



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

May 2017

M 1 Pakistan: Please pray for the 2017 Sports Festival. Pray for the smooth organisation of bookings, promotion, printing the special Scripture portion and all that is needed for the event. Pray for a successful festival and that many young people will be involved in the fun activities and engage with the word of God.

T 2 Australia—Campaigns & Programmes: Bible Society is offering to replace Bibles lost in the recent QLD/NSW flooding caused by Cyclone Debbie. Bible Society has also given Scriptures to the local churches to pass on as they provide physical and emotional support to those suffering. Pray that through the trauma many will find the rock of our salvation through the Scriptures.

W 3 Egypt: Please pray for all affected by the Palm Sunday church bombings. Pray for God's comfort for the loved ones of those killed, and healing for the injured. Pray for an end to the suffering and assaults on Christians in Egypt. Pray that God will give his strength and guidance to Christians, that they will grow in faith and be a light for the Gospel.

T 4 Australia—Koorong Books: *The Case for Christ* movie, based on the true story of the book by Lee Strobel, will be released in cinemas today by Koorong and Crossroad. Pray that people will invite their friends along to watch the movie, and that cinemas will

screen the film for several weeks in good time slots. Most of all, pray that this story will lead many people to put their trust in Christ.

F 5 Hong Kong: Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance over decisions made as Hong Kong Bible Society goes through a time of change. Pray that God will enable the Society to continue doing his work and that more people will engage with the Bible in Hong Kong.

S 6 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Please pray that tonight's Trivia Night at St Clements Church (Kingston, Tasmania) would not only be a fun night for supporters across churches and denominations, but also a great opportunity to fundraise for the Bible Society's *Get the Word Out* group fundraising project, helping to reach Australians with God's precious and powerful word.

S 7 Word for the Week: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Psalm 95:1

M 8 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Rejoice in prayer for the QLD celebration of Bible Society Australia's Bicentenary at Parliament House on 11 May with a wonderful gathering of parliamentarians, supporters, BSA executives, contributing artists for *Our Mob, God's Story* art book and many other guests. Pray for safe travel for all, for great connections that will foster new relationships, and a smoothly run event.

T 9 United Bible Societies: Thank God for Bible Society and for those involved in it over the past 213 years. Give thanks for dedication and scholarship in Bible translation, skills and quality in Bible production, creativity and courage in Bible distribution, and wisdom and sensitivity in Bible engagement and advocacy.

W 10 Australia: Thank God for the chaplains and volunteers who go into Australia's prisons to show God's love and care, for those involved in *Change On The Inside*, *Crossroads* and other Scripture-based courses, and for supporters who give to provide Scriptures in prisons. Pray for those prisoners who start a journey to faith, finding "freedom on the inside".

T 11 Taiwan: Praise God for the recent publication of Jude and 2 Peter study Bibles. Pray that readers will understand God's word accurately through these study Bibles. Thank God for the recent Chinese Scripture Forum in Kunming, which was attended by representatives from eight Bible Societies.

F 12 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Please pray for safe travels for Marcus and Rick in WA as they encourage and share with donors and churches in Albany, Esperance, Merredin and Kalgoorlie this month. Praise God for the opportunity for Rick to speak this Sunday at the joint service of churches in Merredin for Mother's Day.

S 13 Guatemala: For over five years, Bible Society staff have ministered to over 500 children from challenging backgrounds at Virgen de la Asunción home; thank God that many children have found peace through a relationship with God. Tragically, after a recent fire, 40 teenage girls died and 13 were left with serious injuries. Pray for the heartbroken Bible Society staff and volunteers as they visit injured children in hospital, providing Scriptures and organising family support groups. Pray for the ongoing work with children, families and all affected at the home.

S 14 Word for the Week: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Psalm 95:6-7

M 15 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Praise God for a recent financial pledge by a cross-cultural church convinced of the ongoing importance of the work of BSA. Pray for Nick, Bernard and the NSW team as they speak with individual supporters and at various meetings to inspire greater support for BSA's efforts to share God's word. Pray for continuing success as Richard promotes the Murrinhpatha Indigenous and Philippines projects. Pray for Jonathan, Sam and Tika as they travel and speak with churches and community groups.

T 16 Lebanon: Lebanon is now hosting over 1 million Syrian refugees and about 500,000 Palestinian refugees. Entire generations are being born and brought up in confined camp facilities with hate, despair, and vengeance. Bible Society Lebanon aims to offer hope to the refugee children through an interactive programme and trauma healing sessions. Please pray for the children involved, that their lives may be forever changed.

W 17 Australia—Content & Publishing: Pray for the publishing of Arthur Stace's biography this year. Stace spent 37 years writing the word 'eternity', mostly in secret, on the streets of Sydney and Melbourne. Pray that the book will help readers cut through the myths about Stace, and uncover the great truths about eternity and how to get there.

T 18 Austria: Bible Society provides Bibles to refugees, people in detention centres and prisoners in their own language. Pray that these Bibles might bring hope, peace and eternal life to all who read them. Pray for continued funding for this important ministry and thank God for churches and groups that are making the Gospel known to many different nationalities.

F 19 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for the various bicentenary events planned for the 27-28 May in Kalgoorlie, WA, including a *Bullet in the Bible* screening, *Hymnfest*, a donor afternoon tea, and a launch for the *Our Mob, God's Story* Indigenous art book. Thank God for the partnership of Church of Christ, Baptist, Anglican and Uniting churches in Kalgoorlie.

S 20 Philippines: Please lift the Tinggian Inland New Testament translation workshop up in prayer. Pray for the success of the workshop and the ongoing translation project. Ask the Lord to send qualified and committed individuals to serve as translators and reviewers.

S 21 Word for the Week: Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken. Psalm 62:1-2

M 22 Australia: Pray for those at the Christian Schools Association conference in Canberra, particularly Centre for Public Christianity's John Dickson speaking at tonight's Parliament House dinner, and Bible Society's historian Rev. Dr John Harris presenting *The Reformation and the Good Book* workshop during the conference. Dr Harris will be supported by Jonathan Harris, who has the goal of developing partnerships with the national Christian schools to help *Get the Word Out*. Pray that relationships would be strengthened.

T 23 Africa: Pray for the programme providing literacy education to 20,000 women and girls who are speakers of 16 minority languages in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Tanzania. Pray for the 1,600 facilitators who will be trained through the programme, that through their service many young women will be empowered to read Scripture for themselves.

W 24 Australia—Senior Leadership: The Bible Society board meets today, followed by the Annual General Meeting. Pray for wisdom as directors exercise their responsibility in matters of governance and strategic planning. Give thanks for the faithful service of John Hardy, who recently retired as WA director.

T 25 Bangladesh: Following the recent AGM pray for God's guidance and wisdom for the new committee who will lead Bible Society for the next four years. Also, please pray for new projects including a television programme, radio programme, and the Lay People Bible Study programme.

F 26 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Thank God for the generosity of people making it possible for CPX to thrive in its ministry. Please pray for the annual fundraising lunch today, that it will be a success and for the support of both current and new donors. Pray for a continued media presence for CPX and that material will connect with an ever-wider audience.

S 27 Canada: Thank God for Lindsay, a Canadian woman who participated in the recent Tasmanian bicentenary Bike for Bibles ride, raising sponsorship for Bible ministry. Pray for participants preparing for *Run for the Word* events in Canada in June; participants run or walk between 1km and 5km to raise sponsorship for various Canadian Bible Society Bible translation, distribution and engagement programmes.

S 28 Word for the Week: My salvation and my honour depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. Psalm 62:7-8

M 29 Australia Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Thank God for the privilege of distributing Indigenous Bibles and Scripture Engagement Resources to many isolated and remote communities across Australia through the Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support Grants Programme. Pray that prison and hospital chaplains, and staff in local churches, remote schools and women's shelters would be excited to use these Indigenous Bibles and specifically designed resources. Pray that these resources would bring hope and encouragement to those in greatest need.

T 30 Laos: Please pray for safety and success of Bible ministry with minority groups. Pray that the import of textbooks and audio devices for Scripture-based literacy work would happen without hindrance. Pray for the Bible audio recording process and that the team will work well together.

W 31 Australia: Praise God for the many Bible Society supporters who help Bible ministry through a bequest in their will; some are only able to give small regular donations during their lifetime, but continue making a significant impact through a gift in their will. Over the years Bible Society has been blessed and honoured by bequests, both large and small; give thanks for the wonderful way this helps to keep sharing God's Word.

To receive this Prayer Letter regularly via email please contact us at bibles@biblesociety.org.au

Bible Society

M: GPO Box 9874 In Your Capital City
E: bibles@biblesociety.org.au
P: 1300 BIBLES (1300 242 537)