



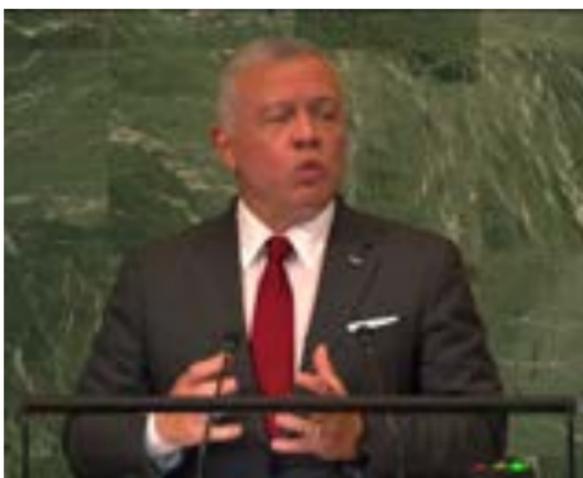
# PRAYER DIARY

**For SAT-7 and the Middle East**  
February 2023

## WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY

### DEFENDING CHRISTIANITY

At the 77th UN General Assembly, in September 2022, Christian leaders in Jerusalem thanked King Abdullah II of Jordan for his defence of Christians in the region. The king was responding to complaints that settler groups are seeking to displace Christians in the city. "Christianity is vital to the past and present of our region and the Holy Land; it must remain an integral part of our future." Pray that people of different faiths in the Holy Land will find ways to live at peace with each other.



*King Abdullah II of Jordan, speaking at the 77th UN general assembly*

## THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

### CHURCHES IN EGYPT

Thank God that Egypt's estimated three million evangelicals are benefiting from reforms to the recognition of church buildings. Pray for the Evangelical Fellowship of Egypt as it helps about 1,500 churches make adjustments to receive official recognition.

## FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY

### FINDING GOD

"From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us" (Acts 17:26-27). Pray that the nations and people groups of the MENA will feel their way toward God and find Him.

**SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY**  
**ETERNAL FOOD**

“Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you” (John 6:27a). Pray that SAT-7’s international staff team will remain focused on producing lasting fruit.

**SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY**  
**CHOLERA DANGER**

Syria and Lebanon are facing a large outbreak of cholera while both countries are experiencing a crisis in healthcare and millions of displaced people are living in dire conditions. Please pray for the healthcare situation in both countries and that vulnerable people will be protected from this dangerous illness.

**MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY**  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE TO FGM**

Almost 50 million girls and women in Egypt, Yemen, Sudan, and Iraq have undergone Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Pray for an end to this harmful practice in the MENA.

**TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY**  
**CHURCHES IN IRAQI KURDISTAN**

In Iraqi Kurdistan there are now 14 churches for Kurdish Christians, thanks to former Iraqi President Talabani’s recognition of minority faiths. Some are, however, still threatened with closure. Pray that the church in this autonomous region of Iraq will grow in number and in faith.



*St Joseph's Church in Erbil, Iraqi Kurdistan*

## WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY

### A PROMISING DEAL

Thank God for a promising deal between Israel and Lebanon. Following a long-running dispute, they have reached an agreement over their maritime border. Pray that this will have the expected result of relieving tensions between these two uneasy neighbours.

## THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY

### CLIMATE CONFERENCE

In November 2022, Egypt hosted COP-27, the UN-backed international climate change conference. The MENA is already suffering from some of the effects of rising temperatures, and the historic rivers, Tigris and Euphrates, are drying up. Pray for increased awareness and action in the MENA region.

## FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY

### BEYOND THE VEIL

*Beyond the Veil* is a Turkish-language devotional programme that addresses hard questions about the Bible. Pastor Vahan İsaoglu (right) helps Turkish Christians to discover God's heart for themselves. Please pray that the programme helps many more people in Türkiye and the surrounding region experience the hope of Jesus Christ.



**SATURDAY 11  
FEBRUARY  
SAT-7 VIEWER  
TESTIMONIES**

At SAT-7, we are blessed to receive many wonderful testimonies from all over the MENA. This week we will hear from a variety of SAT-7 viewers whose lives have been transformed by God. Thank God that He is speaking to people through SAT-7 and changing lives in the region.



**SUNDAY 12 FEBRUARY  
BERIL FROM TÜRKIYE**

“Hello, I was watching Kanivar and Şemsa on the *Homemade* programme on SAT-7 TÜRK, and I was very impressed. I accepted Jesus as my saviour while watching the programme. I am joining a church and I have started to write a book, and if you will allow me, I would like to include you in my book.” Pray for Beril’s continued growth as a Christian, and for God’s blessing on her writing project.

**MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY  
YOUSSEF FROM YEMEN**

Youssef, a 20-year-old viewer from Yemen, got in touch with SAT-7 to say, “I need to know the real God. I’m seeking to know the truth.” The viewer support team member told Youssef more about Jesus and sent him a digital Bible. A short while later he shared, “I am convinced that Jesus is God!” Youssef felt afraid about how his community would react, but – through tears – shared that he wanted to accept God’s love and salvation. He prayed with the SAT-7 team member, saying, “I can’t hold back the tears of joy!” Praise God for speaking to Youssef and pray that his faith will be strengthened.

**TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY**  
**TAJ FROM AFGHANISTAN**

“For many years I have been a believer in Christ, but I can’t openly declare my faith here. Becoming a believer in Jesus Christ is the best thing that has happened in my life. Although I was born into a Shi’ite Muslim family, while studying at university with a friend we secretly read the Bible together and gradually came to faith.” Pray that Taj and his friend will grow in faith and find ways to share their faith with others.

**WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY**  
**HAIDY, SAT-7 KIDS VIEWER**

“I started watching the programme *Bible Heroes*, and I learned from this programme how to love Jesus and pray to him.” – Haidy, teenage SAT-7 KIDS viewer. Pray that Haidy will continue to grow in faith and share what she has learned with others.

**THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY**  
**SAMER FROM EGYPT**

Samer, a 39-year-old SAT-7 viewer from Egypt, said, “I want to take practical steps towards repentance and how to read the Bible daily.” After a conversation with SAT-7’s viewer support team, he chose to become a follower of Jesus. “I started reading the Bible and I now enjoy a sweet relationship with God.” Thank God for Samer’s story, and pray that God will touch many more hearts in Egypt!

**FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY**  
**MAHER FROM YEMEN**

When asked by a SAT-7 viewer support team member if he knew who Jesus was, Maher replied, “I don’t ... but I would love for you to share about Him.” The team member shared more, and Maher said he would love to accept Jesus into his heart. Pray for Maher’s spiritual growth, and for the viewer support team as they interact with others who are searching for truth.

**SATURDAY 18 FEBRUARY****ARAB WOMEN**

New live programme *Today not Tomorrow*, which showcases stories of women in the Arab world and helps them to understand their rights, is to be broadcast on SAT-7 ARABIC this month. Maggie Morgan, who is leading SAT-7's five-year gender and Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) project, said, "[With this programme] we want to target those who are somehow entrapped and confined." Pray the show will help Arab women to find freedom and fulfilment.

**SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY****QATAR WORLD CUP**

Qatar has been in the international spotlight ever since it was announced that the small Gulf nation would host the men's football World Cup in 2022. Pray that there will be positive change in the country, especially for mistreated migrant workers, and that rights and freedoms will be improved for all.

**MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY****WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The world is getting smaller. As more information is shared online, and ideas are swapped between cities, countries, and even continents, the possibility for social change – and unrest – increases. Pray that the Holy Spirit will lead people across the MENA to find out about the causes closest to God's heart, and work for godly change in their communities.

**TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY****SHROVE TUESDAY**

As many people around the world prepare for Lent – often marking today by eating pancakes and other sweet goods – let's remember those who don't have enough to eat. There are severe food security problems in countries across the MENA including Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq, South Sudan, and Syria. Pray that hungry people in these nations will be able to find reliable food sources. Ask God if there's anything you can do to help.



## **WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY: LENT BEGINS**

Today marks the beginning of Lent. Several groups in the MENA observe Lent, such as Orthodox churches (Coptic, Syrian, and Armenian); Catholic churches (Maronite, Greek Melkite, Chaldean); and Episcopal (Anglican) churches. Pray for God's Spirit to impact people in all these denominations and speak to them in a special way during Lent.

**Look out for special MENA prayers, each Sunday during Lent, led by SAT-7 international staff.**

## **THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY**

### **TUNISIA**

Soaring food prices and shortages of basic staples have been causing discontent across Tunisia. Pray for economic stability in the country and for God to protect the most needy families.

## **FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY**

### **ALGERIA PRESSURE**

The Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Freedom or Religion or Belief, Fiona Bruce MP, sounded the alarm for Algeria in late 2022. After visiting Christians and members of other minority faiths, she told a Coptic new year (Nayrouz) service in Westminster that all groups are experiencing restrictions, including over 30 church closures. Ms Bruce said, "Pray that there will be a change of approach by the authorities."

## **SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY**

### **SAT-7 LEADERSHIP**

SAT-7's International Management Team (IMT) meets three times a year to plan, review and set goals for the ministry, as well as share times of prayer and fellowship. Pray for the members of the IMT to have open ears and hearts to God's direction and leading.

**SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY**  
**LENT FOCUS #1***Lebanon* 

“Please pray for Lebanon where we witness a lot of injustice in so many areas of life: health and hygiene issues; the decline of banks and the devaluation of the currency; poverty; no electricity; and how all of this is affecting the basic right of receiving healthcare and education.

Let us remember that the Lord died for everyone, for forgiveness, atonement of sin and new life. Please pray for the prospect of rebuilding right, rising from the ashes again as one people, undivided, united and ready to serve one another, starting with the church and mission servants. May the Lord send workers to pray, to serve and to spread the much-needed Good News across our broken dry land. Pray for the Holy Spirit to pour unto us new life only He can offer. Please pray for the Church and the unification of the believers in Lebanon just as Jesus prayed (John 17:21).”



- *Juliana Sfeir, SAT-7 ACADEMY  
Manager, based in Beirut, Lebanon.*

**MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY**  
**MAKING GOD'S LOVE VISIBLE**

Give thanks for the many ways that people in the MENA can access SAT-7 – via satellite TV, online, various social media platforms, and the SAT-7 PLUS app. Pray for those in the region who are currently unable to watch SAT-7, perhaps because of displacement or poverty. Pray that they will find a way to watch our programmes.

**TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY**  
**MENTAL HEALTH**

Pray for those in the MENA who are suffering with mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Pray that they will find the help they need and that the Lord will bring them healing and peace.



## CHANGING COMMUNITIES

**Jesus described the Kingdom of God as like a little bit of yeast that works its way through a whole batch of dough. As SAT-7 shares the Gospel, and the life that God offers us through His son, it doesn't just change individual viewers. They often go on to impact their families and communities.**

Behrooz, who lives in Afghanistan, got in touch with SAT-7 about how the Gospel has changed his life, and how he is trying to share his faith – even in the most dangerous places.



“Please send all your content with messages and worship songs – I would be very grateful,” he said to our viewer support team. “I have chosen this way. I have struggled without giving up and I paid a heavy price for it. My family have abandoned me, and I am not accepted by anyone in society, especially now that the Taliban have come to power. Many times at public and private gatherings I have told my friends about Christianity, which is full of love for humanity. I was doing it all openly.”

Behrooz is faithfully following the command of Jesus to share the Gospel. This is wonderful news, but it has come at a great cost.

“One of the people close to us reported me to the Taliban saying that I have become a Christian and I am promoting Christianity to other people. They beat me severely and told me that I have to repent. In Afghanistan, it is hard to freely believe according to your conscience, because the Taliban won’t let you.”

As well as hearing stories of SAT-7 viewers like Behrooz openly sharing the Gospel, we also hear how others are showing the love of Jesus by living out His teaching.

Wadeeda, a 26-year-old woman, comes from Sudan. “I always used to watch SAT-7 on television and now I’ve discovered the SAT-7 WORSHIP page... I always sing Arabic songs with you.” Wadeeda went on to share something that was troubling her. “I would appreciate your prayers for my neighbours. We had a big fight, and we were not on good terms. After I watched a programme talking about forgiveness, I wept and had the motivation to reconcile with them, but they refused.”

The viewer support team prayed with Wadeeda and told her how precious she is to the Lord, and how much the Lord loves her.

“

**After I watched a programme talking about forgiveness, I wept and had the motivation to reconcile with [my neighbours.]”**

WADEEDA FROM  
SUDAN

After the team prayed with Wadeeda for half an hour, one of her neighbours – who had previously refused to speak with her – came to her with tears flowing and hugged her!

According to Wadeeda, what really made the difference was prayer. She felt that she was carrying a heavy load on her shoulders beforehand, but after praying with our team, she felt comfortable, relaxed, and light; as if she had become a new person.

**SAT-7 broadcasts 24/7 in Arabic, Persian and Turkish**



**SAT-7 is watched by millions of people in 25 countries**

**SAT-7 had 84,000 one-to-one viewer conversations in 2021**



**Names of viewers throughout have been changed and images used for representation only.**

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