



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

August 2017

T 1 Australia: Praise God for Sue, who recently retired after over 25 years' great service with Bible Society in Victoria; pray for her next stage in life including ministering in her local church. Please pray for the other Victorian staff during a time of change: Geoff on Long Service Leave, David recently returned from an overseas holiday, Allison who shared duties with Sue in the Melbourne office, and Nic the new Donor Care Manager.

W 2 Venezuela: Pray for Venezuela; in the current political and economic crisis many have died during mass protests that turned violent. Pray for safety for Bible Society workers and their contacts, and that during this uncertainty and trauma people will find eternal security and comfort in God's word. Pray also for those working to translate the Bible into the indigenous Piaroa language and into sign language, that they will find joy knowing that they are bringing words of hope and peace to their people.

T 3 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: With a full programme of speaking engagements throughout South Australia this month, pray for health and safety for Strauss and Steve and for great attendance and impact at these events. Pray for an uplifting time for all who attend this Sunday's Hymnfest in Loxton SA. Pray for many to come to the Adelaide Bicentenary Hymnfest at St Peters Cathedral (27/8).

F 4 China: Thank God for the great response as Jock Lian Foo and Kua Wee Seng spoke at recent gatherings in Australia. Pray that the thousands who heard first-hand will enthusiastically share news of the China Miracle with others. Pray for the continued work of publishing and distributing the Bible in China, that many hearts and souls will be fed by the millions of Bibles being printed for the Chinese people.

S 5 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for the Word Songwriting Showcases in Hobart tonight, and coming up in Launceston (19/8) and Devonport (16/9). Pray that these nights will celebrate God's word through the work of Tasmanian songwriters and raise support to help *Get the Word Out* to Australia through chaplains, remote Indigenous communities and public schools.

S 6 Word for the Week: To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. Job 12:13

M 7 South Africa: Give thanks that the partnership between World Hope Ministries (WHM) and Bible Society South Africa has, this year, already distributed over 5000 Bibles in 13 languages to prisoners who have completed WHM Discipleship Course. Please pray for these prisoners as they seek God and follow him.

T 8 Australia—Campaigns & Programmes: Please pray that many students from Christian schools will attend the Masterclass events happening every Tuesday this month (NSW today, SA 15/8, VIC, 22/8, TAS 29/8 and WA 1/8). Pray for the speakers, staff and everyone else involved in making these events successful, and pray that attendees will be challenged and encouraged in their faith.

W 9 Canada: Pray for Scripture translation in Canada. Bible Society has published the Labrador Inuttut Heritage Bible, Ojibwe Bible with a partial OT, Eastern Arctic Inuktitut Bible, and Atikamekw NT. Scripture portions in 12 other indigenous languages have been sponsored by Canadian Bible Society, with additional work currently in progress in some of those. Pray that having God's word in their heart language will build up believers and draw more Indigenous Canadians to Him.

T 10 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Pray for CPX staff speaking at Bible Society Masterclass events around Australia this month, seeking to communicate the truth, beauty and goodness of Christian faith to hundreds of high school students.

Pray also for John Dickson, Simon Smart, and Justine Toh as they appear today at The Edge, an event co-hosted with City Bible Forum, to talk about CPX's forthcoming documentary on the best and worst of Christian history. Pray for gathering momentum and interest in the documentary leading up to its release.

F 11 Australia: Pray for Samuel as he travels to Wagga Wagga and Henty NSW this month to share at a ladies group and multi-church men's breakfast in Wagga Wagga, and to celebrate the Bible with three congregations in Henty, culminating in a Bike for Bibles fundraising ride on Sunday with all local churches. Thank God for the co-operation of the various groups hosting these events. Pray that all involved and those attending would be blessed and encouraged in their support of Bible Society Australia's work to *Get the Word Out*.

S 12 Australia—Events for Bibles: Pray for Bible Society's team of over 20 runners as they run from Sydney's CBD to Bondi Beach in tomorrow's City2Surf. Pray for successful sponsorship raising to support Bibles in Schools and for great team fellowship.

S 13 Word for the Week: "...let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the Lord. Jeremiah 9:24

M 14 USA: Please pray for project Magellan, which will focus on the nearly two-thirds of the US population who represent the "movable middle" between those who are Bible sceptics and those who are Bible-engaged. The thrust of the campaign is an attempt to clear the air, acknowledge mistakes, and present Bible benefits without condemnation; pray that God would bless these endeavours.

T 15 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray that Bible Society Australia staff who connected with overseas delegates at last month's Roundtable Conference in Sydney will continue to draw inspiration and encouragement from a deeper understanding of the global United Bible Society fellowship. Please pray for Rick in WA as he shares with Wagin Uniting Church tomorrow and Applecross Uniting Church next Sunday, as well as the Dunsborough Men's Breakfast (25/8).

W 16 Africa: Pray for continuing provision of funds to provide free Bibles to the Botswana and Namibia Defence Forces. Pray for success of plans to print and distribute the Bibles by the end of this year. Please also ask for God's help in dealing with requests to do the same in many other African countries.

T 17 Singapore: Give thanks for Bible Society of Singapore's 180 years. Pray that many will be inspired to join in the ministry as they hear about and participate in events during this year-long celebration. Pray for Bible engagement work including tomorrow's talk, "Daily Work as Divine Vocation".

F 18 Australia—Senior Leadership: Please pray for the Bible Society Australia board meeting today. The past year has been one of transition as several newly appointed directors have taken the places of retired directors. Give thanks for our directors as they give freely of their time and experience in directing the Bible Society in its bicentenary year.

S 19 Myanmar: Please pray for the Bible Society of Myanmar's ministry throughout the country, especially in places which are difficult to access. Pray for safety as the staff travel, and for the Bible to touch people in these areas.

S 20 Word for the Week: Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands. May those who fear you rejoice when they see me, for I have put my hope in your word. Psalm 119:73-74

M 21 Austria: Pray for the Bible Society team as it continues to host many school visits each week, talking to students about the importance and relevance of the Bible in today's world. These visits are often the first encounter that children have with the Bible. Pray for young hearts to connect with God's word.

T 22 Australia—Koorong Books: Store managers from around the country gather at West Ryde in Sydney today and tomorrow for Koorong's annual conference. Pray that the managers would be inspired and refreshed by the input and time spent together, and will return to their stores enthused to serve and make a difference for the gospel.

W 23 Tanzania: Please pray for Alfred Kimonge, the next General Secretary and CEO of Bible Society of Tanzania. Please pray for him as he prepares to take over this key role and pray for Bible Society of

Tanzania during the period of transition. Thank God Alfred could attend the recent Roundtable Conference in Sydney and spend time amongst so many other General Secretaries and Bible Society leaders.

T 24 Australia—Content and Publishing: Pray that the forthcoming biography of Mr Eternity, Arthur Stace, whose one-word sermon reached Sydney, Melbourne and other towns for decades, would reach and inspire many with the message of hope. Pray also that negotiations for Bible Society Australia to assist other Bible Societies with Bible publishing will be successful.

F 25 United Bible Societies: Pray for migrant communities around the world to find God as their refuge and strength through Scripture. Despite the heartache involved when communities are displaced, the situation can bring opportunities for Christian engagement and outreach to people who might never have encountered the gospel in their home country. Pray for Nahid and her team, working in this space as the Iranian Bible Society in Diaspora. Thank God for opportunities to interact with people in need of the healing words of Jesus.

S 26 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Please pray for tomorrow's Bicentenary Hymnfest at St Peters Cathedral in Adelaide, that it may be an uplifting and well-attended event, and be successful in raising awareness and funds for Bible ministry. Pray for Scott Walters travelling from Sydney to participate and share about Bible Society Australia.

S 27 Word for the Week: Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. Psalm 147:5

M 28 Egypt: Give thanks for Bible Society Australia's partnership with the Bible Society of Egypt and its Bible-based literacy work. Give thanks that through the generosity of Australian supporters, many Egyptian people are learning to read while engaging with God's word. Pray for the 17-year-old identical twin girls, who have never attended school, but through the programme are now able to read God's word.

T 29 Australia—Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Give thanks for the ongoing success of *Our Mob, God's Story*, the art book featuring paintings which tell a Bible story by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists. Praise God as the book continues to sell well and raise funds for Indigenous

Bible publication and engagement resources. This work will give many more Indigenous people across Australia the opportunity to receive the Good Book in a language that speaks best to their hearts. Give thanks that *Our Mob, God's Story* has been shortlisted for Christian Book of the Year. Pray that many Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians will be blessed through this wonderful book.

W 30 Nicaragua: Please pray for Rebeca and her Bible Society team as they continue to serve and support kids with cancer and their families. Please pray that the team will continue to be welcomed by the main hospital in Nicaragua with their service of providing Scripture, counselling and practical needs for cancer patients and their families.

T 31 Australia: Praise God for many loyal supporters in Australia who have prayed for and given generously to Bible ministry projects and events this year. Pray for guidance and encouragement for the Church, Community and Donors Relations team as they continue to meet and extend invitations to supporters to participate in the work, to get the word out to people who need our help.

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)