

Sabeel-Kairos

Taking Action for Palestine

Sabeel-Kairos Lenten Reflections

Week 5 | Gaza

Reflection

In 2012, the UN told us that Gaza would be uninhabitable by 2020

In February 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) warned that Gaza's health system was "on the brink of collapse".

In February 2020, the Ministry of Health reported that 39% of essential medicines and 31% of medical disposables were at "zero stock", meaning less than one month's supply available on shelves.

In the recent weeks we have seen an escalating world health crisis which is unprecedented in modern times. In the UK we have witnessed the heroic work being undertaken by the NHS which has seen hospitals reach full capacity and had medical supplies running low.

Last week, the first cases of the Coronavirus were confirmed in Gaza. There are now 10 confirmed cases in Gaza (as of March 27). If a widespread outbreak takes place in Gaza, then over two million of its inhabitants could find themselves in an unimaginable disaster, trapped in an illegal blockade.

Gaza lacks the infrastructure, essential equipment, drugs, supplies and human resources needed to treat a widespread outbreak of coronavirus.

If governments do not act now, then the virus may take the greatest toll yet on a people who are already living in an unliveable nightmare.

Jesus said 'He sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to free the captives'- Are we bearers of this good news? How can I protest and engage in new ways regarding the situation in Gaza? How do we feel about being isolated and in quarantine at this time? What is the Lord telling us..?

Prayer

Father of the oppressed, turn your eyes of mercy to the people of Gaza. We pray especially for all those who are suffering from the coronavirus and for their families.

Bring your comfort and strength to all medical workers in Palestine. (We pray for those who work for / [support MAP](#))

Jesus, you came to bring true freedom to each one of us. Help us to be fellow workers in bringing the Good News to those in prison. May we follow your gentle footsteps and yet proclaim justice and truth boldly to the nations.

Holy Spirit, Flood the whole world with your healing - fling open the doors of those hearts who keep Gaza under blockade. Unite us all as one family in your love.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Photo courtesy of Hatem Omar Maan