. We love you so much. Amen.”

FRIDAY 9 APRIL

TUNISIAN PROGRAMMES

Pray for Perpetua, a new Christian production team in Tunis who are making SAT-7’s first Tunisian programmes. “It is exciting to see a small but active Tunisian Church of believers from a non-Christian background, eager to go on screen and communicate with their society,” says SAT-7 ARABIC’s George Makeen.

SATURDAY 10 APRIL

WOMAN AND MIRROR

SAT-7 ARABIC programme *Women and Mirror* is hosted by three Sudanese women. Pray it will help viewers see themselves as valued and loved by Jesus.

SUNDAY 11 APRIL

FROM A VIEWER IN ALGERIA

"I was from a different background, but I never felt loved in my life except through Christ. I have found the real treasure and light – through Him I no longer live in darkness. Thank you, my brothers, and sisters, for your ministry. I pray that the Lord will do great things in Algeria."

MONDAY 12 APRIL

EDUCATION IN LIBYA

A viewer in Libya got in touch to say, "There are six of us here in Libya who eagerly wait for *My School* to come on air." Pray for these viewers and thank God that they are able to receive valuable teaching in key subjects through SAT-7's educational programmes.

TUESDAY 13 APRIL

ARAB SPRING

This year marks a decade since the Arab Spring erupted in Tunisia and spread across the region. But sadly, most of the causes of discontent that started the protests have not gone away. Pray for real and lasting change in countries still waiting for justice, equality and fair governance.

WEDNESDAY 14 APRIL

PRAY FOR SANDRA, A VIEWER IN MOROCCO

"No matter how much I thank you, I cannot repay your goodness. You teach us ethics by answering our questions. You are the greatest channel I've ever seen! I hope that God will give you everything you need."

General

THURSDAY 15 APRIL

FROM CHRISTINA, A VIEWER IN EGYPT

"I texted you eight months ago as I had a pain in my back. I asked you to pray for me and you did, and now I'm so much better. I thank God for His healing." Thank God that He has the power to heal, and pray for anyone you know who needs healing today.

FRIDAY 16 APRIL

FROM A VIEWER IN SYRIA

"I don't know anyone in a church or the terms you use like 'worship', but this channel is a door of light for me." Pray that this woman comes to know the Lord.

SATURDAY 17 APRIL

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

SAT-7 programmes across all channels affirm women's God-given value. Thank God for legal steps being taken in the MENA area to protect women. Ask for still more progress.

SUNDAY 18 APRIL

PRAY FOR SABAH IN LEBANON

"I'm 12 years old. I was always sad, worried and scared but when I came to know the Lord, I felt His love and became happy and started to share the Gospel wherever I go."

Coronavirus

MONDAY 19 APRIL

CORONAVIRUS

The next focus for our prayers is the coronavirus pandemic and the ways in which it is affecting SAT-7's broadcasts and viewers. Thank God that, throughout the difficulties and opportunities that the pandemic has presented in the last year, He has been faithful and moving in power.

TUESDAY 20 APRIL

SAT-7 PROVIDES SUPPORT

The coronavirus pandemic is causing people to stay at home, lose incomes and seek educational, spiritual and entertainment resources. Give thanks that SAT-7 is free and available to help in such a time as this.

WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL

FROM A VIEWER IN IRAN

"High rent, inflation, coronavirus, low employment, and heavy pressure from society are taking a toll. Pray I can find reasons for hope through Jesus."

THURSDAY 22 APRIL

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Praise God for the programme *You Are Not Alone*, produced in Beirut, Lebanon, which has been supporting Arabic-speakers through the pandemic. The programme provides expert advice, updates on the crisis and spiritual encouragement. Pray it will continue to give viewers a sense of solidarity, perseverance and hope.

FRIDAY 23 APRIL

SAT-7 ACADEMY

During lockdowns, SAT-7 ACADEMY saw a large spike in viewer engagement as families turned to the educational programmes for support. Please pray that SAT-7 will continue throughout this period of school closures to be a lifeline for struggling families in the MENA by helping meet their needs.

SATURDAY 24 APRIL

CHILDREN

Pray also for children, parents, and teachers during school closures: that God will draw near to them in times of strain and especially protect children who may be at risk during lockdowns.

SUNDAY 25 APRIL

PRAY FOR NARDINE IN EGYPT

"I am a nurse and I work in an international hospital. I have a little girl aged four. She is following your programme. I want to say thank you for praying for health care workers in order for God to protect them from COVID-19 – it touches my heart so much!" Please continue to pray for health care workers like Nardine.

MONDAY 26 APRIL

GRIEVING FAMILIES

Pray for people you may know, as well as people across the MENA, who have lost friends and family members to coronavirus. Ask that God will comfort them in their grief – particularly where funeral arrangements have been made difficult or impossible.

TUESDAY 27 APRIL

SOHEILA'S PRAYER

Join in the prayer of Soheila, 9, from Iran: "Lord, it is on my heart to pray about coronavirus and I bring this virus before you. Uproot this virus, heal all who have been ill with it and give them the strength to be able to fight this virus. I thank God that you listen to our prayers. I ask in the name of Jesus, Amen."

WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL

FROM A VIEWER IN LEBANON

"My parents and aunt are very sick with COVID-19. Ask God to heal them, so they can go back to working in the church. They want to serve Him."

THURSDAY 29 APRIL

VACCINATIONS

Praise God for the amazing medical and technological advancements that have led to the rolling out of vaccines around the globe.

Sadly, the vaccine has also shone a light on existing global income disparities, with wealthier nations able to access it more efficiently than poorer ones. Pray for developing countries and places with ongoing conflicts, such as Syria, Palestine and Yemen, that the vaccine will reach their populations too.

FRIDAY 30 APRIL

PRAY FOR ROZITA, A VIEWER IN IRAN

"Coronavirus has brought me much closer to Christ. It has reminded me that as human beings we have no power, and that life itself hangs by a thread and is only sustained by the will of the Lord. So, we must appreciate the value of life and that of our loved ones each moment we are given."



**Names of viewers
throughout have been
changed.**

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IN SEARCH OF A LOVING GOD SAM'S STORY

Sam *, an Iranian Christian who now works for SAT-7 PARS, shares his journey in search of a loving God, from drug addiction and despair to a new life in Christ.

"When I was a child, I really loved God and thought that participating in ceremonies would help me get closer to Him. But I slowly became aware of a growing emptiness within me," Sam explains.

Seeking to fill the emptiness, Sam became involved with a religious cult and ended up addicted to drugs. "The direction of my life was completely changed," Sam says. "After a while, I stopped going to work. Eventually, I went bankrupt."

Spiralling into despair, Sam attempted to take his own life. By the grace of God, he survived – yet nothing seemed to change.

"I got to the point where I accused God of sitting up there somewhere in comfort, with angels fanning him. What could such a god know of the suffering and pain that is in this world?"

In a surprising turn of events, it was Sam's mother who gave him the Gospel, after a young Armenian boy handed her a Bible while she was out shopping. "When my mother came home, I watched her put a small red book on the table, and it grabbed my attention." His curiosity awakened, Sam read the entire book within a week.

Searching for answers, Sam sought out the boy who worked at the store. Upon finding him, Sam said, "I'll be straight with you. I want to put my faith in Jesus as a last resort. If he can't do anything for me, then I will take my own life." The young boy simply replied, "Well, you've tried everything else – you may as well try this, too."

There and then, Sam gave his heart to Jesus. "As I prayed, I clearly felt something enter from my head, pushing something out of me. At that moment I received the Holy Spirit," he says.

Sam immediately began looking for a church. At the house church he joined, he was amazed by the way Christians worshipped. "They were speaking kind, good words, clapping their hands and full of joy." Sam's faith grew, and he became involved in worship music at various house churches.

"I was trained and became responsible for a number of house churches. Some church members had family who were addicted to drugs. God began to use me to help these people overcome their addictions and put their faith in Jesus. Even now, some of them are still in Iran leading house churches."

In 2011, many of the Christians Sam was working with were arrested, and Sam went into hiding, eventually leaving Iran. But he is undeterred, continuing his ministry by working for SAT-7. **"The Lord is continuing to lead me step by step," he says. I know I am in His hands, and He has plans to use me.**" ■

**Name changed for security purposes*