

# Prayer and Lament for Lebanon

## A Prayer of Lament

**Together:** Our God, do You see? Do You know what is happening? Are You going to do anything?

**Leader:** Creator, Father of all nations, God Who is Love, we can see the events across the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon, and we are grieved and horrified. Children and women and men made in Your image have been killed, their lives destroyed by violence, homes ruined, families ripped apart. Your children—your people in Lebanon—Your children are suffering brutal violence, being treated in inhuman ways, being used as pawns and targets to advance the ideologies of power-seeking men. Those You love—Your beloved children, whom You sent Your Son to die for, people with dignity and value—people You love are being abused and killed in a war that has no end or hope for resolution that we can see. Father, we are watching the destruction of Your children.

**Together:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** Jesus, You came as a Jew, in a time of occupation, born in a town south of Jerusalem, which is now in Palestine's West Bank. You lived in northern Israel, and were brutally tortured and executed in and around Jerusalem. You suffered vicious attack, violence meant to terrorize You and Your people, occupation, betrayal by Your own people, and execution by those occupying Your

people's land. You know the pain and loss and terror of our Israeli neighbors, and the grinding fear and devastation of our Palestinian and Lebanese neighbors. You faced terrorism and occupation, dislocation and torture. Jesus, we can again see the evil of the violence that humanity inflicted on You in the violence that humanity is inflicting on our neighbors today.

**Together:** Christ, have mercy.

**Leader:** Holy Spirit, You have brooded over chaos before, and there You brought order. You have been in the middle of violent hearts and bloody wars before, and You brought peace. We saw Your power in our crucified and dead Lord, and You brought life. The terrorism and violence we are seeing are offenses against Your work in the world, against the life and encouragement that You bring, against the unity and love that characterize Your activity throughout creation. Holy Spirit, we are aware that these terrorist acts and this war are opposed to the ways You bring order and peace and life.

**Together:** Spirit, have mercy. Father, Son, and Spirit, Your creation needs You to act. We need Your power, Your love, Your peace, Your reconciling presence, in Gaza, in Israel, and in Lebanon. Creator, who made the world out of nothing, bring life, for the sake of the children You created and love. Jesus, Your death defeated the powers on display in the world today; bring Your rule of righteousness, justice, and peace. Holy Spirit, show Your power, the same power that raised Jesus from the dead.

**Leader:** We cannot solve this violence and horror but You can. O God, act!

**Together:** May Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*Adapted from "A Prayer and Lament for Gaza." Resurrection Boise.*

**Sit in a moment of Silence, lamenting the conflict in Lebanon.**

## **Protection for Lebanon and the Aboul-Zelofs**

### **Pray for Marwan, Marci, Noah & Shaya**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.  
I will say[a] to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust."  
For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler  
and from the deadly pestilence.  
He will cover you with his pinions,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.  
You will not fear the terror of the night,  
nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,  
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

### **Psalm 91:1-6 (ESV)**

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,  
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;  
planted in the house of the Lord,  
they will flourish in the courts of our God.  
They will still bear fruit in old age,  
they will stay fresh and green,  
proclaiming, "The Lord is upright;  
he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

### **Psalm 92:12-15 (ESV)**

### **Pray for City Bible Church**

- **Continued protection for church members**
- **CBC to be a light in the city of Beirut**
- **God's provision of resources for the church**
- **Partnership with other churches and organizations in area**

## **Pray for Peace and Salvation for Lebanon**

### **Take Time Pray for Peace and Salvation for Lebanon**

Pray for a Ceasefire - For the Protection of Lives and for Peace for the Region

## **Closing Prayer**

**Together:** Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: Kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all people the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Adapted from The Book of Common Prayer (2019).*