



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

November 2017

W 1 Americas: Please pray for all those impacted by recent extreme weather events, including hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and fires. Pray for those suffering and grieving the loss of loved ones, homes and businesses. Pray for practical assistance and that God's word would help heal those who are suffering.

T 2 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for Rick George speaking at a combined youth night at Kiama Anglican on 3 November. Also pray for Greg Clarke as he shares at the Annual South Coast Branch meeting at the same church the following night. Pray for Nick sharing at Lithgow Bible Church on 5 November as well as several other venues in November. Pray for Bernard as he continues to seek further donor support to spread God's word.

F 3 Myanmar: Please pray for an end to the Rohingya refugee crisis in Myanmar; tens of thousands have fled to Bangladesh with horrific stories. Pray for a firm international response and an end to this situation. Pray that this marginalised ethnic minority group will receive the assistance they need and that Bible Society Myanmar may find a way to reach these people with the good news of Jesus.

S 4 Australia—Events for Bibles: Please pray for the Bike for Bibles ride running in NSW today. The Hunter 100 will see riders ride 100km through the Hunter Valley in NSW raising funds to support the work of Bible Society around Australia. Pray for safety and for fellowship on the road.

S 5 Word for the Week: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 1 John 4:9

M 6 Northern Ireland: Pray for wisdom for Bible Society in Northern Ireland who are about to start a recruitment phase for new Board members. Pray that God will guide the right people to these positions and for discernment through the selection process. Pray also for opportunities for Bible Society to reach out to new audiences across Northern Ireland, to further the spread of God's word and the message of Christ to all.

T 7 Australia—Koorong: November is a busy month for Koorong as staff prepare for Christmas. There is a huge influx of stock into Koorong stores, as they're also selling and delivering lots of resources to churches and schools for end of year gift giving. Please pray for wisdom, strength and joy as staff seek to navigate all the demands on their time. Pray for peace too as many of them face end of year exams.

W 8 Sri Lanka: Heavy rains have lashed through Sri Lanka causing landslides, floods, and loss of lives. The people in these areas are facing extreme difficulties. Please pray that these communities will be rebuilt on biblical principles and that Sri Lankans would know God's presence in the midst of the tragedy.

T 9 Australia: Praise God for our *Really Good News of Christmas* campaign (Nov-Dec 2017) and pray for his blessing on the little book that shares the really good news of Jesus' birth and God's great plan for his life. Pray that churches and individuals will share *The Really Good News of Christmas* to reach those who have never heard the Christian message of Christmas.

F 10 Nigeria: Praise God for the recent opening of the Deaf Bible Translation Centre and the dedication of 110 Chronological Bible Stories in Nigerian Sign Language (NSL). Please pray for ongoing funding and a commitment to continue the translation of a further 130 portions of the Bible into NSL by 2020.

S 11 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Pray for Rick as he speaks at Merredin Church of Christ on 12 November and at the Hyden

Gospel Singfest on the same day. Rick will also speak at Darlington Uniting Church on 26 November. Pray for Rick and the team as they visit Albany and Katanning for Bicentenary events.

S 12 Word for the Week: He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:2

M 13 Iran: The Bible Society in Iran closed in 1990, but an estimated 5 million Iranians live outside Iran. Pray for the work of the Iranian Bible Society in Diaspora as it ministers in many countries. Thank God for opportunities to distribute Scripture in hard and digital formats to Iranians travelling to other countries. Pray for continued Christian growth within Iran and that churches will gain more freedom.

T 14 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Pray for the CPX team filming some of the final scenes in the *For the Love of God* documentary this week in outback NSW/Victoria, covering some of the best and worst aspects of Christian missions to Aboriginal people. Pray for good weather and that they can tell these important stories sensitively, with the help of Indigenous people from the area. Pray for wisdom and perseverance as the team puts the finishing touches on the documentary.

W 15 Taiwan: Praise God that the *Bible Land* DVD has recently been released, with several language tracks on the DVD including English, Cantonese and Chinese. Pray that God will use these DVDs to reveal himself through the stories of the ancient lands, drawing people to faith in Christ.

T 16 Australia—Fundraising & Community Relations: Praise God for our wonderful donors Australia-wide, who excite us with their hearts for Bible Society's mission to get Bibles to those who need one. Please pray for travelling mercies for our fundraising team in particular as they travel throughout our great country, meeting our inspirational donors in person.

F 17 USA: Pray for today's opening in Washington D.C. of the Museum of the Bible. The Museum will exhibit 800-1200 items at any one time, and its exhibitions will tell the story of how the Bible has shaped culture, history, and ethics across the globe. Adding to an already stunning collection of biblical manuscripts, the collection will include donated Aboriginal Scriptures from Australia. Pray that guests would be open to what God has to say to them through his Word and that the museum would inspire conversations about the Bible.

S 18 Kenya: Thank God for the recent publication of the revised Kalenjin Bible, and pray that it would reach the more than three million speakers of eight Kalenjin dialects, predominantly in Kenya. Pray for the completion of the Teso language New Testament, in time for publication next year. Also pray for continuing Old Testament translation in Teso and Igikuria languages.

S 19 Word for the Week: Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. 1 John 5:5

M 20 New Zealand: Bible Society has published a special edition Gospel of Luke and a new reader study book to help people explore Luke's gospel. The publication includes a popular story about a young Christian Māori girl whose 1836 death brought reconciliation to warring tribes. The study is being used in at least three prisons to introduce the gospel and the good news of reconciliation. Please pray for the leaders and prisoners doing this study.

T 21 Australia—Senior Leadership: The Bible Society board meets tomorrow for their final meeting of the year. Please pray for the directors as they exercise their responsibility, guiding the organisation in wisdom and courage. Give thanks for Richard Grellman, retiring from the board after seven years of leadership as chairman.

W 22 Netherlands: Thank God for the new children's digital programme, *Bible Basics*, which is now available for children aged 4-12, providing a broad foundation for a child's Bible education. Pray that many children will come to know Christ and will also grow in their knowledge of the Bible through its use. Thank God for the skills, insight and commitment of those who created *Bible Basics* as a response to the need of churches.

T 23 Israel: Pray for Bible Society staff as they produce and distribute new children's books about the gospel, in both printed and digital formats. Pray that God will work in the lives of the children who will receive this literature, that they will grow to love him, be a living testimony to those around them, and become faithful witnesses of the Lord in Israel.

F 24 Australia—Remote & Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Please give thanks for the successful recording of the Gospel of Luke in the Nyoongar language of Western Australia. We are

thankful for the Nyoongar reader, Tom Little, and also for the recordist, Peter Hacquoil, who have produced a quality recording. Pray for the promotion of this resource and that many Nyoongar speaking people will enjoy access to the gospel in audio form for the first time.

S 25 Laos: Give thanks for those bringing the Bible to Laotians and promoting Bible ministry in Laos through Bible Days, which include preaching, teaching and Bible contests for children. Pray for the main projects—distribution and literacy—to continue to grow and serve Laotians well. Pray also for new staff to be hired to work on these projects.

S 26 Word for the Week: Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Timothy 1:17

M 27 Canada: Thank God for the ongoing work making God's word available in native Canadian languages for Indigenous churches. Pray for the smooth progress of these translations. Pray that God would grant wisdom and guidance to all staff who are working hard on Bible translation, and for growth in Canada's Indigenous churches.

T 28 Ecuador: Please pray for the Hasta lo Último de la Tierra (To the Ends of the Earth) project by United Bible Societies in Ecuador. Our Ecuadorian friends are partnering with churches to make the Bible available to the country's far-flung communities. Pray that their encounters with the Scriptures will transform lives as people come to understand the gospel.

W 29 Australia—Content and Publishing: Give thanks that *Our Mob, God's Story* has sold many more copies than expected, exposing more people to Bible stories in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, and raising more funds for Bible translation. Pray also for *Mr Eternity*, the biography of Arthur Stace which we launch this month. Pray that the story of this man who chanted his one word 'Eternity' sermon on the streets for 37 years may continue to touch hearts with the gospel message.

T 30 Cambodia: Praise God for the Children Engagement Day (part of the Bible month programme) which was held in late October. Pray that children will continue to explore their relationship with God and engage with his Word. Please

pray for the committees and volunteers involved in the upcoming child engagement programme 'Love God, Love Bible', that God would give them wisdom, strength and unity as they prepare for this event.

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

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