



CHILDREN'S PRAYER DEVOTIONAL

Part 4: Praying for the Persecuted Church





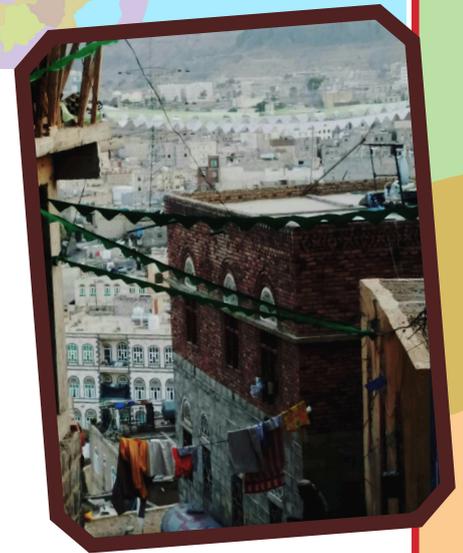
Week 22: #7 Yemen

Discuss:

- What would you do if your country was at war?
- How would you feel if you knew that being a Christian meant you could be killed?



We are travelling to the country of Yemen in the Middle East this week. This country used to be called the “Happy Land” because it was so good for growing crops. Today, sadly, Yemen is no longer a happy land. Yemen has been at war for years, and now there is not enough food for everyone. Children are greatly affected as well. They have lost their homes, are out of school and do not have clean water or enough food.



There are almost 30 million people living in Yemen, but only a few thousand are Christians. Leaving Islam is not allowed. Those who change from Islam to Christianity could face the death sentence. Most people who convert from Islam to Christianity keep their faith a secret. The COVID-19 pandemic greatly impacted Christians as most of the help is distributed from local mosques or other Islamic organisations. Christians are treated as less because they are not Muslims.

READ THEIR STORY:

Hello, my name is Abia, and I am 13 years old. I used to go to school, but the war destroyed our school and our city. We had to move to another city with many other families who lost their homes as well. My family are Christians, but we need

to keep it a secret from other people. If they find out we are Christians we will not receive any food or water, or even worse, they might kill us. My mom makes us dress in traditional Muslim clothing and we only tell someone about Jesus if we trust them. I remember last year I was very sad because I felt so lonely being the only Christian at school. We started praying for more people to know about Jesus, and several months later, we met another family who are also believers! Even though we cannot meet together to worship because of safety concerns, it is so nice to know we are not the only believers in Yemen.



Creative Prayer:

Draw a picture of what peace looks like for you. Pray that Yemen will experience God's peace and that Yemeni Christians will not be afraid but will feel the peace of God.

"I leave you peace. My peace I give you. I do not give it to you as the world does. So don't let your hearts be troubled. Don't be afraid." -- John 14:27 (ICB)

Prayer Points:

- Pray for peace for Yemen as a country and that God will provide food and clean water for the people.
- Pray for protection for the secret believers in Yemen.
- Pray that they will meet more Christians and be encouraged in knowing they are not alone.
- Pray that God will provide opportunities for the Christians to share the gospel with their Muslim neighbours.

PRAY:

Dear Father, I thank You for the country of Yemen. It is so sad to see how much this country is suffering. I pray for all of the children who are hurting and hungry. I pray for Your peace for this country. I pray that the Yemeni Christians will not be afraid but that they will have opportunities to tell others about You. Amen.