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EMBRACE
the Middle East



Gaza, November 2024. (Credit: Hosny Salah, Pixabay)

“Let us then pursue what makes for peace”

Rom 14:19

Dear Friends,

We rejoice in the news of a ceasefire agreement in Gaza - offering a glimmer of hope amid the devastation. Please join us in praying that this is the start to a just and lasting peace.

Our partner Caritas Jerusalem have been providing medical care on the ground in Gaza throughout the war. Anton Asfa, their General Secretary, told us:

At Caritas Jerusalem, we see this day as a new beginning, but we know that the road to achieving real and lasting peace is long...we will continue to work tirelessly in the reconstruction of Gaza. And here, I do not mean only rebuilding buildings but also rebuilding the human being, preserving their dignity, and giving them the chance to live the life they deserve.



You can watch a video of Anton's full update, along with other reaction from the region, on our [updates page](#):

[Responses from the region](#)

Situation in the West Bank

Our colleague David is currently in the West Bank, meeting with some of our partners there. He sent us this update:

In the West Bank, partners welcomed the news of the ceasefire with joy. They are relieved that the killing will end and are actively planning how they will respond to help the injured, displaced and traumatised population.

But along with the joy there is also mourning for all the loss of life and concern about what the future holds for the West Bank. The West Bank remains in crisis

and the ceasefire in Gaza will not change the situation here. There is concern that military actions may increase and continue the pattern of escalation that has been seen for the past 16 months in the West Bank. The intensity of the occupation continues to increase and the ceasefire needs to be just one step on the path towards a just peace.

A ceasefire is good news but it is only the beginning

Yesterday, **Embrace released a joint statement** with 17 other charities, calling on the UK Government to ensure that the cessation of hostilities in Gaza leads to justice and accountability and brings an end the Israeli authorities' occupation and oppression of all Palestinians.

The temporary ceasefire is good news, but it is only the beginning, not the end. Our partners like Al Ahli Hospital are expecting demands on their services to surge as people who have put off seeking medical care begin to come forward, and with no infrastructure or proper security there are many challenges ahead.

[Find out more - latest from the region](#)

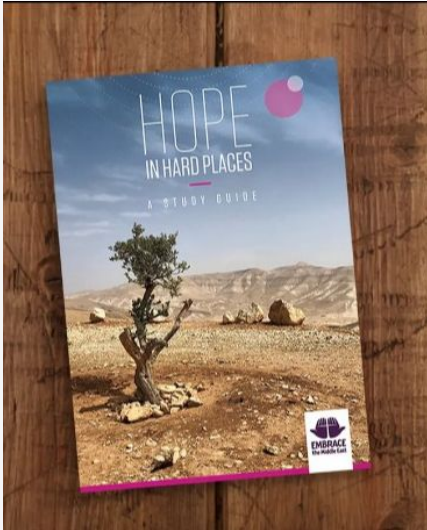
We'd like to thank you for standing with us during these extremely difficult 15 months and we ask that you continue to support us with your prayers, donations and actions as we and our partners respond to the devastation and continue to push for a just and lasting peace in the region.

In the words of Jamie Eyre, CEO of Embrace: *"We hope and pray the ceasefire gets over the line and all three phases are fully implemented. We should be under no illusion that there is an easy path here; the road ahead is fraught with difficulties, alongside the opportunities to help people in dire need."*

With best wishes,

**Beth Amphlett
Communications Manager
Embrace the Middle East**

The compassion and hard work of our dedicated supporters is something that inspires us every day. We give thanks for all those who give their time and energy to organise and participate in fundraising events, raising vital funds to support our Christian partners' mission in the Middle East. Head over to [our latest Weekly Devotion](#) to find Bible verses and a reflection to guide your prayers.



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