

# PRAYER DIARY

MAY 2023



## Freedom

### MONDAY 1 MAY FOCUS: FREEDOM

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36). There are numerous restrictions on people’s freedoms in the Middle East and North Africa, but many are finding true freedom in Jesus. Ask the Father to lead you into the true freedom of His Son.

### TUESDAY 2 MAY BAHRAIN

Bishop Paul Hinder, the papal envoy to the Arabian Peninsula, said in late 2022: “Religious liberty inside Bahrain is perhaps the best in the Arab world. Even if everything isn’t ideal, there can be

conversions [to Christianity], which aren’t at least officially punished like in other countries.” Thank God for the relative religious freedom of Bahrain and pray that other nations in the region will adopt similar practices.

### WEDNESDAY 3 MAY WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

Give thanks that SAT-7 provides a public platform for Christian voices in the MENA, where there is a lack of press freedom and limited opportunities for minority perspectives.

### THURSDAY 4 MAY FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF (PART 1)

Christians in Libya are suffering greater Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB) violations owing to the ongoing civil war. Pray for Christians in Libya who face restrictions, that they will “continue in... faith, established and firm, and... not move from the hope held out in the gospel” (Colossians 1:23a).

### FRIDAY 5 MAY FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND BELIEF (PART 2)

The Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan has had a devastating impact on FoRB, as the militants persecute those who do not adhere to their strict interpretation of sharia law. Pray for the protection and freedom of Christians in Afghanistan.

### SATURDAY 6 MAY FREEDOM IN CHRIST

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (2 Corinthians 3:17). Pray that the Spirit of the Lord will be at work in the hearts and communities of believers across the MENA, bringing true freedom despite their external circumstances.

### SUNDAY 7 MAY FREE SOULS

The testimonies shared on SAT-7 ARABIC programme *Free Souls* give North African viewers hope that they, too, can experience the freedom that comes from the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to set even more people free in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco!

**MONDAY 8 MAY**  
**SAT-7 VIEWER NOUSHAFARIN**

"During the time that I have been speaking with you, I have started to have a sense of freedom and feel release from the things that bound me. I feel unburdened in a way that I have never known before. I don't know how to thank you for the way you are serving us and the impact it has on us." Thank the Lord that SAT-7's programming and viewer support is helping people like Noushafarin in Iran.

**TUESDAY 9 MAY**  
**LEADERS**

Syria, Tajikistan, South Sudan and Saudi Arabia are four of the ten least free countries in the world according to Freedom House, a non-profit organisation that researches and advocates for democracy, political freedom, and human rights. Pray for the leaders of these countries, that they will experience Christ's freedom and share it with their people.

**General**

**WEDNESDAY 10 MAY**  
**EGYPT ECONOMY**

Global events like the coronavirus pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine have poured fuel on the fire of Egypt's already-struggling economy. Pray for the worst-affected families in Egypt, that they will be able to make it through these turbulent times.

**THURSDAY 11 MAY**  
**VIEWER SUPPORT TEAMS**

"I think the whole team is such a blessing," said Kareem, a SAT-7 ARABIC viewer. "You are doing an outstanding job. You might be thinking that your messages are a simple thing but in fact you are making a huge effort. May God bless you abundantly." Pray a blessing over SAT-7's viewer support teams, who do such an important job listening to viewers, encouraging them, and helping them to follow Jesus.

**FRIDAY 12 MAY**  
**SAT-7 VIEWER CLARA**

Clara, a 22-year-old woman from Morocco, contacted us to share the challenges she faces. "I feel weak and unable to do anything good in life," she said. Pray that Clara will know how loved she is by God, and that she will grow in confidence.

**SATURDAY 13 MAY**  
**MAURITANIA ELECTIONS**

Parliamentary elections will be held today in Mauritania (as well as on 27 May). These are the first elections since the only peaceful transition of power took place in the country in 2019. Pray for continuing peace, and for God's hand to be on Mauritania during this crucial time.

**SUNDAY 14 MAY**  
**TURKISH ELECTIONS**

The Turkish presidential and parliamentary elections are due to take place today. Pray for God's will to be done in this nation today and in the future.

## **MONDAY 15 MAY** UN INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

Aziza, a mother of two young children, spoke at length with our viewer support team and received some advice for family life. She said, "You are the best and sweetest people... you bring joy and stability into people's homes." Pray that Aziza's family will flourish as they continue to watch and interact with SAT-7.

## **TUESDAY 16 MAY** ORPHANS IN IRAQ

According to a 2021 report by the Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights (IHCHR), there are around five million orphans living in Iraq. Cry out to God for these young people, praying that they will find loving homes and a secure hope in Jesus.

## **WEDNESDAY 17 MAY** LEBANON STUDIO

Perched on a hillside looking out over sprawling Beirut to the coast, a unique modern building with several large studios is the base for SAT-7 Lebanon's busy and talented production crew. Pray

for God's inspiration and provision for all the staff working at SAT-7's Beirut studio.

## **THURSDAY 18 MAY** GOLDEN ADVICE

Popular SAT-7 PARS show *Golden Advice* ("Golpand") teaches core biblical values through interactive games, educational segments, and theatrical plays. Pray for the continued success of this programme and that many young people will learn biblical truths through it.

## **FRIDAY 19 MAY** PARENTS ARE ASKING

SAT-7 TÜRK discussion programme *Parents Are Asking* helps families deal with life's most challenging and painful circumstances. After the Türkiye-Syria earthquakes in February, three children from the disaster area were referred to Dença Kıriscopuryan, child psychologist and co-host of *Parents Are Asking*. Dença is currently providing psychological support to them and many other children. Pray that more Turkish families will be supported and encouraged through this programme.

## **The Heart**

### **SATURDAY 20 MAY** FOCUS: THE HEART

The Bible places great emphasis and importance on the heart, often using this vital organ to refer to our will and desires – the very essence of who we are. Pray that God will give you His heart for the people of the MENA as you pray for them this coming week.

### **SUNDAY 21 MAY** SHARE YOUR HEART

"We have witnessed many couples' lives changed during the different seasons of the show, which is so encouraging." – Marianne Daou, co-presenter of SAT-7 ARABIC talk show *Share Your Heart*. Pray that God will continue to use this programme to strengthen more marriages in the Arabic-speaking world.

**MONDAY 22 MAY**  
**THE LORD LOOKS AT THE HEART**

“The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7b). Pray that many people in the MENA would be inspired by this beautiful truth, especially those who are seeking the true nature of God.

**TUESDAY 23 MAY**  
**THE MEANING OF PRAYER**

“Within the Iranian context, prayer can be ritualistic and formulaic,” shares Ashraf, presenter of Sanctuary of the Heart. “So for people coming to Christ from this background, sometimes they don’t quite understand what prayer is... Through Sanctuary of the Heart, we want to show them what prayer means in Christianity.” Pray that this Instagram programme will help Iranian viewers to pray to God from their heart.

**WEDNESDAY 24 MAY**  
**TRUE CHRISTIANITY**

“The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith” (1 Timothy 1:5 ). Pray that SAT-7’s programmes will help viewers across the region encounter Jesus and learn to love like He does – from a pure heart.

**THURSDAY 25 MAY**  
**THE HEART OF THE CITY**

Daily life in big cities can be hectic. SAT-7 TÜRK programme *The Heart of the City* encourages viewers to take time out to enjoy aspects of their communities like culture, art, and church events. Pray that God will lift the hearts of Turkish viewers through these activities.

**FRIDAY 26 MAY**  
**HEARTFELT PRACTICE**

Habib from Tunisia came to faith in Jesus recently and was in contact with SAT-7 ARABIC’s viewer support team. He said, “I then knew that worshipping Him is a heartfelt practice, not a set of rituals.” Pray for Habib, that he will learn more about God every day.

**SATURDAY 27 MAY**  
**GUARD YOUR HEART**

“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it” (Proverbs 4:23). In a world of fast information and entertainment, it’s vital that we guard our hearts. Ask God to help you do this wisely.

**General**

**SUNDAY 28 MAY**  
**AZERBAIJAN**

Today marks Republic Day, the National Day of Azerbaijan, which commemorates the founding of their nation in 1918. Pray that SAT-7 viewership will increase in Azerbaijan and that more Azeris will learn about Jesus.

**MONDAY 29 MAY**  
**SAT-7 SUPPORTERS**

Thank God for SAT-7’s amazing network of supporters around the world, who give generously towards the ministry in prayer, service and funds. Ask God to bless each one and encourage them through their support for SAT-7.

## **TUESDAY 30 MAY** **CONFLICT IN YEMEN**

More than 11,000 children have been killed in Yemen since the war began in 2015. Pray that God will comfort families who are mourning and influence the hearts of people who have the power to end the conflict.

## **WEDNESDAY 31 MAY** **CYPRUS STUDIO**

Creating and broadcasting some of SAT-7's most popular Persian-language shows is a monumental task for the staff working at our studio in Limassol, Cyprus. Pray that God will bless the team with creativity, faith, and courage.



*Names of viewers throughout have been changed.*

**SAT-7 UK**

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