

WEEK OF PRAYER

5-12 NOVEMBER 2017



EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION

PRAYER GUIDE



DAY ONE

EQUIPPING CHILDREN FOR LIFE

Many children in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) are surrounded by conflict and uncertainty. The repercussions for their mental and physical health are immeasurable. They desperately need to know that God loves them and that they can turn to Him in times of need.

A healthy childhood leads to a healthy adulthood. SAT-7's unique programs provide children with a strong foundation of spiritual and practical knowledge so they can build better lives. We make God's love visible to millions of children in the MENA, bringing them joy and helping them have faith in the plans God has for them.

SAT-7 aims to equip children for life by:

- Helping them believe in a better future and trust in God's plan for their lives.
- Ensuring they are presented with good role models, from whom they can learn godly morals to carry with them throughout their lives.
- Providing educational programs that offer children a healthy start and motivation for pursuing a career and a better future.

For the first day of our Week of Prayer, meditate on these verses:



Start Children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6



For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Prayer for day one

- Please pray that the new generation of young Middle Easterners will be exposed to, and will fully benefit from, SAT-7's programs and teachings. Ask that they will always know Jesus' presence with them and will have faith that God will deliver them, whatever their circumstances.
- Give thanks to the Lord for enabling SAT-7 to make invaluable programs that give children hope for a better future. Pray that as the needs in the region change over time, SAT-7 will continue to help young people grow into healthy adults.
- Pray for children's physical and mental health. Pray that they will be surrounded by the right influences, so they can develop sound ethics and lifelong healthy values.

Find more material to use at: www.sat7.org/week-of-prayer

DAY TWO

EQUIPPING CHILDREN WITH EDUCATION

This already struggling region has since been blighted by conflict, and there is a great need for initiatives that go beyond the basic humanitarian response of supplying food and shelter. SAT-7's new channel, SAT-7 ACADEMY, provides quality education and encourages critical thinking. It plants seeds of learning that will bloom into a healthier and stronger society in the MENA.

SAT-7 ACADEMY aims to equip children by:

- Providing complementary education through satellite television and other media.
- Encouraging children to think for themselves outside of a "rote learning" environment.
- Producing engaging family programming that helps children and their parents overcome trauma and learn to manage learning disabilities together.

Providing a safe, quality learning environment, so children will not fall victim to misguided teaching or violent, extremist ideology.

For the second day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



**Where there is no guidance,
a people falls, but in an
abundance of counselors
there is safety.
Proverbs 11:14**



**Whoever walks with the wise
becomes wise, but the companion
of fools will suffer harm.
Proverbs 13:20**

Prayer for day two

- Please pray for better education in the Middle East and North Africa. Pray especially for the 13 million children who are out of school, that they will be able to access complementary learning opportunities such as SAT-7 ACADEMY.
- Thank God for His provision for SAT-7 ACADEMY, and pray that He will continue to bless this channel with the right knowledge, resources, and finances to reach as many children and families as possible.
- Pray that each program created for SAT-7 ACADEMY will meet the channel's goals for promoting holistic education, health, well-being, and social development.

DAY THREE

EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO LOVE OTHERS

In the Middle East and North Africa, the culture of “an eye for an eye” is widespread. This is a shame-based culture, in which a person is often viewed as cowardly or weak if they do not seek revenge when harm is done to them, their family, or their tribe. As many attacks have recently targeted Christian communities, it is even more imperative to break this cycle by encouraging forgiveness rather than retaliation. SAT-7 also wants to plant values of love and acceptance of others’ differences in children’s hearts from a young age. Our programs aim to create a shift in children’s attitudes and encourage them to reach out to those in need.

SAT-7 wants to teach children that even amid turmoil and trauma, they can find healing, peace, and fulfillment in focusing on and helping others. We want to inspire them to be a blessing to those around them and to love and serve as Jesus does.

SAT-7 is equipping children to love others by:

- Creating programs that teach love and promote forgiveness rather than retaliation.
- Showing how Jesus also forgave, accepted, and loved everyone despite their sins.
- Encouraging children to call into live programs or counselling centres to express their feelings and show love and forgiveness to those who have harmed them.
- Providing opportunities for children to participate in programs that encourage, help, and teach other young viewers.

For the third day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

Matthew 5:43-44



With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:2-3

Prayer for day three

- Please pray for the Spirit of Christ to touch the hearts of children in the MENA, so they will seek to help and love each other and to accept each other’s differences.
- Pray that these children will grow up filled with God’s love and continue to promote forgiveness and reconciliation in their communities.
- Pray for those who are lonely and isolated, that they will find fellowship through SAT-7’s programs and be moved to share their thoughts and prayer requests with us.
- Pray for those who have suffered hateful attacks and violence, that their hearts will be healed from anger and resentment.

DAY FOUR

EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO FOLLOW CHRIST

As political upheaval and misuse of power is common in the Middle East and North Africa, people urgently need good role models to look up to and emulate. As Christians, our ultimate example is Jesus and we strive to be Christ-like in all that we do.

SAT-7 wants children in the region to also look to Jesus Christ as their role model. We accomplish this by encouraging them to get to know Him, praise Him, pray to Him, and reach out to Him in times of need. Through biblical stories, we also help children to analyse Christ's character, how He treated others, and His teachings. Children who get to know Christ and follow His ways become good examples themselves, influencing their communities and later raising their own children in Him.

SAT-7 is equipping children to follow Christ by:

- Providing biblical teaching through fun and interactive programs.
- Promoting discussion between children and presenters, who are themselves good role models, about what Jesus would do in a given situation.
- Inspiring them to be examples of Christ's love in their communities.

For the fourth day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



**You call Me Teacher and Lord;
and you are right, for so I am. If I
then, the Lord and the Teacher,
washed your feet, you also ought
to wash one another's feet. For I
gave you an example that you
also should do as I did to you.
John 13:13-16**



**Therefore, be imitators of God, as
beloved children; and walk in love,
just as Christ also loved you and
gave Himself up for us...
Ephesians 5:1-2**

Prayer for day four

- Please pray for children in the MENA to understand the Word of God, follow Jesus, and grow as true Christians.
- Give thanks to God for the millions of children who already watch our channels and who have seen their lives transformed by knowing Christ.
- Pray to the Lord our God that all children will grow in strength and wisdom. Pray that they will be inspired to become more Christ-like and learn to walk in His ways through the power of the Holy Spirit.

DAY FIVE

EQUIPPING PARENTS IN RAISING THEIR CHILDREN

Violence and turmoil takes a toll on parents as well as their children. As millions of families find themselves in refugee camps, suffering from the shock of losing their homes, issues inevitably arise within families. Parents may become depressed or even violent as a result of trauma. Parents are the main influencers in their children's lives. Their young ones need to see that their parents have faith that God is with them and will not give up on them. As the pillars of their families, parents need support to be strong for their children and help to understand their own emotions.

SAT-7 empowers parents to provide their children with spiritual and practical guidance, to help them with their education, and to protect their health and well being. By equipping parents to be good examples, we enable them to pass on positive values, thus helping secure a better future for the region.

SAT-7 is equipping parents by:

- Providing counselling programs that help parents to deal with their own and their children's anxiety.
- Providing biblical and spiritual teaching for parents who need hope and encouragement to deal with the struggles they face.
- Providing practical knowledge and education for parents, so they can guide their children in the right direction.

For the fifth day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6



Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline of the Lord.
Ephesians 6:4

Prayer for day five

- Please pray for refugee and displaced families. Pray that parents in these situations will be moved to learn more about how to help their families and to seek God's guidance in their lives.
- Pray that SAT-7's parenting programs will be watched by many families who will benefit from them.
- Pray that the cycle of domestic violence will be broken as parents learn there are better and more effective ways to influence and discipline their children.
- Pray that parents will encourage their children to watch SAT-7's educational and spiritual programs, to help them have hope for a better future.

DAY SIX

EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO MANAGE TRAUMA

Half of those affected by the brutal warfare that has displaced 15 million people in Syria, Yemen, Egypt, Iraq, and Libya are children (UNHCR). These young people have seen and experienced things that no child should ever witness.

Trauma can permanently mark the lives of even the most resilient children, causing a number of behavioural and emotional issues later in life. For some, the psychological impact of these traumatic events can cause physical health problems. Others may become antisocial or highly anxious and fearful.

SAT-7 is equipping children to manage trauma by:

- Providing programs that help children to understand and express their emotions.
- Creating a fun and safe environment in which children can be spiritually fed and strengthened in faith.
- Teaching children to pray and lift their worries to God in prayer.
- Providing support through call centres where young viewers can call and voice their concerns.

For the sixth day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



**And I will give them one heart,
and put a new spirit with them.
Ezekiel 11:19**



**Fear not for I am with you; be
not dismayed, for I am your
God; I will strengthen you, I
will help you, I will uphold you
with my righteous right hand.
Isaiah 41:10**

Prayer for day six

- Please pray that SAT-7's children's programming – including live call-in shows, Bible stories, worship, comedy, craft shows, and educational programs – will help children heal by stimulating their faith, creativity, learning, and hope for the future.
- Pray for the millions of children dealing with negative emotions such as fear, anger, and resentment, that they will not be drawn into conflict and extremism but will become the peacemakers of the future.
- Give thanks for the many testimonies we receive from children expressing their strengthened faith and forgiveness despite the hardships they have faced. One example is 10-year-old Myriam from Iraq, who said on a SAT-7 program that she would ask God to forgive Islamic State.

DAY SEVEN

EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO KNOW THEIR RIGHTS

Children have the right to grow up in a healthy, happy environment, in which they are nurtured and protected by loving adults who teach them well and give them a voice. They also have the right to be educated by teachers who are passionate about equipping the next generation of forward-thinking leaders of the Middle East and North Africa.

But social tensions, political turmoil, and conflict inevitably erode even the most basic human rights. Children are particularly vulnerable; often unaware of their rights to begin with, they frequently fall victim to abuse and manipulation. In many cases, the abuser is a parent, guardian, or teacher. Many girls are forced to get married as children, often solely to protect them from attack or rape. Tragically, these young girls are often abused by the husbands they thought would protect them.

SAT-7 is equipping children to know their rights by:

- Promoting free expression and letting children know that they should not keep silent.
- Addressing the issue of underage marriage and its effects on vulnerable young girls.
- Providing programs for parents and teachers that model positive ways of raising and educating children.
- Teaching children to have a healthy self-image and to know who they are in Christ.

For the seventh day of our Week of Prayer meditate on these verses:



Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the maker of them all.

Proverbs 22:2



Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Jeremiah 1:5

Prayer for day seven

- Please pray for the protection of refugee children, who are vulnerable to violence and abuse. Pray that God will be with them and keep them from harm.
- Pray that SAT-7 will reach many parents and teachers who are open to learning healthier, non-violent ways to raise and educate children.
- Pray that God will move the authorities across the MENA to put an end to the horrific practice of child marriage and protect young girls whose husbands are abusive.