

Prayer Diary: Peace

17-23 September 2023



So many of the countries and communities you pray for every week are desperately yearning for peace. For an end to war and violence. An end to fear and uncertainty. An end to suffering and injustice.

The Psalms offer a wonderful source of consolation and encouragement. They give us words to pray in both lamentation and praise – reminding us that the God of peace is still sovereign, even when trouble surrounds us. Let the words of the Psalms inspire your prayers this week, as we remember all those who are prevented from practising their faith in peace.

Sunday 17 September

Pray Psalm 46 over Sudan. In April 2023, the country was once again thrown into turmoil when violence erupted between the Sudan Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces. Civilians have borne the brunt of the fighting, with hundreds killed, thousands forced to flee, an appalling rise in sexual and gender-based violence, and attacks on hospitals, houses of worship and clergy.

Monday 18 September

Reflect on Psalm 91 as you pray for an end to the conflict in India's Manipur state. Violence broke out on 3 May between the Meiteis (a predominantly Hindu community) and the Kukis (a tribal community who are predominantly Christian). Pray that India's leaders will find a sustainable solution to bring lasting peace and trust between communities in the region.

Tuesday 19 September

Almost daily we hear of attacks and abductions by armed groups in Nigeria's northern and central states, and now these kinds of attacks are occurring in southern states. Pray through Psalm 3, that God would be a shield around the people of Nigeria and deliver them from every source of violence.

Wednesday 20 September

At the end of July, a six-month ceasefire between the Colombian government and the National Liberation Army (ELN), the largest remaining left-wing guerrilla group in the country, went into effect. Praise God for this breakthrough and pray that it is a step towards lasting peace. Pray for members of communities of faith living in areas controlled by the ELN that they would be able to practice their faith without fear.

Thursday 21 September

Today on the International Day of Peace, reflect on this verse as you pray for the nations: 'How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!' (Psalm 133:1)

Friday 22 September

Save North Korean Refugees Day is on 24 September, followed by the World Day of Migrants and Refugees on 25 September. Read Psalm 121 and remember all those forced to leave their homelands because of their religion or belief. Ask God to keep them from all harm.

Saturday 23 September

Give thanks that Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace, ruling over every nation. (Isaiah 9:6) Pray that the power of his peace will be felt today by every Christian facing injustice for their beliefs.