

MIDDLE EAST REFORMED FELLOWSHIP - AUSTRALIA
Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called sons of God
(Matt.5:9), November 2024

1. The present state of warfare and violence in the Middle East gives all Christians cause to cry out to the Lord in the words of Jehoshaphat: 'We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you' (2 Chron.20:12).
2. MERF is committed to four ministries in Muslim-majority lands: Biblical Training; Evangelism; Church Extension; and Diaconal Aid.
3. While politics is not regarded as something neutral, it is not one of MERF's core ministries.
4. As Christians of Reformed persuasion, we believe that every person and all societies are deeply flawed because of sin. It runs through the heart of every human being. Hence, we believe, as the MERF News of November 2024 says: 'The present conflict in the Middle East is stirring immense hatred and fear between two groups who desperately need to know the "Prince of Peace."'
5. The woes of the Middle East cannot simply be traced back to the establishment of Israel in 1948. Due to the Fall of Mankind, human history has been a tale of warring peoples gaining and losing territories.

Jesus, on the other hand, went about doing good. He is the strongest of men and the gentlest of men. Isaiah prophesied: 'Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; a bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; and in his name the Gentiles will hope' (Isa.42:1-3; Matt.12:18-21). The king of kings and Lord of lords, He came to earth as the suffering servant. That is the way of life to all - to the secular and decadent West, to those lost in Zionism, and to those whose hope lies in the coercive implementation of sharia.