



**BIBLE SOCIETY**  
1817-2017

# Prayer letter

June 2017

**T 1 Australia—Campaigns & Programmes:** Pray for safety and favour as representatives from over 100 Bible Societies travel to Sydney for the annual United Bible Societies Roundtable Exchange conference early next month. Please pray for the week-long gathering, for fruitful discussions on how to increase Bible availability and engagement around the world.

**F 2 Cambodia:** Pray for peace in an unsteady climate with local elections this weekend and general elections next year. Please pray for Bible Society's preparation of project proposals for 2018; may the Lord grant wisdom and guidance to better serve the Scripture needs of Cambodia.

**S 3 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations:** Pray for Richard at Croydon NSW Catholic Church today and tomorrow, that generous support will be gained for Indigenous Scriptures. Pray as Sam and his wife Tika travel all over NSW to speak in churches, and thank God for the child they are expecting. Pray for Nick as he visits churches in Hurstville, Granville and Cronulla to share God's word and Bible Society ministry. Pray for Bernard as he meets with many individual donors and churches during this crucial month, and for his involvement with The City of Ryde Prayer Breakfast 2017.

**S 4 Word for the Week:** But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9

**M 5 West Indies:** Praise the Lord for the provision of funds so we can commence work refurbishing Bible House. Pray for timely completion of renovations so that work can resume as normal, and the upper floor can be rented out to help support Bible Society ministry.

**T 6 Australia:** Pray for Bible Society Australia's End of Financial Year project, seeking to raise much-needed funds for two projects: Bible Society of Cameroon's Bible-based trauma healing programme for sexually abused girls and young women; and the establishment of a Scripture-based literacy programme for refugees fleeing Boko Haram and violence in Northern Cameroon.

**W 7 Philippines:** Thank God for the success of the Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP). Over 100 women from different churches joined the celebrations, interceding for those who are suffering as a result of abuse, harassment and conflict. The celebrations also sealed participants' commitment to reach out to other Filipino women who are victims of emotional and physical violence.

**T 8 Australia—Koorong Books:** Pray that as customers browse Koorong's annual Bible catalogue this month and see the amazing selection of Bibles available they will be led to purchase the Good Book for themselves, family and friends. Pray that the church in Australia will be captured by a hunger for the word of God and, as a result, experience a greater love for Jesus, the living Word.

**F 9 Armenia:** Thank God for the launch of the first Bible in Armenian Sign Language, the culmination of many years of prayer and hard work. Thank God for his provision and wisdom to all those involved in the project. Pray that this Bible brings forth much fruit, impacts many lives and enables more of the deaf community to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

**S 10 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations:** Pray for today's Bicentenary Hymnfest and associated events in Perth with Bible Society's Melissa Lipsett. Praise God for the numerous volunteers and musicians that help make this event possible. Please also pray for Rick Pekan as he travels to Busselton WA from 23-28 June to present Bible Society work at churches and schools.

**S 11 Word for the Week:** Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. 1 Peter 1:13

**M 12 Singapore:** Praise God for the recent Bible Society Mission Banquet and Rooftop Pavilion Opening events. Pray that God will use these two events to build and strengthen relationships with churches in Singapore for even greater Bible ministry and partnership opportunities in the years to come.

**T 13 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations:** Give thanks for Nic Capp, Bible Society's new National Manager of Donor Care, based in Melbourne. Pray for Nic as he communicates with and travels to meet staff and supporters around Australia.

**W 14 Egypt:** With the devaluation of the Egyptian pound, imported Scripture products now cost more than double what they previously did. Pray for great wisdom for Bible Society in the development of a new pricing policy – making the word of God available at an affordable price is challenging in the current climate. Pray for an increase in local donations, despite the financial crunch and high inflation supporters are facing.

**T 15 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX):** Please continue to pray for CPX's forthcoming documentary, *For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined*. With most overseas filming complete, please pray for the team as they film locally, in particular on the impact of missionaries and the church on Aboriginal people – for better and for worse. Pray that they can tell these important stories powerfully, with candour and fairness.

**F 16 United Bible Societies (UBS):** The formation of Bible Society was inspired by the efforts of Welsh girl, Mary Jones, to get her own Bible. In 1802, the challenge issued by Rev Joseph Hughes was "If for Wales...why not the whole world?" Pray for UBS as they continue to meet the challenge of providing the Bible to the whole world. Also, please continue praying for the UBS Roundtable Exchange starting in Sydney on 3 July (see prayer point on 1 June).

**S 17 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations:** Please pray for David Lepore as he travels to Maffra VIC this weekend to attend the Maffra Combined Churches Pleasant Sunday Afternoon to celebrate 200 years of Bible Society in Australia. Pray for a wonderful time of celebration and edification.

**S 18 Word for the Week:** He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.  
1 Peter 1:20-21

**M 19 Australia:** Thank God for opportunities to share the work of Bible Society at many churches and events around Australia, and for wonderful donations and fundraising initiatives from local churches. Pray for safety, health and sustained energy for staff as they prepare for and travel to these events.

**T 20 World Refugee Day:** Pray for Bible Societies around the world sharing the Bible with refugees. Pray for the supply of Scriptures in the right languages and Scripture-based literacy resources. Pray for compassionate and gifted volunteers to engage refugees with the Scriptures and Christian ministries helping with physical, emotional and resettling needs. Pray that many who have fled war and oppression will find refuge and hope in God's word.

**W 21 New Zealand:** Bible Society is leading the initiative for a new Bible translation in Māori. The Māori Bible, translated in 1952 and updated in 2011, is highly respected, but the language is difficult for new and younger Māori language speakers. Pray for wisdom and encouragement for the translators who are pioneering this new endeavour. Pray for continued sales and reading of the Children's Bible Storybook in Māori.

**T 22 Australia - Fundraising and Community Relations:** Pray for Strauss Viljoen as he promotes Bible Society in many South Australian churches this month. Pray for Bible Society South Africa CEO, Dirk Gevers, as he speaks in Adelaide from 23-26 June, before attending the UBS Roundtable Exchange in Sydney. Pray that many will attend his talks and be encouraged to support Bible Society ministry.

**F 23 Taiwan:** Please pray for activities and Bible Forums organised to celebrate Bible Society in Taiwan's 60th anniversary. Pray for Biblical Interpretation Lectures in Kaohsiung City tomorrow, Taichung City on 26 June and other locations during the year. Also during this Reformation anniversary year, pray for distribution of the free booklet, *Looking for Contemporary Martin Luther after 500 Years*. Pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of many through Scripture engagement and distribution.

**S 24 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations:** Praise God for the way the churches of Ulverstone Tasmania come together each year for the Festival of Word & Song. Pray that tomorrow's festival at Ulverstone Baptist Church would be a wonderful celebration of praise and a wonderful support of mission in our own backyard.

**S 25 Word for the Week:** Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.  
1 Peter 1:22-23

**M 26 India:** Praise God for Family Life Seminars that will be conducted for newly married couples and parents through various churches with the guidance and help of Bible Society's Church Relations and Resource Mobilisation Department. Please pray that these seminars will further strengthen Christian families and build a culture of Bible reading.

**T 27 Australia—Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS):** Please pray for those preparing for the recording of the Pitjantjatjara New Testament from mid-July to mid-September. Pray for the Pitjantjatjara people who will be reading for the multi-voice recording and for the two recording engineers coming from overseas to do this specialised task.

**W 28 Laos:** Pray that Laotian children and youth will have access to God's word. The younger population is growing rapidly but access to Scripture is limited. For approximately half the population the official language (Laotian) is at best a second language and at worst not understood, with about 80 other languages spoken amongst minority groups, many in remote areas. Pray for Bible Society as it prioritises Bible work in such a diverse land.

**T 29 Australia—Senior Leadership:** Pray for the Bible Society Australia board and senior leadership team as they meet with members of the United Bible Societies Global Council, who will be in Australia for the UBS Roundtable Exchange. Give thanks for the fellowship of Bible Societies around the world as they work together on translation, publishing and distribution of God's word and pray that the Global Council, with its responsibility for governance across the fellowship, may have wisdom and diligence.

**F 30 USA:** Pray that Bible-based trauma healing efforts would continue to grow. Pray specifically for the equipping of trauma healing facilitators, and development of trauma healing programmes to change lives in prisons across the country. Please pray for reformed prisoners, that they would rejoice in receiving God's forgiveness and be a shining light to family and friends of the transforming power of God's word.

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