



“The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow.”

– Psalm 146:9

world relief™

**WE WELCOME REFUGEES/PRAYER GUIDE**

## **Monday:** Pray for those displaced within Syria

- **About 10.6 million people—more than half of Syria’s pre-war population—have been forced to flee their homes**
- Access to food, medication, and other basic provisions are limited, and threats of violence are ongoing
- Pray for God’s provision to meet these basic needs, so that no one further would be forced to flee

## **Tuesday:** Pray for God’s provision for refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, and elsewhere in the region

- **The vast majority of refugees who have fled Syria—more than 3.9 million—are living within these neighboring countries, many of which are also home to refugees from other regional conflicts**
- With cuts to intergovernmental food aid, conditions are very dire, and many are considering dangerous journeys beyond the region
- Pray especially for vulnerable children, who make up nearly half of the refugees in some countries, and women, who are at risk of gender-based violence

## **Wednesday:** Pray for those seeking refuge in Europe

- **Hundreds of thousands of Syrians—in addition to those fleeing conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea, and other countries—are arriving and requesting asylum in Europe monthly**
- Pray that God would spare the lives of those attempting treacherous journeys over water or land to reach safety
- Pray that those arriving would experience welcome, not scorn or responses driven by fear, from the people of the various European countries where they arrive

## **Thursday:** Pray for refugees being resettled within the United States

- **While only about 1,500 refugees from Syria were admitted to the U.S. in the past year, that number is expected to rise significantly in the years to come**
- Many refugee resettlement organizations are urging the U.S. government to accept as many as 100,000 Syrian refugees in the coming year
- Pray for coordinated efforts between local churches, non-profit organizations, and governmental entities such that refugees from Syria and beyond would be welcomed and integrated into the fabric of the United States

## WE WELCOME REFUGEES/PRAYER GUIDE



**Friday:** Pray for local churches in each of these regions, that our collective response would be reflective of Jesus

- **The local church stands at the frontline of assistance to refugees in each of these regions—in the Middle East, in Europe, and beyond—in partnership with World Relief and other partners**
- Pray that—in every location—the response of followers of Jesus to these refugees would be characterized by hospitality, compassion, and love, consistent with the commands of Scripture, recognizing the arrival of these migrants as an opportunity to extend Christ's love, not a threat to be feared
- Pray that their interactions with Christians outside of their own country would be both an encouragement to the many fleeing who are already followers of Jesus—and thus often uniquely targeted for persecution—and a winsome witness to those who do not yet know Jesus

**Saturday:** Pray for governmental leaders in each of these regions, that God would grant them wisdom to respond with justice and compassion

- **Governments in each of these host countries are making crucial decisions that will impact whether refugees find safety and welcome in their respective countries or are excluded**
- Governments and intergovernmental agencies also provide much of the crucial relief supplies for those displaced throughout the Middle East, but funding recently has been far from sufficient to meet the need, forcing more individuals to flee beyond the region
- Pray particularly for President Obama and members of the U.S. Congress as they make decisions that will impact how many refugees may be admitted into the United States

**Sunday:** Pray for a peaceful end to the conflicts at the root of this refugee crisis

- **The only sustainable solution to this crisis is a peaceful Syria**
- Pray for peacemakers who will wage peace in this troubled country
- Pray for wisdom for governmental leaders who face decisions about how to respond to these conflicts

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“Dear Children, let us not love with words or speech but with ACTIONS AND TRUTH”

– 1 John 3:18