



Prayers for Lasting Peace in the Middle East

Prayer Guide · (Updated Saturday 27 June 2026)

What Is Happening Now — On a Knife-Edge

The war that began on 28 February 2026, when US and Israeli forces struck Iran, has now entered its fifth month. The suffering has been immense — but this week, something remarkable has happened.

On 26 June 2026, after five gruelling rounds of peace talks in Washington DC, Israel and Lebanon signed a landmark framework agreement. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio described it as 'the first step' toward 'lasting peace and security' between two countries that have not had diplomatic relations in decades. Lebanese President Joseph Aoun demanded an end to Israeli occupation of the south; Israeli forces have begun withdrawing from two areas and handing sites to the Lebanese army. This is a genuine answer to prayer — but it is fragile.

In Switzerland, the bigger picture is moving too. A 14-point Memorandum of Understanding between the USA and Iran, signed by Presidents Trump and Pezeshkian on 18 June, set out a 60-day framework for ceasefire and talks. But the deal has been under enormous strain. Iran threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz — then partially did — after Israel continued striking Hezbollah in Lebanon. Trump threatened to 'hit Iran very hard again.' An IRGC drone attacked a cargo ship in the Strait just days ago, prompting US counter-strikes. Through all of this, technical talks between American and Iranian teams have continued in Switzerland, with a new US-Iran military coordination centre now established in Doha.

The single biggest flashpoint: Hezbollah. Israel insists it will keep forces in southern Lebanon until the group is disarmed; Hezbollah refuses to accept any deal while Israeli troops remain on Lebanese soil. Iran says Lebanon must be fully included in any final settlement. Neither Israel nor Hezbollah signed the US-Iran memorandum. The Lebanon question could make or break the entire peace process.

Yet even through this, the underground church in Iran continues to grow. Christians opened their homes to neighbours fleeing bombs and prayed in the streets. And this week's framework agreement between Israel and Lebanon — imperfect, contested, fragile — is the first direct diplomatic engagement between these two nations in more than forty years.

As followers of Jesus, we believe prayer moves mountains. Children and families around the world can pray for peace, protection, wisdom, and hope in this desperate and pivotal moment.

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.

1. Pray for the Israel-Lebanon Framework to Become Real Peace

This week's framework agreement between Israel and Lebanon, signed on 26 June, is the first direct agreement between the two countries since 1983. Israeli forces are beginning to withdraw from two areas, handing them to the Lebanese army. Pilot zones free of weapons are being established. But Hezbollah has refused to accept the deal, and violence continues. Pray that what has been signed on paper becomes genuine peace on the ground.

Pray: that the Israel-Lebanon framework agreement will take root and grow into a full and lasting peace — that the Lebanese army will successfully take control of the south, that Hezbollah's grip will loosen, and that Lebanon will be able to determine its own future.

"Seek peace and pursue it." — **Psalm 34:14**

Pray: that both the Israeli military and Hezbollah will choose the path of restraint — that rockets and airstrikes will give way to negotiation, and that the people of northern Israel and southern Lebanon, who have suffered most, will finally know safety.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — **Matthew 5:9**

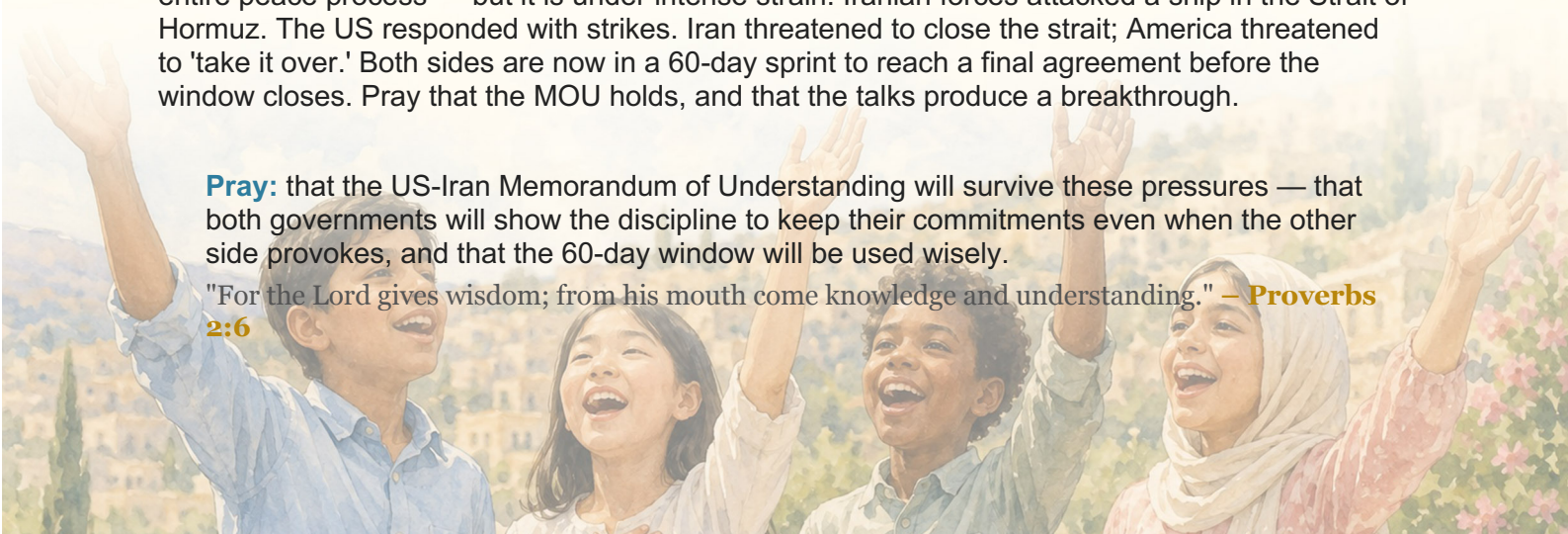
Declaration: Jesus, Prince of Peace — let this framework agreement become something real. Protect the people of Lebanon and Israel, and let Your peace do what weapons never could.

2. Pray for the US-Iran Memorandum to Hold

The 14-point Memorandum of Understanding signed by the USA and Iran is the foundation of the entire peace process — but it is under intense strain. Iranian forces attacked a ship in the Strait of Hormuz. The US responded with strikes. Iran threatened to close the strait; America threatened to 'take it over.' Both sides are now in a 60-day sprint to reach a final agreement before the window closes. Pray that the MOU holds, and that the talks produce a breakthrough.

Pray: that the US-Iran Memorandum of Understanding will survive these pressures — that both governments will show the discipline to keep their commitments even when the other side provokes, and that the 60-day window will be used wisely.

"For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding." — **Proverbs 2:6**



Pray: for the teams of negotiators meeting in Switzerland this week — American, Iranian, Pakistani, and Qatari — that they will find common ground on the hardest issues: Iran's nuclear programme, Lebanon, and rebuilding trust from nothing.

"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, hold this peace process together. Give negotiators wisdom, give leaders patience, and don't let pride or mistrust destroy what grace has begun.

3. Pray for the Strait of Hormuz to Stay Open

The Strait of Hormuz — through which a fifth of the world's oil passes — has been opened, closed, threatened, and attacked multiple times in recent weeks. An Iranian drone struck a cargo ship this week; the US responded with strikes. The International Maritime Organisation has been evacuating thousands of stranded seafarers. Oil prices, which briefly fell when the MOU was signed, have risen again. The world's poorest families feel every spike at the pump and in the market. Pray that this vital sea lane is secured.

Pray: that the Strait of Hormuz will remain safely open — that the new US-Iran communication line established to prevent incidents will work, that commercial shipping will flow freely, and that oil and food prices will fall for the world's poorest people.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." — **Psalms 24:1**

Pray: for the thousands of seafarers and migrant workers stranded in the Gulf — many of them invisible victims of this conflict — that they will reach home safely, and that the International Maritime Organisation's evacuation work will succeed.

"He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry." — **Psalms 146:7**

Declaration: Lord, open and guard these sea lanes. Let relief flow to the poor, and bring every stranded worker safely home.

4. Pray for the Hezbollah Question to Be Resolved

Hezbollah is the knot at the centre of everything. The group has fired more than 1,300 waves of attacks on Israel since March. It refuses to disarm or accept any ceasefire while Israeli troops remain in Lebanon. Israel refuses to fully withdraw until Hezbollah is disarmed. Iran has insisted that Lebanon — and Hezbollah's position — must be settled before any final deal. This deadlock threatens to unravel the entire peace process. Pray for a breakthrough that neither side currently believes is possible.

Pray: that Lebanon's government — which has already legally moved to restrict Hezbollah's influence — will be given courage and authority to extend its sovereignty into the south, and that Hezbollah's grip on the country will diminish.

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." — **James 1:19**



Pray: that God will open the eyes of Hezbollah's leaders to see that the path they are on leads only to more destruction — and that the Lebanese people, who have suffered most, will be freed from being used as a battleground by outside forces.

"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed." — **Isaiah 1:17**

Declaration: Lord God, break the deadlock over Lebanon. Where human agreements have failed, let Your authority prevail. Bring freedom to a people who have longed for it for decades.

5. Pray for Leaders to Choose Wisdom Over Rhetoric

The language of this past week has been frightening — threats of invasion, talk of hitting Iran 'harder than ever,' Iranian commanders saying 'missiles are ready to launch.' At the same time, US Vice President Vance arrived in Switzerland and asked: 'Can we turn over a new leaf? Can we change the Middle East permanently?' Both possibilities are real. Pray for the Spirit of wisdom to dominate the rooms where decisions are made.

Pray: for President Trump, Vice President Vance, Secretary Rubio, envoys Witkoff and Kushner, Israeli PM Netanyahu, Iranian President Pezeshkian, Lebanese President Aoun, and every leader holding responsibility in this crisis — that they will choose diplomacy over destruction.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." — **Matthew 5:9**

Pray: that Pakistan and Qatar — who have worked tirelessly as mediators — will be given continued authority and creativity, and that the new US-Iran coordination centre in Doha will prevent accidental escalation and build real trust.

"For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers." — **Proverbs 11:14**

Declaration: God, guard the mouths of leaders. Let the diplomats outlast the weapons. Give every peacemaker the courage to keep going.

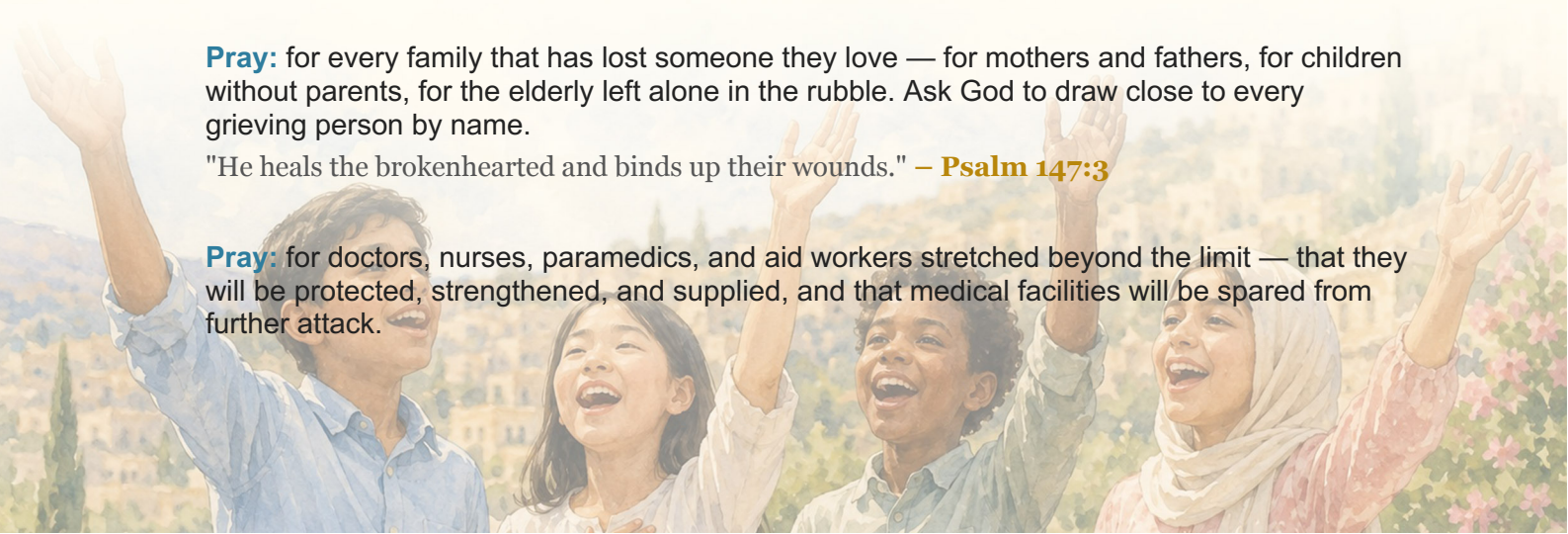
6. Pray for the Wounded, the Grieving, and the Displaced

Since March 2, Israeli attacks in Lebanon have killed at least 4,057 people and wounded more than 12,000. In a single day last week — the day a ceasefire was announced — 83 people were killed and 141 wounded in Lebanon. More than three million Iranians were displaced during the conflict. Over a million Lebanese people remain away from their homes. Hospitals have been struck; roads destroyed; children uprooted from schools and everything familiar.

Pray: for every family that has lost someone they love — for mothers and fathers, for children without parents, for the elderly left alone in the rubble. Ask God to draw close to every grieving person by name.

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." — **Psalms 147:3**

Pray: for doctors, nurses, paramedics, and aid workers stretched beyond the limit — that they will be protected, strengthened, and supplied, and that medical facilities will be spared from further attack.



"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you." – **Isaiah 41:10**

Declaration: Jesus, be close to every hurting family today. Bring healing to the broken, comfort to the grieving, and strength to those who serve them.

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

Nearly one in four people in Lebanon — around 1.24 million — face serious food insecurity, according to the World Food Programme. Aid organisations are stretched to breaking point. Roads and supply routes have been damaged or blocked. Iran's frozen assets are beginning to be released as part of the MOU — but it is unclear whether ordinary Iranians will feel the benefit. The Gulf Cooperation Council is also calling for Iran's reconstruction to be tied to limiting its missile programme. Pray that help reaches the most vulnerable.

Pray: that aid organisations working in Lebanon and Iran will be protected and resourced — that supply routes will open, that donated funds will be used wisely, and that the most vulnerable — children, the elderly, the sick — will not be forgotten.

"Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed." – **Psalms 82:3**

Pray: that the release of Iran's frozen assets will genuinely benefit ordinary Iranian people — that reconstruction will begin in earnest, and that the world's attention will not move on before the work is done.

"Whoever is kind to the needy honours God." – **Proverbs 14:31**

Declaration: Lord, let aid reach every suffering family. Let no child go hungry because of the decisions of the powerful. Provide shelter, food, and safety for those the world has forgotten.

8. Pray for Iran — Its People and Its Growing Church

The people of Iran have been caught between war, an authoritarian regime, and a longing for freedom that has been building for years. Millions marched for change; many paid dearly for it. Iran's negotiating team is now in the room for the most significant diplomatic engagement in decades. And through all of this, the underground church in Iran is growing at a pace that astonishes outside observers — believers showing remarkable courage, opening their homes, praying in the streets, visiting the sick.

Pray: for the underground church in Iran — that it will be protected, that it will keep growing in courage and love, and that many more Iranians will encounter Jesus through dreams, Scripture, broadcasts, and the witness of bold believers.

"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 deep longing of the Iranian people for freedom and dignity — and that whatever political settlement emerges from these talks will open space for the Gospel and for genuine human flourishing.



"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. Protect every believer, and let many more find hope in You.

9. Pray for Iran's Nuclear Programme and Long-Term Security

At the heart of why this war began is Iran's nuclear programme. The MOU calls for Iran to dilute its stockpile of highly enriched uranium and submit to inspections — but Iran's president said publicly this week that his country 'will never back down from the right to enrich uranium.' The Gulf states are calling for Iran's missile programme to be limited as part of any final deal. Secretary Rubio has said nuclear talks alone could take many months. This is perhaps the hardest issue of all. Pray for a just resolution.

Pray: that Iran and the USA will find a framework for Iran's nuclear programme that genuinely reduces the risk of a nuclear weapon being built — and that Iran will experience the economic benefits of peace in a way that makes continued cooperation worthwhile.

"He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear." – **Psalms 46:9**

Pray: for the International Atomic Energy Agency — its Director General Rafael Grossi has been present at the Switzerland talks — that it will be given full access and authority to verify any agreement, and that the world will be genuinely safer as a result.

"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." – **Jeremiah 29:7**

Declaration: Lord God, You hold every nation in Your hands. Bring the nuclear question to a just and safe resolution — and let the fear of weapons of mass destruction give way to a world where Your peace reigns.

Global Children's Prayer Declaration

Lord Jesus, we lift the Middle East to You.

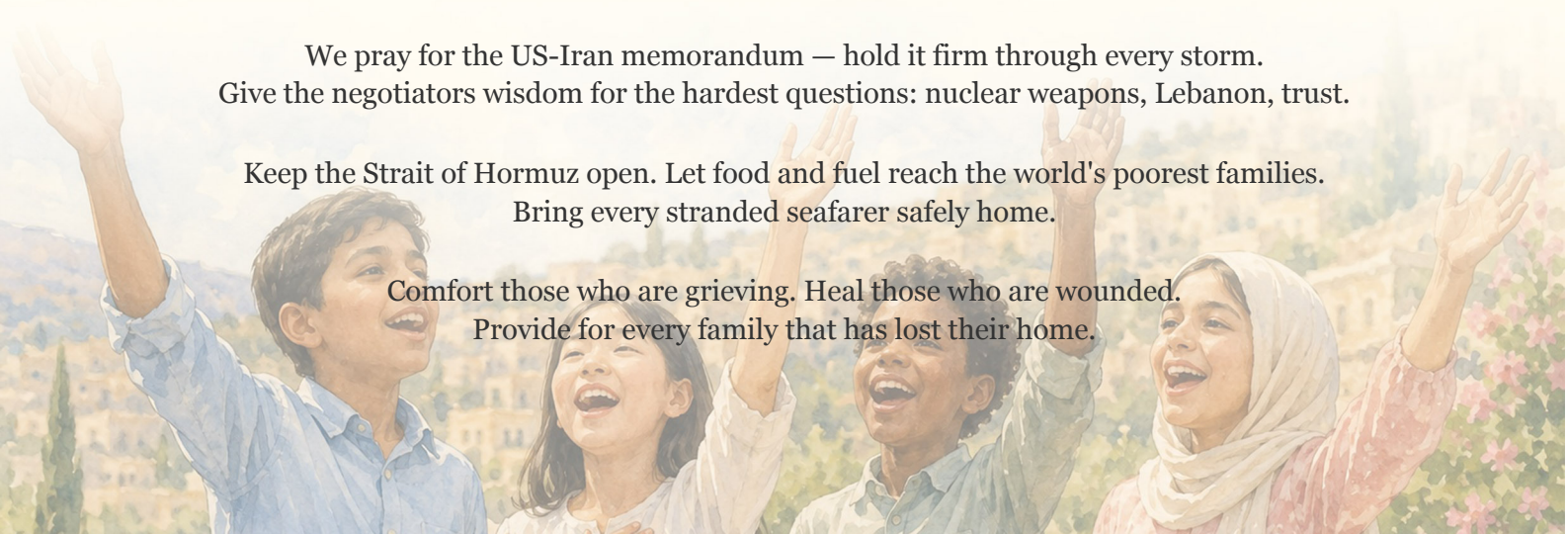
We pray for Iran, Israel, Lebanon, and every nation touched by this war.

We thank You for the framework agreement between Israel and Lebanon — the first in more than forty years. Let it become real and lasting peace.

We pray for the US-Iran memorandum — hold it firm through every storm. Give the negotiators wisdom for the hardest questions: nuclear weapons, Lebanon, trust.

Keep the Strait of Hormuz open. Let food and fuel reach the world's poorest families. Bring every stranded seafarer safely home.

Comfort those who are grieving. Heal those who are wounded. Provide for every family that has lost their home.



Let aid reach those who are forgotten.
Give courage to every aid worker and doctor serving in impossible conditions.

Shine Your light across Iran. Protect and grow Your church.
Let many people discover the love and truth of Jesus.

Give wisdom to every leader. Let diplomacy outlast every weapon.
Resolve the question of Iran's nuclear programme justly and safely.

Bring freedom to Lebanon — free from occupation, free from armed factions,
free to choose its own future.

**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

