

LIFE WITHOUT DAILY BREAD AND THE BREAD OF LIFE



Today, only 15 percent of children in Yemen are eating the minimum acceptable diet for survival, growth, and development.¹ Meanwhile, less than one percent of Yemenis are being nourished by the truths of the Gospel that can bring their spirits from death to life and reconcile them with God, themselves, and others.² However, as more and more families across the nation are pushed to the brink of physical famine, seeds of the Gospel sown over many decades have been bearing increasing fruit through nearly eight devastating years of war.

“After I gave my life to Christ, I immediately told my son—but he was angry and didn’t accept it,” shared Yusof, a Yemeni father. “Later, when he noticed that his sister and mother were considering Jesus, too, he said, ‘Fine, do what you want, but I want nothing to do with you!’ After that, I started praying for him and have continued for seven years. Gradually, I noticed the Lord shining a light into his heart. He watched the changes that God brought into my life, and his attitude began to soften. When he started asking why I changed, I could tell he was finally really listening as I shared about Christ. Praise the Lord, after seven years, he gave his life to Jesus and has become an active member of our church!”

Across Yemen, a growing number of new believers like Yusof’s son are sharing the Bread of Life in their local communities as they are discipled by Yemeni men and women who have been following Christ for many years. This means even more capacity is needed to shepherd and feed Christ’s growing flocks in Yemen so that new disciples grow into mature servant leaders who are being transformed in every area of their lives by the work of the Holy Spirit.

Meanwhile, Yemen’s nationwide ceasefire that has been extended to October has highlighted the need for a powerful work of reconciliation around the country. Fractures in the Presidential Leadership Council (PLC) that was established immediately following the beginning of the truce are now threatening to fragment an already divided nation. Formed to bring political and economic reforms to Yemen’s south and provide a united front for negotiating peace with the Houthis in the north, the PLC has so far been unable to overcome the roots of animosity among its parties. In 1994, southern separatists first attempted to withdraw from

the unified state of Yemen that had only been merged into a single nation since 1990. Memories of those events continue to fuel clashes erupting around the south between the factions represented by the PLC today.³ Additionally, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) is exploiting the infighting among PLC groups to rebuild their capabilities. As many as 3,000 AQAP fighters are now operating under veteran senior leaders in the south, and on September 6th, 21 Yemeni soldiers were killed in the deadliest attack by AQAP in three years.⁴

With hopes for a reunified Yemen continuing to dim, pray that Christ will continue drawing men and women into His Kingdom of love, joy, and peace. Pray that the reign of Christ in Yemeni hearts and lives will begin to heal deep, generational wounds across the nation. Pray also for God's intervention in supplying the needs of desperate Yemeni families on the brink of starvation.

HELP SUPPORT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS BY CLICKING ON THE LINK BELOW AND CHOOSING "CAP FUND".

CHRISTIANRESPONSE.ORG/GIVE

1 <https://www.unicef.org/yemen/nutrition>

2 The Joshua Project classifies the six most populous Yemeni people groups as "Frontier," with a Christian population of less than 0.01 percent. This research initiative seeks to highlight the people groups of the world with the fewest followers of Christ: <https://joshuaproject.net/countries/YM>

3 <https://english.alaraby.co.uk/opinion/yemens-unification-divisive-chapter-history>

4 <https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/amid-yemens-truce-al-qaeda-threatens-to-return>