



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

September 2017

F 1 Burkina Faso: Pray for God's comfort, hope and peace for the people of Burkina Faso, who have again been impacted by terror attacks. Pray for security for Bible Society ministry and staff. Give thanks for last year's dedication of the San Bible and pray for translation projects in progress, including some due to be published this year.

S 2 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for today's *Devonport Hymn Singing* event at the Adventist Church and the Songwriting Showcase at the Salvation Army Corps on 16/9. Pray that both evenings would be wonderful opportunities to praise our great God and help *Get the Word Out* in Australia! Please also pray for the presentation of Bibles at the Citizenship Ceremony in Launceston on 7/9, that new citizens will accept this gift and be drawn to read the Good Book. Thank God for volunteers Dorothy and Kay who often present these Bibles on behalf of Bible Society Australia.

S 3 Word for the Week: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

M 4 South Sudan: Pray for the staff of Bible Society South Sudan who have lately been undergoing some significant personal challenges; pray especially for their Project Manager whose three-year-old granddaughter recently died, and their Finance Officer whose home burned down. Pray also for the South Sudanese people, that many will find hope through the words of the Bible, despite millions being displaced and about half the population in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Pray for peace and that leaders will humble themselves before God.

T 5 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for Richard sharing the Indigenous Murrinh-patha Mini Bible project at Bossley Park Catholic Church in NSW this weekend. Pray for great outcomes for the *Sing for Bibles* extravaganza being organised by Samuel and the Central Coast Bible Society Branch members at Gosford Presbyterian Church on 23/9. Pray for Nick as he speaks at Merrylands Baptist Church on 24/9 and for Bernard and the team as they visit and talk with NSW supporters about the new project to assist and equip the Mongolian church with God's word.

W 6 Mongolia: Praise God for the many growing churches across the country, that they may continue to mature in Christ. Pray for the task of distributing Bibles across the vast and challenging landscape of Mongolia, for safety, funds and smooth logistics to get Bibles to those who need them.

T 7 Australia—Koorong Books: Koorong is running 15 Colin Buchanan events around Australia in September and October this year. Please pray that through Colin's music and speaking, the thousands of children, parents and carers attending these events will hear clearly the good news of Jesus' love for them. Pray that everything will run smoothly at each concert and that Colin and the team will be safe as they travel around the country.

F 8 Pakistan: On this International Literacy Day, thank God for Pakistan Bible Society's literacy project, which is running smoothly, and recently held a graduation ceremony. Pray that the newly literate graduates would continue their studies and that they would read the Bible with their families as they have committed to do. Pray also for new literacy sessions and classes to continue, and that the Lord will prosper the work as Pakistanis engage with his word.

S 9 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Please pray for safe travels for Rick as he drives thousands of kilometres this month for ministry in the Mid-west, Gascoyne and Pilbara regions of Western Australia. Pray for opportunities to connect with churches in Port Hedland, Karratha and Carnarvon, including speaking at Tom Price Baptist today. Also pray as the WA team prepares for the Bicentenary Celebration at the Sunshine Festival in Geraldton on 1/10.

S 10 Word for the Week: You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence. Acts 2:28

M 11 Cuba: Pray for the Million Bible Mission project as it finishes this year, that the target would be reached. Thank God that an unprecedented number of believers in Cuba now have access to a Bible and many others are coming to faith through this project.

T 12 Australia—Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Continue to pray for those involved in the recording of the Pitjantjatjara New Testament. Over 20 different Pitjantjatjara speakers and checkers are required to complete this recording, with different voices used to portray New Testament characters. Pray for stamina for the entire team as they finalise the last 2-3 weeks of recording sessions, and for those who have to travel long distances between Central Australia and Adelaide to record. Pray that they would all 'run the race to completion' and rejoice in creating a resource that will benefit many Pitjantjatjara communities across Central Australia and beyond.

W 13 Syria: Thank God that Bible Society participated at the recent Damascus International Book Fair for the first time in five years. Pray for those who obtained Scriptures through the fair, that they will know God's grace and comfort. Pray for those undertaking the difficult task of Bible ministry in a war-torn country.

T 14 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Praise God for the many opportunities to speak and share about CPX during recent Australia-wide Masterclasses and related events. Pray for Anna Grummitt, the CPX Youth Editor, as she develops relationships with schools and youth groups to promote the work of CPX. Pray for the CPX team as they continue to edit and pull together all the material filmed for the documentary *For The Love of God*. Pray for God's divine wisdom and direction on the best way to present this message to the public.

F 15 Sri Lanka: Praise God for the recent 205th Anniversary of Ceylon Bible Society. Please pray for the training of facilitators who are working towards a greatly needed *Healing the Children's Wounds of Trauma* programme in Sri Lanka. Pray also for the children whose lives will be impacted by peace and healing through God's word and the trauma healing materials.

S 16 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Thank God for the volunteers of Gympie Bible Society Branch (QLD) as they host a Bible Society Bicentenary Celebration Dinner this evening. Please pray for great attendance, and for new people to hear about and be inspired by Bible Society's 200 years of operation in Australia. Pray for safe travel for Scott Walters, Bible Society's head of Strategic Operations, who is travelling from Sydney to speak at the event.

S 17 Word for the Week: The Lord has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.
Psalm 118:24

M 18 Nigeria: Praise God for the recent launch of the Tiv Revised Bible before a gathering of more than 750 Christians. Tiv is the language of about four million people across five Nigerian states and Cameroon; most Tiv people identify as Christians. Pray that the modern language, spelling harmonisation and various helps in the new Bible will assist Christians to understand God's word more deeply and grow in faith, that lives of the Bible readers will be transformed.

T 19 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Please pray for travelling mercies and opportunities for David Lepore as he drives around northern Victoria sharing God's word with people in the Wodonga, Kaniva and Nhill regions this month. Also pray for Victorian based National Manager Donor Care, Nic Capp, as he travels interstate this month.

W 20 Iraq: Pray that Iraqi Christians will persevere during the difficult times they face. Pray for courage and a strengthening of their faith through Scripture. Pray for safety for all involved in distributing and receiving Bibles, that many will have access to God's word and be drawn to its message of hope and salvation.

T 21 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Give thanks and pray for safety and joy for all the faithful supporters who raise sponsorship for Bible Society's work through various events. Pray for

supporters heading out tomorrow for a 74 km four-day hike on WA's beautiful Bibbulmun Track, and for Chris as he sets off on Monday for a 1054 km ten-day *Bike for Bibles* ride from Shellharbour NSW to Melbourne VIC. Praise God for the funds raised.

F 22 India: Please pray for Rev Sudhakara Raju and Dr E Leelavathi Manasseh as they work alongside 16 Bible Society Auxiliaries and various local church leaders across India. Pray for strong relationships resulting in successful Scripture projects, including promoting Bible education and Bible engagement among children, young people and adults.

S 23 Australia: Each year bequests fund a significant portion of Bible Society Australia's programmes and projects. Give thanks for the number of bequest gifts received recently, a great help in furthering the mission and ministry of Bible Society.

S 24 Word for the Week: I know, my God, that you test the heart and are pleased with integrity. All these things I have given willingly and with honest intent. And now I have seen with joy how willingly your people who are here have given to you.
1 Chronicles 29:17

M 25 Rwanda: Please pray for those affected by HIV/AIDS who face extreme discrimination and stigmatisation in Rwanda, even in Christian communities. Pray for the Bible Society who is seeking to change hearts and attitudes through a Bible-based project. Pray also that all who suffer from this illness will accept comfort and hope from God's word.

T 26 Australia—Content and Publishing: Pray for the launch of *Mr Eternity*, a biography of Arthur Stace, which will be published next month by Bible Society Australia's Acorn Press. Arthur Stace rose at 5.30am each morning to chalk the word 'Eternity' on the streets and lanes of Sydney, Melbourne, Newcastle and Wollongong, to get people to consider their eternal future. Pray that this gospel-centred story will impact many lives.

W 27 Lebanon: Pray for children growing up in terrible conditions in refugee camps. Please pray for the Lebanese Bible Society's *Reconcile* programme which seeks to help heal the wounds of trauma these young ones have suffered and to engage them with the love of God.

T 28 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Ten years ago today, CPX was founded to engage the public with a clear, measured and respectful picture of the Christian faith and the way it can impact all of life for good. Thank God for the impact CPX has had as a voice in the public square and also in equipping Christians. Please pray for God's guidance as CPX continues to do this now and into the future.

F 29 Australia—Senior Leadership: Give thanks for the diligent service Barry Morris has given Bible Society Australia as Group Chief Financial Officer. Thank God for Barry's integrity, unflagging energy and commitment to our mission. We are going to miss him as he retires today!

S 30 Malaysia: On this International Translation Day, please pray for Translation Consultants and staff working on the Bau minority language translation and the Malaysian Formal translation. Pray that they would be guided by the Holy Spirit, and would have good health, clear minds and concentration during the checking. Pray for a good local printer to produce the trial edition of the Formal translation New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs by December. Pray for the ongoing translation in Bau.

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

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