

A Conversation with Dr. Salim Munayer on Israel–Palestine: A Seedbed Symposium

*Dr. Salim Munayer is the founder of [Musalaha](#), a ministry pursuing reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians inside and outside the church. He is a professor at several institutions and former academic dean of Bethlehem Bible College. Dr. Munayer also serves as the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regional coordinator for the WEA's Peace and Reconciliation Network. He has authored or collaborating on multiple books, including *Journey Through the Storm: Lessons from Musalaha Ministry of Reconciliation*, *The Land Cries Out: Theology of the Land in the Israel–Palestine Context*, *Seeking and Pursuing Peace: The Process, the Pain, and the Product*, the *New Creation Book for Muslims*, and his most recent publication, [Reconciling Justice: Concepts of Justice in the Multireligious Context of Palestine/Israel](#) (Wipf and Stock, 2024).*

////////////////////////////////////

In the April 2024 issue of *Seedbed*, “[Introducing the Prince of Peace to a World at War](#),” editor-in-chief S.T. Antonio wrote a [book review](#) of a work co-authored by a Palestinian Christian and Israeli Messianic Jew entitled, *Through My Enemy's Eyes: Envisioning Reconciliation in Israel–Palestine* (Paternoster, 2014). To continue Seedbed's mission of stimulating transformational conversations about high-stakes issues in frontier disciple-making, *Seedbed* hosted a follow-up conversation in July 2024 with Palestinian co-author Dr. Salim Munayer in the first-ever *Seedbed* Symposium.

In this wide-ranging conversation, Dr. Salim told his story of growing up between Jewish and Palestinian communities in the Holy Land, how he got started in reconciliation ministry, and how *Through My Enemy's Eyes* came to be. He shared his take on the roots of the ongoing Israe-

li-Palestinian conflict, the Western Christian response, and his source of hope in dark times.

Click below to eavesdrop on this fascinating, transformational conversation.

Part One (Approx. 35 min)

- Growing up in a Palestinian Christian family in Israel
- The challenge of getting Messianic Jews and Palestinian Christians talking to each other
- Which chapters in *Through My Enemy's Eyes* were the hardest to agree on
- Bridging contradictory historical narratives
- Seven stages to reconciliation

Part Two (approx. 50 min)

- A deep dive into what is happening (and why) in Gaza and the West Bank
- "Where do you find hope when overwhelmed by grief and injustice?"
- The difference between Palestinian and Latin American liberation theology
- Advice for workers serving among Muslims
- "What do you wish the whole world knew about Palestinian culture?"
- Recommended resources for Christians to understand and pray for all inhabitants of the land

Bibliography

Ateek, Naim. 1989. *Justice and Only Justice: A Palestinian Theology of Liberation*. Orbis.

Burge, Gary. 2013. *Whose Land? Whose Promise? What Christians Are Not Being Told about Israel and the Palestinians*. Pilgrim.

Chacour, Elias. 2003. *Blood Brothers: The Unforgettable Story of a Palestinian Christian Working for Peace in Israel*. Chosen Books.

Chapman, Colin. 2015. *Whose Promised Land? The Continuing Crisis Over Israel and Palestine*. Lion.

Christ at the Checkpoint. <https://christatthecheckpoint.bethbc.edu/>.

Isaac, Munther. 2020. *The Other Side of the Wall: A Palestinian Christian Narrative of Lament and Hope*. IVP.

Khatib, Rasha, and Martin McKee, and Salim Yusuf. 2024. "Counting the dead in Gaza: Difficult but Essential." *The Lancet*, vol.404, issue 10449, 237–38. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(24\)01169-3/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(24)01169-3/fulltext)

Maslaha, Nur. 2018. *Palestine: A Four-Thousand Year History*. Zed Books.

Munayer, Salim, and Lisa Loden. 2011. *The Land Cries Out: Theology of the Land in the Israeli-Palestinian Context*. Cascade.

Munayer, Salim. 2020. *Journey through the Storm: Lessons from Musalaha - Ministry of Reconciliation*. Langham.

_____. 2024. *Reconciling Justice: Concepts of Justice in the Multireligious Context of Palestine/Israel*. Wipf and Stock.

Musalaha. www.musalaha.org.

Pepe, Ilan. 2006. *The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine*.

Said, Edward. 2014. *Orientalism*. Vintage.

Speakman, Jr., Porter. 2010. "With God On Our Side." Documentary. Produced by Porter Speakman, Jr.