

NEW BELIEVERS FILL SYRIAN CHURCHES

A SAT-7 show visiting Syria found churches full of displaced people learning about Jesus for the first time.

Almost a thousand children – including hundreds from non-Christian backgrounds – gathered in the Syrian cities of Tartus, Bloudan, and As-Suwayda to meet presenter Mina Awny and the SAT-7 production team of *Family of Jesus*. The popular children’s show encourages lonely children and teach them biblical values.

In Bloudan, they met 200 children, many of whom had fled their devastated hometown of Al-Zabadani nearby. In the dead of winter, they survived a 20-day siege by rebels without gas for heating or cooking, sharing what little fruits and vegetables were left over in their gardens. Residents flocked to local churches, filling the pews.

“The children in Bloudan were so excited and happy to see us,” Mina said. “They didn’t want to leave, but the church leaders made them go straight after the service for their safety. The children are so thirsty and hungry for the word of God.”

In Tartus, the team filmed at a small church that has been using all its resources to do as much as it can for families in need. “The original church is only a few families, making up to about 80 people,” Mina said. “But now it is crowded with new believers.”

Ninety per cent of the people in the city are Alawite and many have embraced the Gospel since the church showed them practical concern and love during the conflict. Here around four hundred children came to join SAT-7.

“What’s happening in Syria now is exceptional. The numbers of people coming to Christ is beyond anything we had imagined. Huge numbers are flocking to the churches. This was a precious time,” Mina reflected.

- Please give thanks for what God is doing in Syria.
- Ask Him to equip and strengthen mature Christians as they serve and answer the questions of people who have never attended churches before.
- Pray that God will provide the practical and spiritual resources they need, and that He will bring healing and joy to new believers despite the traumas.



Prayer News

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Children worship at the National Evangelical Church in Bloudan, a village in southwest Syria

MAKING HOPE VISIBLE

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SAT-7 LEADS PRAYERS FOR PILGRIMAGE SHOOTING VICTIMS

As Egypt’s Christians mourn a deadly gun attack on Coptic pilgrims, SAT-7’s Arabic channels have been leading believers across the Middle East in prayer. Several shows lifted up grieving families, injured survivors, and vulnerable Egyptian Christians, allowing viewers to pour out their pain and grief to God.

At least seven people were killed on 2 November when gunmen targeted buses carrying Christian pilgrims to Saint Samuel Monastery in Minya. Many others were injured in the attack, which is the second to target the same route.

On the day after the shooting, presenters of the live children’s worship show, *Family of Jesus* led young viewers in prayer for the families of those killed.

“Lord, we pray that nothing separates them from your love,” prayed Presenter Mina Awny. “No power can separate us from the love of Jesus. Surround them with your love. Overwhelm them with your love.”

In every live call made to the show that day, children added their own voices in prayer:

“Lord, I thank you. I ask you to be with the injured children. Stay with them and keep them safe. Amen,” said Jolie, the first viewer to call in.

“Father, Jesus, protect us and the families of the martyrs,” prayed eight-year-old Michael from Giza.

Along with the amazing power of prayer itself, giving viewers a voice to pray at times of great pain helps them share their feelings and focus on Jesus.

George Makeen, SAT-7’s Programming Director for Arabic Channels, explains:

“Our priority at SAT-7 is to give our Egyptian brothers and sisters a safe space to express their feelings and grief – their pain, fear, and doubts – as we continue to pray for their morale. We pray that they would be strengthened and know God’s comfort during this painful time.”

- Please pray for God’s comfort for those who lost loved ones, and for the injured to be healed.
- Please also pray for God’s protection over His Church in Egypt.



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

From a viewer in Iran: “Middle Easterners are hungry for a God of love. The Church has a powerful message of forgiveness and love. Thank the Lord for using SAT-7's technology to send this message of love into all MENA countries.”

From a viewer in Turkey: “My family members, even my children, don't want anything to do with me because of my belief in Christ. Pray for me in my loneliness and for my family to meet Jesus.”

From a viewer in Lebanon: “My wife and I and two of our children are in a refugee camp, but we do not know where our teenage sons are. Pray we will be reunited.”

From a viewer in Turkey: “Praise God that when I was struggling to flee my native country, God helped me escape, provided all I needed, and led me to know Him more.”

From a viewer in Tajikistan: “My husband died, and I cannot earn enough money to care for my three little children. I am a Christian and hope other Christians will pray for my needs.”

From a viewer in Egypt: “I have heard that because of Jesus, the Christian God can forgive the many mistakes I have made in my life. Help me know if He is really the Son of God.”

I AM SAT-7: REZA JAFARI – EDITING MANAGER

What does your role with SAT-7 involve?
The editing department at SAT-7 PARS covers pre-production, production, and post-production editing. We develop concepts for promotional videos and we build and work on scripts and screenplays for in-house productions.

Why do you like working with SAT-7?
As an Iranian raised in a religiously hostile society, I value and understand the extraordinary and much-needed work of SAT-7. I love working in such a unique and diverse environment; and having colleagues from different backgrounds united by one vision makes it an interesting place to work!

Tell us a little about your spiritual journey so far.
I come from a secular family. When I committed my life to Christ, I began attending a church in Tehran and felt peaceful, joyful, and free. Then, the secret service began to put new believers under pressure and started arresting them randomly. Fearing persecution, I fled Iran. I have realised that this was all part of God’s plan for me to work at the first-ever Farsi-language Christian channel. Working at SAT-7 for the past 14 years has been a testament to God’s goodness in my life. I have been blessed beyond measure to be part of shining His light to my own country.

If you could sit down with Jesus today, what would you like to ask Him?
Many Iranian believers have a great heart and passion for advancing His Kingdom, and they are certainly more deserving than I am. I would ask Jesus why He chose me to be part of this mission.

What is your passion outside SAT-7?
My dream is to travel the world. I love meeting new people, seeing new cultures, and exploring God’s masterwork on this planet. I enjoy spending time with family and friends, and I love playing football!



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

From a viewer in Iran: “I started watching your programs... and that gave me peace. I want to learn how to live with God in my heart. Help me find a guide for my path and find hope again.”

PRAYERS FOR PILGRIMAGE VICTIMS

Jackleen (14) from Cairo encouraged viewers with her prayer on Family of Jesus: “Lord Jesus, I know you love us. You see everything, and you are in control. Lord, we thank you, for you are great and good. You care about us despite what’s happening, and you are in control of everything. Nothing is out of your hands. Lord, we pray for the families of those who were killed, that you will give them condolences and peace in their hearts. Lord, help them to forgive those responsible.”

Dr Sameh Maurice leads hundreds at the Days of Harvest festival in prayer. In his prayer, speaker Pastor Sameh Maurice shared a powerful message of forgiveness: “We ask for a spirit of love in the hearts of your people and your Church towards those who hate them ... we ask for a spirit of forgiveness that will be a testament to your presence forever. In the middle of great persecution, your Church is lifted up to proclaim its faith, love, and fellowship with you.”