

Prayer Focus – 11-17 December 2023
Middle East Region (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, UAE)

Regional leaders: Majors Doug and Janet Newman (NZFTS)

Assistant Regional Leaders: Majors AmyJo and Paul Ferguson (USC)

Praise & Prayer requests:

MDE Region

We praise and give God all the glory;

- That we are able to meet together to praise and honour God within these Muslim Countries/Kingdom/States.
- For the committed and passionate soldiers, who each play such a vital role within our Salvation Army families here being the hands and feet of Christ as he opens doors and leads the way.
- For the opportunities to help the vulnerable in the community with such things as food, shelter, wellbeing check-ups, repatriation networks and support, and social/spiritual support.

We ask God

- To grow the Salvation Army in the Middle East.
- To call salvationists in the Middle East back into the corps, to strengthen the fold for his purposes and glory.
- To open our eyes and hearts to new opportunities throughout the Region
- To fight injustice where we find it.
- To share the love of God with all we encounter, without discrimination through our love, care and holy living.
- Resources to meet our many and various needs.
- To enable TSA acceptance and legal registration as a church within the Gulf states.
- Due to the distances and required travel of officers please pray for physical, spiritual, emotional protection and travel mercies.
- That those that have been trafficked or tricked and are deported, receive God's protection, healing, and provision to also meet any debt which has been incurred trying to improve their family's situation.

Bahrain

Praise

- Local leadership responding tirelessly to the needs of the corps and community.
- Opportunity to outreach and link with many who have been tricked or trafficked, now in a desperate situation in this country.
- For the process of registration and accreditation in The Kingdom of Bahrain. Final paperwork is being prepared by the Bahrain government and that 2024 will see the first Middle East country have an official registration of TSA as an independent Christian Church.

Prayer

- That God provides those that the corps support safe solutions to their circumstances, such as safe and rewarding employment, appropriate living arrangements and care for their families back home.
- Pray that the final steps of becoming a registered church flow smoothly.

Kuwait

Praise

- For the committed soldiers of the corps who continue to be an inspiration, strength, and light in this country.
- For the opportunities to minister that he places before us, in our workplaces, schools and homes and community.
- That the children and young people are continuing to grow in their faith and that the teenagers are stepping up into music team and participating in the meetings.
- That we are able to be part of a combined Prison Ministry offering spiritual and practical support within Prisons and Deportation Centres.

Prayer

- Spiritual growth of our TSA members, that we would seek to know him more and more.
- For the Prison & Deportation Centre Ministry. We continue to be able to join with other Christians from a range of denominations and go into these areas and preach in many languages and support the Christians within these spaces. Please pray that God's power will be felt, his precious children encouraged and strengthened, and he will provide more opportunities to share the Gospel.
- C-Clinic; This is a ministry where volunteer doctors and nurses, and others in administrative roles are able to hold a free clinic at the National Evangelical Church Kuwait (NECK) compound each Friday. The 4 C's are Care, Counsel, Consultation, and Connections. Please pray for ongoing health of all volunteers, for donations of basic resources and protection for all. The key things checked are blood pressure and blood sugar, these regularly pick up people that are seriously unwell and often don't realise it. Please pray that God will continue to draw these people in so that lifestyle changes and medical intervention can be made.

Oman

Praise

- Thanking God for amazing soldiers who have been faithful despite not having any officer support. They have kept the flag flying high and have maintained connections with all their soldiers and friends. Excellent group of local leaders.
- Thanking God and the faithfulness again of the corps folk for a great self-denial ingathering.

Prayer

- That we would be able to find innovative ways of encouraging these soldiers and friends.
- Pray for ways to bring more unity as Salalah is very far away from Muscat and Sohar. The isolation between corps and family can be very difficult.
- Pray for resources. We need Sunday school resources as well as Holiday Bible School resources in Tamil.

UAE

Praise

- The UAE is slowly starting to come together, and folk are starting to return to the services. We are so grateful for the few who really held onto the purpose and the meaning of Salvationism attended Zoom meetings and encouraged one another through the medium of WhatsApp.
- Bible Study is well attended, and attendance continues to grow following the hard times of COVID.

Prayer

- As the UAE is seeing a change of leadership, we pray that the paperwork being prepared for the new officers would be finalised soon so that they are able to travel and start their term of ministry.
- We want to see an increase in the numbers of people coming to the services regularly.
- This is a very transient community and one can get discouraged when people who have been very faithful return home. Their shoes are not easily filled. Pray for more labourers in this harvest.
- Pray that God will open doors that seem to shut against us. We know that if God opens the door no one will be able to shut it.
- Pray that every soldier is a witness for Jesus in the way we live, speak to interact with anyone we meet.