



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

January 2018

M 1 Australia—Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Please pray for the AEF (Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship) Conference in Port Augusta this coming week. Pray for the many key Aboriginal leaders from across Australia as they come together in worship and fellowship.

T 2 Pakistan: Please uphold Pakistan Bible Society in prayer following last month's fatal bombing at the Bethel Church in Quetta. Staff members have been personally affected by the attack, while two brothers aged 5 and 7 lost their mother. Let's join together in prayer for those affected, along with fellow Christians throughout Pakistan.

W 3 Guatemala: Please pray for the existing problem of violence and for the work that the Guatemalan Bible Society does to help people break this cycle, whether they are victims or victimisers. May an encounter with the scriptures help Guatemalans to find a path of peace and a lasting relationship with Jesus.

T 4 Honduras: Honduras is experiencing a period political and social crisis following general elections in November 2017. Many businesses and stores have been looted and burned down as people protest against alleged political corruption. Pray with the Bible Society of Honduras for peace and prompt stability for the country.

F 5 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Pray that finishing touches on the CPX documentary, *For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined* will lead to the best possible final product. Pray for fruitful discussions with distributors, so that lots of people will get to see the documentary!



S 6 South Sudan: Please pray for the many thousands of Sudanese who are searching for the One who offers life, hope, and truth. Pray too for those committed to sharing the light of the gospel with all people, including the many Sudanese refugees who've been forced to leave Sudan to take refuge in neighbouring countries, including Turkey.

S 7 Word for the Week: Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Isaiah 43:18-19

M 8 Israel: Please pray for peace in the Middle East following the United States' decision to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The declaration has sparked anger across parts of the Muslim world, with protests in various countries, including the United States.

T 9 Australia—Content and Publishing: After a bumper year of BSA publishing in 2017 (*Our Mob*, *God's Story* and *Mr Eternity*) pray for new titles that will bring glory to God in 2018 and beyond. Please pray for wisdom for the publishing team and God's guidance as we plan for the year ahead.

W 10 Ghana: The need for literacy in Ghana is huge. Please pray for the Gurune Literacy project, launched among the Gurune people in the Upper East region of Ghana in early December 2017. Pray for the collaboration with local churches to launch the project and train up more facilitators.

T 11 Australia—Koorong: Please pray for Koorong staff to start the year refreshed. Throughout January, Koorong customers are encouraged to buy Bible reading plans and one-year Bibles and devotionals. With all the current world issues challenging Christians, pray they would draw closer to Jesus through these resources, finding purpose and hope for 2018.

F 12 Germany: Pray for the 50th anniversary of the Gute Nachricht Bible ("Good News" in German). There will be a campaign to encourage people to interact with this Bible. The German Bible Society is also aiming to complete the translation of the Old Testament of the Basic Bible (Basic Bibel).



S 13 Australia—Fundraising and Community Relations: Today Jonathan Harris will be speaking at the National Youth Camp (NYC) at Collaroy Conference Centre, sharing the history of the Bible Society and the impact of the Bible on society and culture in Australia. Please pray that he can engage the youth to become advocates for BSA in their home churches.

S 14 Word for the Week: For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

M 15 Belarus: Pray for the Lord's help in implementing the "Sow together" project, which aims to provide the marginalised with a Bible, together with the clergy from churches of different denominations. These churches work with minority groups such as orphans, prisoners, the elderly and the disabled. Thank God that they now have an opportunity to own and read their very own Bible.

T 16 Austria: Please pray for the Bibles for Refugees and Prisoners ministry as well as for the Bible Centre in Vienna which engages children, young people and adults with the word of God. Also pray for Austria's Handwritten Bible project; with the New Testament completed, focus has turned to the Old Testament.

W 17 Northern Ireland: Pray for the changes in legislation which are having a big impact on the work of Bible Society; pray for wisdom in dealing with these changes and clarity to make the necessary adjustments. Pray also for the creation of the new Bible Society website, that God will use this tool to draw more interest to the work of Bible Society Northern Ireland.

T 18 Uganda: Pray for various Christian outreaches in Uganda this month, that God's word would be shared and spoken boldly and effectively. Pray also for Bible translation in Uganda where up to 18 languages remain without God's word. Pray for the provision of scriptures to all, in their own language.



F 19 Bahamas: Praise God for the progress being made in spreading the Word of God in the Bahamas. Please pray that the local Bible Society would be able to teach biblical principles to different generations, especially young people and children. Pray also that publishing projects may attract more and more people to the Bible message.

S 20 Australia—Events for Bibles: Please pray that our donors and supporters will create their own fundraising events this year, on behalf of Bible Society Australia. While many of our fundraising events are managed by us, we encourage people to stage their own fundraisers to help promote the Bible and make it more readily available.

S 21 Word for the Week: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23

M 22 Asia: Pray for many more people to access to the Bible in Central Asia. Pray that their hearts will be ready to receive God's word and God's love. Pray for Christians bold enough to share the Bible with Muslims. Pray for continued courage and wisdom.

T 23 Israel: As the International Prayer Conference Jerusalem begins today, please pray for the safety of all involved. Pray for God to give those present a genuine desire to seek his face and know his will "for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14)



W 24 Bangladesh: Please ask God to bless the Bible work in this country and for his word to reach the hearts of the entire population. Pray that the work carried out by the Bible Society reaches every individual and that Christian aid workers will have access to all the resources they need to reach displaced people in Bangladesh and Myanmar.

T 25 Argentina: Pray that biblical influence projects would help Christians get deeper into the word of God, and pray that God's word would influence culture and society. Pray for the children's Bible translation project in Argentine Sign Language. Thank God for the growing distribution of Bibles in Argentina.

F 26 Australia: Pray that as the cross shines in our southern skies, so may God bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new. Pray that God will bless Australia in 2018 and give us a new tolerance and respect for each other.

S 27 South Africa: Praise God for every Bible distributed in our country and for progress made with Bible translation projects throughout 2017. Pray for all of South Africa's programmes: literacy, Bibles for grade seven learners, Bibles for prisoners and for the poor. Pray too that more people will become aware of Bible Society South Africa and what they do.

S 28 Word for the Week: Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. Psalm 33:12.

M 29 Australia—Content and Publishing: *Eternity* is on the search for good news. We know that God is doing an overwhelming number of good things in our nation, and we'd love to share as many as possible in 2018. Pray that we will capture these stories and tell them well.

T 30 Belarus: Pray for those living in the Chernobyl zone (especially children). Many thousands of Belarussians can't do physical exercise because of the risk of breaking a leg, or worse. Pray that the word of God, which they have received from the Bible Society, will give them the strength to live and work in contaminated areas with reliance on the Lord.

W 31 Australia—Senior Leadership: Please pray for the senior leadership team as the new year starts in earnest, with staff back at work after the holiday break. The efforts of the board and management team are focused on the strategic direction of Bible Society for the next five years. Please pray for godly wisdom as they wrestle with the challenges involved.

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