

STORM NORMA IN BEKAA REFUGEE CAMPS

Storm Norma hit Lebanon with heavy rains, snowfall and freezing temperatures in January. It has damaged several Syrian refugee camps in the country. Thousands need emergency assistance and many refugees had to spend the night standing up. Some families were stuck in tents under the snow. At least 66 camps were heavily impacted by the flooding, 15 of which have been completely flooded or collapsed.

One Christian NGO worker reported: I drive past camps and see mattresses and blankets draped on fences to dry if only the sun would come out from behind the angry looking storm clouds. I arrive at one camp and greet a few friends on my way in; their cheeks are bright from sitting in their overly warm tents and coming out into the contrasting cold. As I walk in the camp I speak with some people: tents have flooded because of the storms. In between showers of rain and snow, they were using a pump to get the water out of their homes. One family had a storeroom of food and extra bedding, the bedding can be dried out, but the food is destroyed. I see women working quickly, trying to squeegee out their floors. A woman shared with me that they woke up on a drenched mattress and didn't sleep the rest of the night.

I walked into a second and third camp. I watched children running to each other's tents in sandals despite the wet, muddy freezing temperatures. Sandals are affordable and can be worn year-round; boots are expensive and can only be worn for a few months. A woman tells me that she is so glad that the storm was not just snow because snow is heavy and breaks roofs. She thinks it is easier to deal with the water flooding in and the muddy streets than a broken roof. Some of the tents are like shacks, so the winter snow is heavy on the roofs, and some of them had their roofs collapse on them, so they had to find refuge in neighbouring tents and they had to rebuild, again.

Sit for a few minutes and think about what you have been reading here. See a mother and father that cannot provide for their children, leave alone for themselves. Think about the effect of even another storm that hit the area. And then pray. (Source: Jericho Walls Prayer Network)



Prayer + News



February 2019

**MAKING
HOPE
VISIBLE**

SOUTH AFRICA OFFICE:
PO Box 72646
Lynnwood Ridge, PRETORIA 0040
southafrica@sat7.org
+27(12)807 2763
+27(83)628 6488/+27(84)506 3399
Please contact office for banking details.

Copyright © 2018 SAT-7
www.sat7sa.org
www.sat7.org
www.sat7uk.org

INSPIRING CHILDREN SHARED CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF JOY

On Christmas Eve, SAT-7 KIDS not only told children the nativity story – it showed them a living example of Jesus' heavenly peace. In a special live show hosted by beloved Presenter Essam Nagy, viewers met three children who have all endured great hardship – and who nonetheless simply radiate pure joy.

The inspiring show was called *A Christmas Like No Other* – and viewers certainly have seen nothing like this on SAT-7 KIDS before. Instead of the channel's usual colourful surroundings, the show opened with a darkened set. The only light came from a nativity scene, which was lighted one element at a time.

This was also the first time that the Christmas message was presented by children themselves. And, Essam says, "The children on set are very special children – very, very special."

Anwar, Bashar, and Sarah live in a children's home in Lebanon. Their stories are both heart-breaking and inspirational – each one a triumph of light over darkness.

Anwar was found sleeping in an empty, abandoned bus. At nine years old, he had been trafficked from war-torn Syria and exploited by his captors before managing to escape.

Bashar is from Syria, too – the six-year-old moved to Lebanon to live with his father after his mother died of cancer. But it proved impossible for Bashar's father, a migrant worker, to provide for his two sons while also taking care of them, so the family could not stay together.

Nine-year-old Sarah, meanwhile, has never known her parents and has no legal status either in Lebanon or in her "home" country, which means her future is in jeopardy.

"These children come from different backgrounds, but they have one thing in common: they all love Jesus, and they have found enduring peace in Him.

"There's no hope without Jesus," Essam continues. "It's as simple as that."

• **Praise God for the children who met Jesus in the children's home in Lebanon!**



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

FROM A VIEWER IN MOROCCO

“Pray that I can meet a Christian face-to-face. I want to talk about faith and forgiveness and what I believe. Thank you for your programs.”

FROM A VIEWER IN ALGERIA

“My heart used to be full of hatred. I abused women and alcohol. Now the Lord has given me a new heart. Jesus changed my life 100 percent.”
Praise God for this viewer’s transformed life.

FROM A VIEWER IN AFGHANISTAN

“Thank you for broadcasting these educational programs...I have become extremely interested in Christianity, leading me to research more about it. Please pray for my studies.”

Pray for Christians who are slowly joining in the repopulation of Mosul and the Nineveh Valley, their historic homeland in Iraq. Fr Paul Thabit Mekko, a priest in Karamles, spoke of how Mosul Christians were looking forward to the arrival of a new Bishop this week – the first since the city’s liberation. Fr Mekko outlined his hopes that the church could help to provide work, housing, a worship and pastoral centre, and will be able to strengthen relationships with civic authorities



GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS

Many Turkish viewers contact SAT-7 TÜRK’s *Power of Prayer* program with prayer requests. They also share encouraging testimonies of answered prayers. “

These are a huge blessing for us,” says Nora İsaoğlu, a member of the SAT-7 TÜRK staff, passionately. “When we hear these testimonies, we understand, ‘Yes, God really is working everywhere.’ As a result, we can pray with more faith and conviction today.” Cevdet, a viewer from Turkey, shares such a testimony, encouraging the SAT-7 TÜRK staff.

“Thank you for calling me back. The last time we talked, I had many problems. I asked you to pray for me, and we prayed together. When I was talking to you, I had serious back pains, but an hour later, they were gone! I have some spiritual problems, I feel uneasy and feel like I am under the influence of evil spirits. However, in recent weeks, especially after you prayed for me, I have started to feel much better. I thank God that He has answered my prayers so quickly. I have asked for a Bible and hope to receive it soon. I believe that my life will be changed by reading it. Thank you very much. Please continue praying for me.”

Pray for Cevdet and viewers like him in Turkey, as they recognise God’s work in their lives. Pray that they remain in touch with SAT-7 TÜRK staff, being a source of support and encouragement to one another. Pray with more faith and conviction today, as you too recognise that God is working everywhere.



MEET OUR VIEWERS

Please pray for the following viewers while reading their messages:

FROM A VIEWER IN IRAN

“I have been unemployed for six months but have been able to share the gospel with about 300 people who have repented and given their hearts to Christ.”
Pray for these new believers.

FROM A VIEWER IN TURKEY

“I need to know the truth. Do you worship three gods or one? Does God know me by name? Pray for me, that I may know what the true way is.”

FROM A VIEWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST

“I’m 36 years old. I’ve decided to become a follower of Jesus. Please give me guidance and pray for me.”

FROM A CHILD VIEWER IN SYRIA

“We need a lot of prayer for Syria, so that the war ends. Many people don’t have food or homes or family any more.”

FROM A VIEWER IN FRANCE

“My older brothers are addicted to drugs and tearing up our whole family. Pray that they learn about Jesus and let Him satisfy them.”

FROM A VIEWER IN IRAN

“Pray for my brother and sister-in-law. They have been summoned by the Ministry of Intelligence and Security, I am also being watched.”