

Monday 31st December

Pray for the healing of the nations

“Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.” Rev



22:1-5

Jesus said in these scriptures from Revelation, that the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. God paints a picture of a world that is healed. This is what workers in the Muslim world and we as prayer intercessors labour towards. Let's proclaim God's Word over the Muslim word. Spend a couple of minutes speaking these verses from Revelation out loud as declarations of truth.

- Let's pray as we stand on the threshold of a new year that this will be a time of continuing and amazing movements to Christ in the Muslim world, bringing healing and hope to their nations.
- Let's pray that the New Year will be one of peace, hope and reconciliation in the Muslim world.
- Let's pray to see Jesus, the light of the world, reigning in the hearts of Muslims, especially in countries where so much suffering is going on.

Tuesday 1st January

Psalm 67

This Prayercast video features Psalm 67 set to music. It is a beautifully filmed video spanning all the countries across the world. It is based on the cry to God to shine His face upon the people that we, in turn, might be a light to the nations. Our cry is for God to shine His face on the Muslim world and for us to be a light to them.

You can watch the video here: <https://prayercast.com/shine.html>

Today on New Year's Day, let the words of Psalm 67 be our prayer today for Muslims everywhere:

May God be gracious to you and bless you and make His face shine upon you, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses you.

May God bless you still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear Him. Amen

Wednesday 2nd January

Yemen

As we start this New Year, Yemen and its people continue to suffer the consequences of a devastating war that started in 2015 and has caused a major humanitarian crisis.



At the centre of the conflict are the Houthi, predominantly Shia, rebel movement on one side and the largely Sunni forces allied with President Hadi on the other. In support of the President, Saudi Arabia and several other Sunni Arab states formed a coalition and began air strikes against the rebels.

Since then, the crisis has spiralled and fighting has engulfed the entire country. More than 9,000 Yemenis have been killed, over 50,000 injured and 3 million people have fled their homes. Millions of people face shortages of food and water and the latest news reports suggest 85,000 children under the age of five may have died from acute malnutrition. Approximately 22 million people are in need of humanitarian aid, creating the world's largest food emergency. Less than half the country's healthcare facilities are functional. A cholera outbreak has affected 1.2 million people.

So many innocent people have been caught up in this conflict, young and old. Many will remember the news footage of the school bus that was mistakenly bombed last August by the Saudis, killing many children on board.

In the midst of this tragedy, we give thanks that Yemenis want to know more about Jesus.

- Pray that those who have the power to end this war would do so. Pray particularly that the Saudi coalition would rethink its strategy in fighting the Houthis.
- Pray that all people would have access to clean water, food and medicine. Pray that aid would get to the people who need it most and that nothing would go astray.
- Pray for the children of Yemen. This war has made them weak and incredibly vulnerable. They are also losing their education. Pray that they would be able to reclaim their childhood and look to a more positive future.
- Lift up the small number of Muslim background believers. Many have a strong and solid faith and are able to nurture others. Some are being persecuted, particularly by the Houthis, who oppose anything against their own ideology. Pray for believers to have strength and to keep their eyes fixed on Jesus.

Thursday 3rd January

Saudi Arabia

“He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.” Micah 4:3

Saudi Arabia continues to feature in the international news. Not only is it involved in the war in Yemen, but more recently, it has been accused of being involved in the murder of the Saudi journalist, Jamal Khashoggi, when he visited the Saudi Consulate in Turkey last October. He was a prominent Saudi critic.

Pray for Saudi recently published an article on its website describing how many are accusing the Saudis, even as they vehemently denied this claim. Either way, there is mounting global pressure on Saudi.



Saudi Arabia has long held one of the world's worst records on human rights and religious freedom. Yet the crown prince, Mohammed Bin Salman, has vowed to leave behind these 'extremist ideologies' for a more 'moderate Islam'.

The world is watching to see what this nation will do next, because what happens in Saudi Arabia impacts the globe. Not only do they have a quarter of the world's oil reserves, but it is the birthplace and centre of Islam.

We know that if a spiritual breakthrough happened there this coming year, it would have tremendous ripple effects around the world.

Please pray as you watch this powerful video about Saudi Arabia from Prayercast:

<https://www.prayercast.com/saudi-arabia.html>

- Pray for Our Lord Jesus Christ to miraculously intervene in this nation, so that weapons of warfare are turned into a means to bring peace and restoration.
- Pray for Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman to rule with truth and integrity and leave behind any extremist ideologies.
- Pray for true religious freedom and the curbing of human rights abuses.

Source: www.lovesaudis.com

Friday 4th January

Syria

Syria has suffered almost eight years of war. Despite a bleak outlook, we hear stories of how God is working in the lives of Syrian people.



CryOut recently shared an encouraging article about Syria from Arab World Media:

"Since 2014, we have prayed to break the strongholds of hopelessness and despair, pride and power, darkness and deception. We pray that our mighty God would overcome the hopelessness that has permeated many hearts in Syria. This is long-term hopelessness. We pray knowing that, despite the grim outlook, God is doing something wonderful in the lives of many Syrians and particularly among refugees.

We've seen it ourselves. God is giving Syrian men and women a different kind of hope that comes only through knowing Jesus."

Let us join them at the start of this new year and pray specifically for:

- Syrians who have completely lost hope. Pray that in their despair they would seek out the Lord God and bring their needs to him. Pray that they would cry out to him and that he would meet them in a powerful way.
- For children: lift up those who have been traumatised, those who have been orphaned and those who have lost loved ones. Pray for moments of normal childhood; time to laugh and play. Pray for seeds of hope.
- Lift up the Christian communities of Syria. May they be a source of light and hope for Muslims living there and continue to trust and glorify the Lord.
- Ask God to pour out wisdom and humility on those who need it most and particularly on President Assad and his leadership.

Sources: <https://www.arabworldmedia.org>
<http://www.cryoutnow.org/>

Saturday 5th January

Afghanistan

The Afghan people have suffered greatly from over thirty years of conflict both from internal factions and external groups. A devastating civil war, followed by the oppressive rule of the Taliban, an extremist Islamic group, has created a society where over half the population has known nothing but war. These conflicts left over 1 million dead, an estimated 4 million children orphaned and approximately 2.5 million refugees.



Peace may seem like a distant hope for Afghanistan, but God is moving. Frontiers workers in nearby countries report that Afghan refugees are more open to the gospel than ever before. Many Muslim-background Afghans have become followers of Jesus Christ and their numbers are multiplying as they become disillusioned with the wrongdoings committed by fellow Muslims in the name of Islam and hear a message of hope and love in Christ.

- As the Taliban and, more recently, ISIS claim more lives in this vulnerable country, we ask God to pour out His mercy on Afghan families and for His Kingdom to come in this nation.
- Ask the Lord to bring the peace, reconciliation, healing and hope of Christ to all the peoples of this nation in this coming year.
- Pray for solutions to the threats of violence and for the political stability needed for a healthy economy and just government.
- Lift up Afghan men and women who are seeking the truth to boldly embrace a new identity in Jesus Christ and put their trust in the eternal hope and security that cannot be shaken.