



Prayers for Lasting Peace in the Middle East

Updated Prayer Guide — Tuesday 9 June 2026

What Is Happening Now — Hope and Fragility

The war that began on 28 February 2026 — when US and Israeli forces struck Iran — has now entered its fourth month. It has been a time of great suffering for millions of people across the region. But there are also genuine signs of hope — and that is why we are praying.

In Lebanon, a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah was first announced on 16 April 2026 and has now been extended by 45 days following two days of peace talks in Washington. Israel and Lebanon have agreed to expand communication and work toward a full peace agreement — the first direct talks between the two countries in decades. This is a real answer to prayer! But both sides continue to exchange strikes, and more than one million Lebanese people are still displaced from their homes.

With Iran, US and Iranian negotiators reached a tentative agreement at the end of May to extend their ceasefire and begin new talks on Iran's nuclear programme — but Iran has not yet confirmed the deal. The biggest obstacle, Iran's foreign minister has said, is a lack of trust. The Strait of Hormuz — one of the world's most important sea routes for oil and food — remains blocked, raising prices for the world's poorest families. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has said that Iran must agree to reopen the Strait as a first step toward peace.

The people of Iran — including millions who bravely called for freedom and change — continue to long for a better future. The underground church in Iran is growing even in these hard times, with Christians showing remarkable courage and love to their neighbours.

As followers of Jesus, we believe prayer matters. Children and families around the world can pray for peace, protection, wisdom, and hope during this desperate time.

How to Use These Prayer Points

Below are nine things we can pray for. Each topic has two prayer points with Bible verses to guide our prayers, and a declaration we can say together.

Children, families, schools, and churches can use these prayers in different ways. You might pray one topic each day, pray them all together in a prayer meeting, or invite children to take turns reading aloud. After each section, everyone can say the declaration together as a prayer of faith.



2 BILLION CHILDREN

1. Pray for the Ceasefires to Hold

A ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon has been extended for 45 days — a real answer to prayer! And there is a tentative agreement between the US and Iran to extend their ceasefire and start new talks. But these agreements are fragile. Both sides have continued to exchange strikes even while ceasefires are in place. Pray that God will hold and strengthen these agreements.

Pray: that the ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon will hold and grow into a full peace agreement — the first in decades — and that the tentative US-Iran ceasefire extension will be confirmed and kept by both sides.

“Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.” – Psalm 34:14

Pray: that both sides will resist the temptation to fire the next missile, and that leaders will find the courage to choose the harder path of diplomacy and peace.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” – Matthew 5:9

Declaration

Jesus, Prince of Peace, hold every ceasefire firm. Let Your peace be stronger than every weapon.

2. Pray for Families Who Have Lost Their Homes

More than one million people in Lebanon are still displaced, and over three million were forced from their homes in Iran during the conflict. Families are living in shelters, crowded with relatives, or in makeshift camps — many of them for the second time. Over 300,000 children in Lebanon alone have been uprooted from their homes and schools.

Pray: that God will provide safe shelter, clean water, food, and medical care for every family that has been forced from their home — especially for children who are far from everything familiar.

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” – Psalm 46:1

Pray: that families separated by the conflict will be reunited, and that children living in fear and uncertainty will know God’s peace and protection surrounding them.

“He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge.” – Psalm 91:4

Declaration

Lord, place Your protection over every child living in fear tonight. Let them know they are seen and loved by You.

3. Pray for the Peace Talks to Succeed

Talks between the US and Iran are being mediated by Pakistan. Huge issues remain: Iran’s nuclear programme, the Strait of Hormuz, deep mistrust on both sides, and a lack of trust that any agreement will be kept. Iran’s foreign minister says mistrust is the biggest obstacle. US Secretary of State Rubio



has said that nuclear talks alone could take months. Pray that God breaks through the deadlock.

Pray: that the US-Iran talks will be filled with the Spirit of wisdom — that both sides will negotiate honestly, that Iran’s nuclear programme will be safely resolved, and that a just and lasting peace will emerge.

“For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.” – Proverbs 2:6

Pray: that Pakistan, as lead mediator, will be given creativity and authority — and that Lebanon will not be left out of a final peace agreement.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” – Matthew 5:9

Declaration

God, let the peace talks bear fruit. Give mediators wisdom, give leaders courage, and open the way for a deal that brings lasting peace.

4. Pray for Leaders to Choose Peace

Leaders in the United States, Israel, Iran, and Lebanon carry enormous responsibility at this moment. The temptation to keep fighting — out of pride, fear, or a desire for a better deal — is very real. Pray for wisdom and courage to flow into the rooms where decisions are being made.

Pray: that leaders on all sides will choose diplomacy over further destruction, and that they will listen to the voices of their people who are longing for peace.

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.” – James 1:19

Pray: that national pride and deep mistrust will not block the path to peace, and that God will raise up wise voices that are listened to.

“The king’s heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will.” – Proverbs 21:1

Declaration

God, guide the leaders of every nation. Give them the courage to choose peace over pride.

5. Pray for the Wounded and Those Who Are Grieving

Thousands of people have been killed and many more wounded across the region. Hospitals in Lebanon have been under enormous pressure — airstrikes have damaged health centres and roads, making it hard for the injured to receive care. Families are grieving loved ones who were taken without warning.

Pray: for doctors, nurses, paramedics, and aid workers — that they will be protected and strengthened as they care for the injured day after day, often in very difficult conditions.

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and



2 BILLION CHILDREN

help you.” – Isaiah 41:10

Pray: that God will bring comfort and healing to families who have lost someone they love, and that they will know they are not alone in their grief.

“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” – Psalm 147:3

Declaration

Jesus, bring healing to the broken and comfort to the grieving. Be close to every hurting family today.

6. Pray for Hungry Families Around the World

The Strait of Hormuz — one of the world’s most important sea lanes for oil and food — has been largely blocked since the war began. This has pushed up energy prices and food costs for millions of the world’s poorest families, who were already struggling. Seafarers and migrant workers caught in the conflict have been in danger with no safe way home. Pray that this vital route is reopened and that relief reaches those who need it most.

Pray: that the Strait of Hormuz will fully reopen safely, that shipping and trade will be restored, and that the cost of food and fuel will come down for struggling families everywhere.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” – Psalm 24:1

Pray: for the many migrant workers and seafarers caught in the conflict — at sea or in Gulf nations — who have been in danger and have no safe way home.

“He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.” – Psalm 146:7

Declaration

Lord, open the sea lanes and bring relief to the poor. Protect those who work on the seas and far from home.

7. Pray for Aid to Reach Those Who Need It Most

Getting food, medicine, and emergency supplies to those in need has been very difficult. In Lebanon, nearly one in four people — about 1.24 million — are facing serious food insecurity according to the World Food Programme, which has warned of a ‘deepening humanitarian emergency.’ Airstrikes have damaged roads, hospitals, and infrastructure. Aid organisations are trying to help but are being stretched to the limit.

Pray: for aid organisations working across the region — that they will be kept safe, that supply routes will open, and that help will reach the families who are most in need.

“Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.” – Psalm 82:3

Pray: that governments and aid agencies will work together to ensure no one is forgotten —



especially the most vulnerable: children, elderly people, and those who are sick or injured.

“Whoever is kind to the needy honours God.” – Proverbs 14:31

Declaration

Lord, provide shelter, food, and safety for every suffering family. Let aid reach those who are forgotten.

8. Pray for the People and Church of Iran

The people of Iran have been through a very hard time — caught between war, the actions of their own government, and the longing for a better future. Many Iranians desperately want freedom and peace. And in the middle of all this darkness, the underground church in Iran is growing. When bombs were falling, Christians opened their homes to people fleeing, prayed in the streets, and visited the sick. Their faith is remarkable and inspiring.

Pray: that many Iranians will encounter Jesus through dreams, the Bible, broadcasts, and the witness of bold believers — and that the underground church will keep growing in courage and love.

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12

Pray: that God will fulfil the longing of the Iranian people for freedom and peace — and that a new, free Iran will emerge from this time of suffering, open to the Gospel.

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.” – Habakkuk 2:14

Declaration

Jesus, let Your Kingdom advance across Iran. Shine Your light into the darkest places, and let many find hope in You.

9. Pray for Lebanon’s Future and for All Who Are Persecuted

Lebanon is at a turning point. A ceasefire is holding — but strikes are still happening, over a million people are displaced, and the country faces an enormous task of rebuilding. Christians and other minorities in the region continue to face serious hardship. Yet God has not forgotten Lebanon or its people. Pray for a bright future.

Pray: that the Israel-Lebanon peace talks will succeed and that Lebanon will be able to rebuild in safety — free to determine its own future without outside forces pulling it apart.

“The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.” – Psalm 9:9

Pray: that Christians and minorities facing hardship across the region will be protected and strengthened — and that their faith will shine as a light in the darkness.

“Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed.” – Isaiah 1:17



2 BILLION CHILDREN

Declaration

Lord, bring freedom, justice, and a future of hope to Lebanon, Iran, and every nation touched by this war.

Global Children's Prayer Declaration

Lord Jesus, we lift the Middle East to You.

We pray for Iran, Israel, Lebanon, and every nation touched by this war.

We ask You to hold every ceasefire firm — and bring Your lasting peace.

Protect children and families who are far from home.

Comfort those who are hurting and grieving.

Provide help for all who have lost their homes.

Give wisdom to leaders so they choose peace over more destruction.

Let the peace talks succeed.

Open the sea lanes and bring relief to the world's poor.

Let aid reach every family that is suffering.

Let Your light shine across Iran, Lebanon, and the whole region.

May many people discover the love and truth of Jesus.

Bring freedom to those who are oppressed.

Protect believers who follow You and strengthen their faith.

**We declare that Jesus is the Prince of Peace,
and His Kingdom brings hope, justice, and new life.**

**Lord Jesus, let Your peace and Your glory
fill the Middle East.**

Amen.

For further prayer resources, visit: www.2bc.world/shine