



New! MEBO Monthly Prayer Focus

MEBO Monthly Prayer Focus is your opportunity to pray for the work of God's kingdom in Lebanon and the Middle East. Every month we focus on a different aspect of the ministries you can support through MEBO, providing you with information and prayer points so you can pray with insight. Please use this resource to pray with your Community Group, your dorm floor, globally-minded friends, pastoral leadership, believing neighbors and colleagues, and also in your personal quiet time. Invite your parents, children, or grandchildren to pray too. *Thank you for joining us in prayer this month!*

July 2018: Rehabilitating homes, rebuilding lives

Syria has been torn apart by seven years of conflict, and the fighting continues in many parts of the country. Millions have been displaced internally and outside the country and the numbers of those fleeing the war continues to rise. Many neighborhoods have been destroyed by shelling and fighting, making it difficult for families to return even when local conflicts have subsided. On top of this, a new law approved recently requires homeowners to show the deeds to their homes in person as proof of ownership. In many cases the owner is not able to go back yet and their deeds have been lost or destroyed, meaning that thousands of families may lose legal claim to their property and land.

Building on years of successful emergency response, MERATH's local church partners in one prominent Syrian city are seeking to expand their service to their communities by responding to the desperate need for housing. With support from MERATH, they have started rehabilitating dwellings, enabling needy families to live in their homes once more. Beneficiary families were chosen with priority for female-headed households, those with individuals with disabilities, and large families, using similar guidelines that MERATH and its partners already use for other relief activities. Under this program, families are receiving up to a certain level of material support to make their dwellings acceptable again. Community members provide the labor to renovate the properties and are compensated for their efforts. By providing safe homes to live in and much needed work for local people, MERATH and its local church partners will enable vulnerable Syrian families, who have been through much pain and hardship, to start rebuilding their lives and look to the future.



Please pray for:

- that this project to renovate homes in a Syrian city would be successful and meet its goals and can be duplicated in other parts of the country where there is a need
- that fighting would stop everywhere in Syria and that appropriate conditions can be met so that Syrians who wish to can go back to their home villages, towns and cities
- that very few properties and lands will be seized under the new property law
- that the support for refugees in the Middle-East does not decrease due to the length of the crisis
- that many churches in Syria can contribute to the rehabilitation of their communities and the reconciliation process, while continuing to respond to the huge basic needs of vulnerable populations in their midst

Find out more about MERATH <https://merathlebanon.org>

