

CHRISTIAN REFUGEES PROVIDE AID TO OTHERS FLEEING MORIA FIRE

When Greece's largest migrant camp burned down on 9 September, Afghan and Iranian Christians who were living in the camp used their own meagre funds to buy and distribute emergency provisions. Their story is told on *Secret of Life*, a program shown on SAT-7 PARS, which also led Afghan viewers in prayer for those affected.

Yaser, an Afghan Christian who regularly visited the Moria camp on the island of Lesbos, tells *Secret of Life* how new believers prepared and took food to those they knew before a full-scale United Nations program was in place. "Dear friends who are new believers, who had come to faith in the camp, were doing this ministry," Yaser tells Pastor Shoab, the presenter of the Dari-language show. "They were using their own money – the little aid money they were receiving from the [Greek] government – to help in this way. Thank God for the heart that He has given them."

Yaser comments on how the camp's destruction means that living conditions for Moria's 13,000 refugees and migrants have become even harder – at the time of broadcast, most were sleeping in the open. But he adds that, "With the Lord in their hearts, the Christians have more peace than others."

An estimated 70 percent of the Moria residents are Afghans, and Shoab leads their fellow Afghan viewers of his Dari-language program in praying for them. In the show's Bible teaching segment, he explains that the sacrificial giving by the new believers from the Moria camp exemplifies Jesus' teaching that His followers are to be the "salt of the earth" and "light of the world".

- Please pray with us for this urgent and dire situation. Lord, we ask for Your provision and safe shelter for the thousands made homeless, especially those most vulnerable, including unaccompanied children. In Jesus' name, Amen.



Prayer † News



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Woman fleeing the Moria camp

MAKING HOPE VISIBLE

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7.0 EARTHQUAKE SENDS SHOCKWAVES THROUGH TURKEY

Responding with prayer and support after the earthquake: NGO's and SAT-7 TÜRK work together to raise awareness of the needs and build solidarity among people in Izmir and Turkey.

"The situation is worse than it is portrayed on television or on social media," shares Refik Topcu, Vice President and Consultant of NGO First Hope, operating in Turkey. "It isn't just the physical damage to buildings and the deaths, there is also a lot of fear and worry."

According to Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, 17 buildings have collapsed or suffered damage, more than 900 people were injured, and 91 deaths have been confirmed. [4 November 2020]

"We are witnessing miracles as people continue to be rescued from among the rubble. On 2 November, a three year old girl was rescued after being trapped under rubble for 65 hours. When people are rescued, it brings the community together and it gives them strength," Topcu shares.

SAT-7 TÜRK is continuing to support and encourage its viewers during this challenging time. By publishing messages from church leaders across the country, the channel is also helping build solidarity for Izmir among the Christian community.

"The earthquake in Izmir impacted us all deeply – we have not slept in days," shares Melih Ekener, Executive Director of SAT-7 TÜRK. "We pray that people will be rescued from among the rubble, and that the people who have lost loved ones will be comforted."

- Pray for people in Izmir living in fear and worry.
- Pray for the families, the people who have lost their loved ones, may they be comforted, renewed, receive spiritual strength and healing.
- Pray for the search and rescue teams as they continue to find people trapped alive under the rubble.
- People are expecting another earthquake, especially in Istanbul. Pray that precautions will be taken so that future tragedies and loss of life will be prevented.



BEIRUT PASTOR WHOSE ACTIONS SPARED FLOCK IN BLAST SPEAKS OUT

When the port explosion ripped through Beirut on 4 August, the nearby building of the Church of God should have been full. Instead, it was empty – because hours before, Pastor Saeed Deeb felt convicted, without knowing why, to send everybody home. On SAT-7 ARABIC, he shares his story of the divine prompt that protected his congregation.

“The ceiling had collapsed. The glass windows and frames had been flung from one side of the room to the other. Everything in between was destroyed from the impact. If the children, or anyone else, had been there – they wouldn’t have survived,” says Rev. Saeed Deeb, Senior Pastor at the Church of God.

In a special interview on *You Are Not Alone*, the pastor explains that earlier that day, he and many others were at the church, meeting to pray, teach Bible classes for groups of children, and prepare food to serve needy and refugee families in the area. But to Pastor Deeb, something did not feel right.

“On that day I felt a heaviness in my heart. I felt worried,” he remembers. “I felt that we were all tired, and we had to close early. This was a strange and unusual feeling. I felt that everyone had to go home and rest.” At first, Pastor Deeb explains, he was unsure whether to follow this feeling. “But I reasoned that rest is from the Lord. The Lord wants us to rest.” So, driven by what he describes as the prompt of the Holy Spirit telling him to “go, go, go”, he sent everyone home.

At that point, as many as 200 children were at the church along with 34 staff members, and activities were scheduled all afternoon and evening. “I pushed them to leave. The more I asked them to go, the more intense that feeling inside me became. I told them to go and rest at home, and not come back until the Sunday,” he says. When staff were reluctant, Pastor Deeb closed their computers down for them.

After the explosion that evening, he returned to the church to find the road closed due to collapsing buildings, and scenes of destruction and debris inside. His actions had spared the congregation from being present when the church sustained heavy damage, most likely saving lives.

Pastor Deeb also shares his belief that he himself was separately saved by divine providence. While he had committed that evening to finishing an errand at the port – where the explosion would take place – he was persuaded by a pastor friend to attend a dinner at his house instead, removing Pastor Deeb from harm’s way.

On *You Are Not Alone*, Pastor Deeb sends a supportive message to Lebanese viewers, asking survivors to have faith and turn to the Lord. “Glorify Him and ask to see His presence in your life. He says, ‘I am with you.’ He won’t forget us,” he encourages them. “Even though things look bad and the wheat stocks are gone, don’t lose faith. Don’t lose hope.”

After the explosion, Pastor Deeb sent a message to the Syrian refugee and other needy families the church supports, saying that food distribution would still happen as usual.

“This was my first instruction,” he says. “We used to give out 200 food packs before the explosion. The day after, we gave out 700. We are cleaning up with one hand and feeding people with the other. And we will continue.”

VIDEO: <https://www.facebook.com/SAT7UK/videos/1107517086316722>



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

FROM A VIEWER IN IRAQ

“My family is too poor to pay for an ambulance and doctors, but we are all suffering with COVID-19. Ask God to help us in our sickness.”

FROM A VIEWER IN EGYPT

“I have watched your programs for a month and want to be a follower of Jesus. Pray for me to know how to worship a God of love and peace.”

FROM A CHILD VIEWER IN SYRIA

“Ask God to stop people from destroying houses, schools, churches, and towns. Pray my brothers and I can go back to school soon.”

FROM A VIEWER IN LEBANON

“Pray for me to know where to turn. My wife is in the hospital. Our flat has no windows now. My children’s school and my shop are destroyed.”

FROM A VIEWER IN IRAN

“My cousin and his wife have been given heavy prison sentences because of their beliefs. They cannot afford the bail. Pray for justice for them.”

FROM A VIEWER IN TURKEY

“Thank you for helping people like me who have no access to a church or other believers. Pray I can have Christian fellowship someday.”

FROM A VIEWER IN EGYPT

“I am a doctor now in a coronavirus ward. I have many financial and family problems and am exhausted. Pray for me to keep going.”