Are you ready to be a voice crying out in the wilderness to make a way for the Lord?

## Palestinians of the Gaza Strip



## Who are the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip?

Though the Palestinians do not have an autonomous country they have been temporarily allotted the areas of Gaza and the West Bank until further peace arrangements between Israel and Palestinian authorities can be reached. Despite many attempts at peace treaties, continued violence from both sides have made any type of agreement all but impossible. This instability has increased the economic and humanitarian devastation in the country. Often the hostilities are started by local militants frustrated by the oppression of the Israeli government. The Israeli military often responds with a disproportionately heavy-handed attack, with the hopes to deter future occurrences. This tends to only further devastate the economy and territories' infrastructure, leading to greater poverty and feeding the anger of the Palestinian people. Despite many on both sides attempting dialogue and reconciliation, this vicious cycle has yet to slow.

Yet, regardless of generations of war, oppression, and poverty, the Palestinian people are a greatly generous

and hospitable people. It is not uncommon to be invited into a home and served a lavish meal and spend hours upon hours visiting, telling stories, playing instruments and singing. They are a passionate people that are full of life and in great need of a loving

compassionate Savior.



Progress-Unengaged

Language- South Levantine Arabic
Bible Translation, Gospel
Recordings, Jesus Film and Radio
Broadcast- Available

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

— Isaiah 43:19 —

A voice cries out in the wilderness. "Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness: Make straight in the desert a highway for our God... And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed."

- Isaiah 40:3.5 -

## Pray

- · Pray for hope, light, freedom, and justice to be restored in Gaza.
- Pray that the Israeli-Egyptian blockade would be lifted and that government organizations on both sides of the conflict would be spurred to pursue justice and peace for all people living in the
- Pray for a restored economy and job opportunities for young people.
- Pray for deep inner healing both emotionally and spiritually.
- Pray that the small community of Gazan Christians (less than 1%) would be encouraged and strengthened in their faith.

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- Pray that the few MBBs would be built up, that more would join their numbers, and that the truth of the good news of Jesus (Isa Al Massiah) would spread through the territories.
- Pray that doors would open for kingdom-minded workers to enter and that new ministry initiatives would advance.





## **Engage**

While the Israeli-Egyptian blockade of the Gaza Strip prevents direct access for kingdom initiatives and workers to enter Gaza in most cases, there are some opportunities to engage indirectly through partnering with ministries and organizations that facilitate medical trips for the few Gazans who are allowed to enter Israel and Jerusalem to receive medical treatment.

Gazans in the Strip are very engaged online since the internet is their portal to the outside world. For people with skills in technology and social media, there could be great opportunities for partnering with ministries to expand their focus to deliberately reach out to Gazans.

Finally, there are opportunities to minister to Gazans amongst the diaspora. Before Israel and Egypt imposed the blockade, many Gazans migrated to the West Bank, Jordan, Egypt, and further afield. Although they have integrated into their host communities to a large extent, groups of families and networks can be found and accessed in each of these countries. Jordan and Egypt both have language opportunities for workers to become better equipped to minister to the Palestinians of the Gaza Strip.

Is God calling you to live among the Muslim peoples of the Middle East? Contact us. We would love to help you get there!