

PRAY
AND ACT
FOR
PEACE
IN IRAQ



When our cries remain silent

Christians across the United States are witnessing and praying around the clock for peace in Iraq. Mennonites are especially invited to pray on Wednesdays. Will you, your family, your Sunday school class, your congregation—join the unceasing prayer?

Luke 18:8 – “*And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night?*” (NIV)

Forgive us, Lord,
When the fires of war are raging on both shores
A war for freedom that we must win
And our voices for peace are silent.

Forgive us, Lord,
When we stand with neighbors to support our troops
Young men keep coming home from hell
And we turn away from what they've seen.

Forgive us, Lord,
When the body bags keep coming home
Their images barred from our TV screens
And our eyes remain firmly closed.

Forgive us, Lord,
When thousands of Iraqis lose their lives and worse
Children without parents and parents without hope
And we do not count them in the numbers lost.

Forgive us, Lord,
When we spend our money on guns and bombs
Tax dollars not leveraged for social needs
And we pretend we do not notice.

Forgive us, Lord,
When fear threatens to overwhelm us
We see enemies within and enemies without
And we forget you told us to love all people.

(continued...)

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When our cries remain silent, cont.

Forgive us, Lord,
When suspicion rules and guilt is assumed
The global community left outside our borders
And we say we do not have friends.

Forgive us, Lord,
When our love for you and country become one
So that nations see them as the same
And Christ's peace for all people cannot be shared.

Forgive us, Lord,
When you tell us you will grant us justice
If we cry out loud to you all day long
And we only raise our voices in silence.

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