



10:14

14 DAYS | 10 MINUTES

#HowWillTheyHear

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Romans 10:14

Everyday realities

No matter what your background, you are not immune from the horrors of war, persecution or economic decline. People from all walks of life, even those who were once students, professionals or academics, have been forced to flee for survival or in search of a better future for themselves and their families.

Pray for an end to violence, an end to suffering and an end to situations that forcibly displace people from their homes.

Pray for the victims of human trafficking, who were promised hope and a future. Pray for safety and protection for people making treacherous journeys and for those church leaders and Christian migrants who are making a stand.

Where is God?

Psalm 24

DAY 2

In times of hardship, suffering and emotional turmoil, people can be drawn to question the circumstances that led to their exile. As Christians, we know that Christ is no stranger to physical and emotional trauma and that he is the source of life, peace and comfort. Let us hold on to these great truths as we pray today.

Thank God that the world and everything in it is his and for the opportunities the great movement of people bring to share the good news.

Pray for Christian unity in showing love and kindness to refugees and migrants; and that lives would be transformed through relationships built.



Refugees and migrants

Take time to remember the horrific journeys many refugees and migrants have taken to reach relative safety. Many are haunted by memories of physical, mental, verbal or emotional trauma. Even now, some still await judgement on whether they can reside permanently in their country of refuge.

Pray that God would be a comfort to those that have lost loved ones or are uncertain if family members are still alive.

Pray that the body of Christ would be a place where refugees and migrants feel welcome and that the global church would respond to their plight with love and compassion.



Refugee camps

1 Peter 1:3-5

DAY 4

People who once had homes, jobs and a future, now live in squalid, temporary conditions. Try to imagine being in that position. You might feel hopeless, or desperate. As Christians, we have hope in a God who loves us and who can bring comfort into the darkest situation. Remember those who do not yet know that hope.

Pray for those feeling desperate in their current circumstances. Pray they would encounter Christians working alongside local churches who can share their eternal hope.

Pray for God's protection over vulnerable individuals and that those looking to exploit them would not succeed.



Refugee children

Imagine having suffered war, persecution, separation and migration as a child. Imagine the scars this would have left. In 2016, 75,000 unaccompanied children lodged asylum claims in 70 countries. This figure is assumed to be an underestimate of the real figure. In 2016, 51 per cent of all refugees were children.*

Pray for God's protection over innocent children who are separated from their families, living in poverty and/or vulnerable to trafficking, abuse and exploitation.

Praise God for those providing refugee children with access to education. Pray for more workers with teaching skills to resource centres in Europe and the Middle East.

* <http://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2016>



European Church

Matthew 9:36–38

DAY 6

In the first quarter of 2017, Italy was the country with the largest absolute increase in the number of first time asylum applications, followed by Greece*.

Just 0.4 per cent of the Greek population are evangelical Christians and only 1.1 per cent of the Italian population.**

Pray that churches in Europe would support Christians in Italy and Greece as they seek to have a significant impact on migrant communities.

Pray new workers would be raised to serve the European Church. Pray for Arabic speakers, trauma counsellors, sports co-ordinators, medical professionals and those with leadership experience.

*www.bitly/eurostatdest

**<http://www.operationworld.org>



Germany

At the end of 2016, Germany had the largest asylum-seeking population with 587,300 pending claims, a 160 per cent increase from 2014.* As the nation is put under increasing pressure, attitudes towards refugees and migrants become hostile, but the German church is looking to counteract this.

Lack of cultural awareness and language on both sides increases fear and mistrust. Pray for the German church, as it unites to welcome refugees and build bridges.

Pray for the church as it responds to the spiritual needs of migrants and refugees. Do you know anyone with skills in discipleship, evangelism or church planting?

*<http://www.unhcr.org/5943e8a34.pdf> (p45)



Care Refugee Centre, Thessalonica

Zechariah 7:9–10

DAY 8

In 2016, Greece saw a fourfold increase in asylum applications.* Christians in Thessalonica pooled resources to open a ministry centre in the heart of the city. It serves practical needs and provides a safe space outside the refugee camps where relationships can be built and the gospel shared.

Thank God for the unity shown by the church in Thessalonica, for the heart of Christians there to provide for the physical, practical, educational and spiritual needs of the refugees and migrants.

Pray for opportunities for those serving alongside the local church to share the good news through their words and actions.

*<http://www.unhcr.org/5943e8a34.pdf> (p41)

Middle Eastern Church

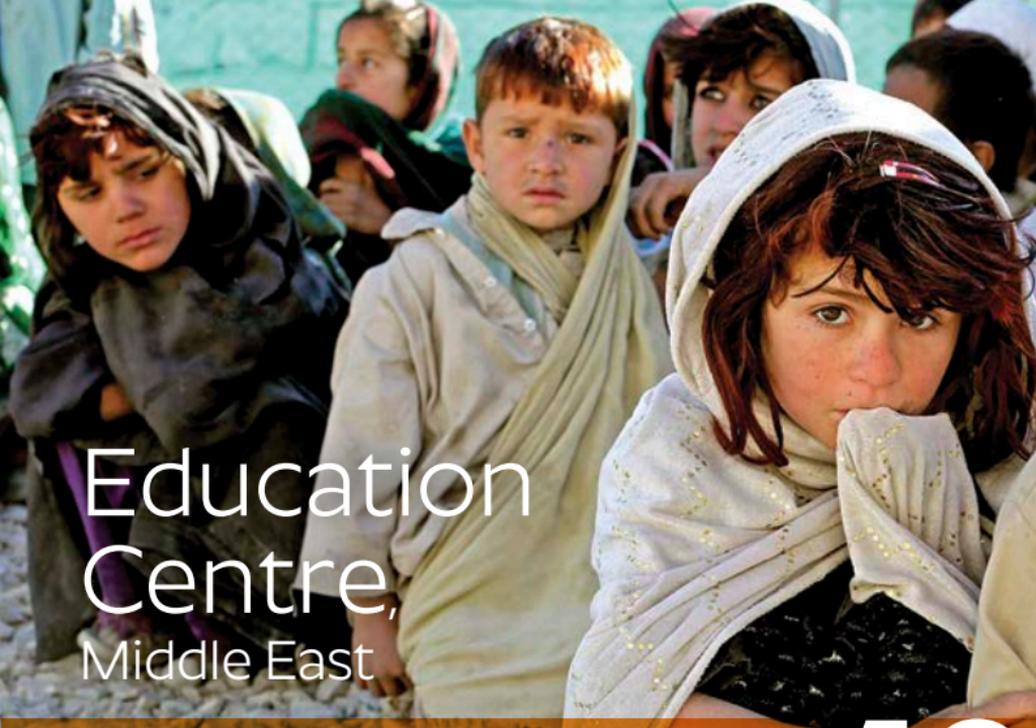


The Middle East hosts the largest number of refugees. Syrians, Afghans and South Sudanese made up 55 per cent of all refugees in 2016. One in six people in Lebanon is a refugee*. With limited resources, the Middle Eastern church there is looking to make a lasting impact on the lives of the people they encounter.

Pray for strength and courage for Christians in the Middle East who suffer severe hardship and persecution.

Give thanks for the response of the church in the Middle East in welcoming refugees and migrants. Pray that God would strengthen the partnerships that have formed and continue to bless established ministries.

*<http://www.unhcr.org/5943e8a34.pdf> (p3)



Education Centre, Middle East

Psalm 67

DAY 10

An education centre, set up by mission workers in the Middle East, is providing huge support and comfort for Syrian refugees. It provides a solid education for 50 refugee children (aged 5–12), teaching English, Arabic and maths. The gospel is embedded into the centre's daily routine.

Thank God for the opportunity education centre staff have to share the gospel with children and their families.

Thank God for the freedom our workers have to share the gospel in this part of the Middle East. Pray they would continue to rely on God and depend on him for strength.



UK Church

In 2015, the UK proposed to resettle 20,000 Syrians in need of protection by 2020. As of March 2017, only 7,307 had been granted humanitarian protection.* The UK has not seen the influx of refugees and migrants that other European countries have. How ready are you and your church to respond?

Pray for a spirit of boldness among Christians in the UK church to proclaim the good news of salvation in Christ Jesus to people of other cultures.

Pray for those people who have come to faith, but who now face the reality of being deported to countries where religious persecution is very much a reality.

* <http://bit.ly/govukreset>

UK Project 2:19



Ephesians 2:19–22

DAY 12

Serving In Mission project 2:19 exists to help UK churches reach out to their local multi-cultural communities by establishing ministries such as English language teaching, Bible studies and international cafes. Through the witness of Christians serving the migrant community, many are coming to faith.

Give thanks for the ministry of 2:19 and the desire to see all barriers to the gospel removed. Pray for their work as they help churches with training and other resources.

Give thanks for the English classes and Bible studies which provide refugees and migrants with the skills to integrate well and an opportunity to hear the gospel.

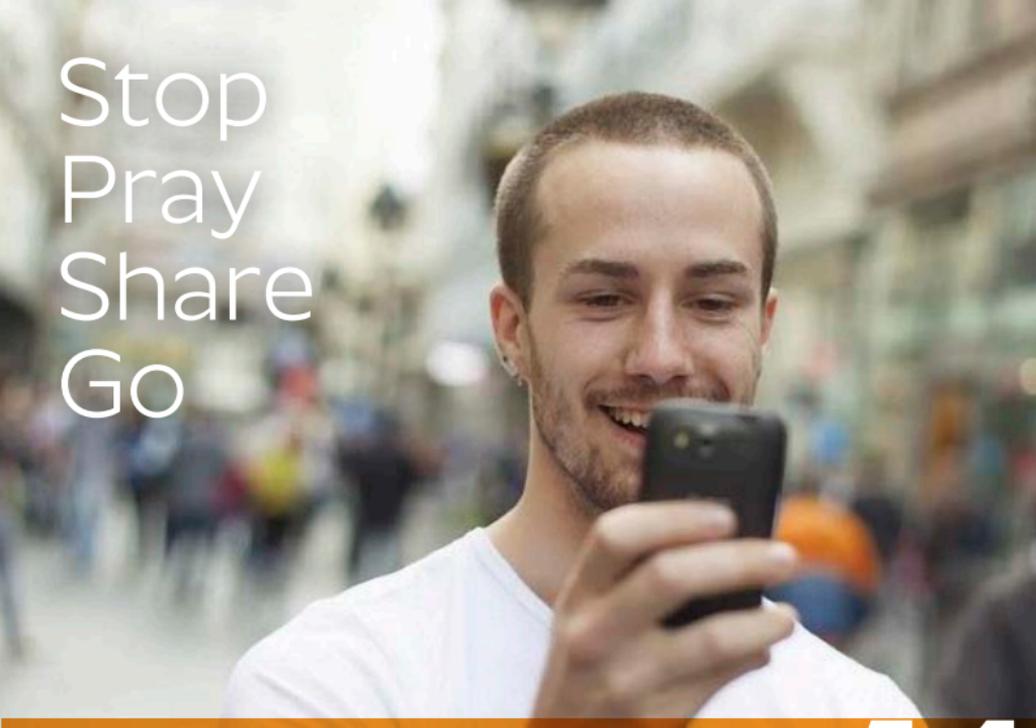
A close-up photograph of a person's right hand reaching out, palm up, against a background of out-of-focus trees with warm, golden light filtering through the leaves. The hand is wearing a dark, ribbed sleeve and a gold ring on the ring finger.

Peace and stability

Whilst the unrest in the world around us seems only to grow, let us today remember the peace and comfort that comes from faith and salvation in Jesus Christ. We serve a Lord who listens to our prayers and answers them. Join us today in praying boldly for peace and stability around the globe.

Having fled hardship and persecution, but found little comfort, many long for a return to life as it was before. Pray for enduring peace, protection and hope.

Pray that those who long for stability would find comfort in their Father God, whose love remains constant throughout.



Stop
Pray
Share
Go

Micah 6:8

DAY 14

Thank you for taking the time to work through this prayer guide. Today as you pray, please consider your response. There are opportunities to pray, to support projects ministering to refugees and to use your God-given gifts to help practically. How is God calling you to respond?

Praise God for the refugees and migrants who have had the opportunity to hear the gospel message of salvation and respond positively.

Thank God that we are a global church and, as one body, can respond and make our voice heard. Pray God would raise up more people who will take their voice overseas!



#HowWillTheyHear

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Partners

