



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

February 2018

T 1 Australia—Mission: Please pray for the Scripture Grants programme recipients as they begin using their funding to purchase Bibles for their ministries. Pray for all our recipients, including chaplains and volunteers, as they provide vital spiritual support to people in prisons, detention centres and hospitals who desperately need Christ's love and grace.

F 2 Armenia: Praise God that the Bible Society of Armenia has published *Study Bible: The Gospel According to Luke*, the first fruit of their *Study Bible* project, which was largely supported by the German Bible Society. Pray that the publication reaches those who need the good news of Jesus Christ.



S 3 Puerto Rico: Please pray for Bible Societies who are continuing to share God's word as their countries recover from natural disasters. Almost 500 people were killed in Puerto Rico when Hurricane Maria sparked a humanitarian crisis in late September last year. Pray for the Bible Society of Puerto Rico, which is working to share the gospel despite massive damage to the island's infrastructure.

S 4 Word for the Week: Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.
Proverbs 16:3

M 5 Philippines: Following National Bible Month (NBM) in January 2018, pray that churches, schools and local government organisations will continue to promote the Bible as "the foundation of righteous leadership and living" (the theme of NBM). Pray that openness to the Bible in the Philippines will draw Filipinos back to God and his word to impact the nation for good.

T 6 Uzbekistan: Praise the Lord for the opportunities that have opened up in Uzbekistan in recent months, including celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Give thanks for the UBS Fellowship and sister Bible Societies who have been praying and supporting the Bible Society of Uzbekistan to help make the word of God more widely available.

W 7 Indonesia: Praise God that more than 9000 Christian prisoners have had their sentences reduced in Indonesia, with 175 freed upon receiving their remissions. Pray that God will use those freed to spread his word in Indonesia to those who need it.

T 8 Australia: Pray for the staff of Bible Society Australia today as they gather for the annual staff conference. Pray that the team would be united in the BSA mission as they plan ahead for 2018. Pray that staff will be encouraged by the Spirit as they seek endurance and guidance for the work ahead.

F 9 Australia—Fundraising and Community relations: Please pray that Bible Society's Sam Collins would have an informative and fruitful time at the Chaplaincy Australia NSW Retreat at Terrigal tomorrow, learning how Bible Society can serve chaplains in their work. Pray for chaplains in schools, hospitals, the ADF, and many other sectors as they minister and share God's word.

S 10 Iran: Many people have been killed in recent protest rallies in Iran. The demonstrations began in late 2017 over the country's sinking economy and a huge increase in egg and poultry prices. Pray for Christians in Iran and for the work of the Bible Society in this troubled country.

S 11 Word for the Week: Surely God is my help; the Lord is the one who sustains me.
Psalm 54:4

M 12 Taiwan: The Bible Society in Taiwan is looking for someone to help invigorate their publishing department. Please pray that the Lord will provide the right person for the job to help spread the gospel in Taiwan.



T 13 USA: The American Bible Society is committed to seeing 100% of the world's languages equipped with a Bible translation and engaged with the Word. Please pray that their strategy to achieve this will bear fruit, and the funding to fulfil this ambitious task will be provided by God's people.

W 14 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Pray for CPX's media presence in 2018 in print, online, on radio, and on TV. Pray that CPX can continually cultivate good relationships with editors and producers within mainstream media, receive more and more opportunities to contribute to the public conversation on the issues that matter, and reach many people who will be receptive to the Christian message.

T 15 Brazil: Praise God for the widespread distribution of his word during the political and economic crisis that Brazil has been facing. 2018 marks the Year of the Bible in Brazil, encouraging people to interact more with God's word to help bring about social transformation.

F 16 Australia—Koorong: Praise God for Koorong's excellent sales over the Christmas/New Year period. Pray that lives will be changed for God's kingdom as a result of the hundreds of Bibles and huge selection of Christian resources that were sold. Give thanks for Koorong staff, many of whom were hard at work while most of us were enjoying holidays!

S 17 Cambodia: Pray for the Bible Society in Cambodia's 50th anniversary celebrations in March 2018. Pray for the establishment of new strategic partnerships with churches. Pray also for Cambodia's national elections this July, that no violence would flare up, and that the new Prime Minister would aid the Bible Society's ministry.

S 18 Word for the Week: If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:18

M 19 Burkina Faso: Praise God for three major translation projects in Burkina Faso and for the publication of the Bible in Dagara, scheduled for completion this year. Pray also for local believers to deal biblically with extreme poverty issues and to overcome a dependence mentality.

T 20 Australia—Senior leadership: The Executive Team are working hard to develop a new five year strategic plan for Bible Society Australia. Please pray for them as they do this important work.

W 21 Australia—Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support: Please pray as we complete the voice recording of the New Testament into the Pitjantjatjara language. Pray for safety of all readers as they travel to Alice Springs to record. Please pray that God's hand will be over all of the logistics as we complete this important project.



T 22 North Korea: Please pray that God will help and equip Christian churches to persevere and grow despite horrific persecution. North Korea is widely ranked as the world's most dangerous country for followers of Jesus. Pray that the truth of God's word will liberate the nation from North Korea's oppressive regime.

F 23 Australia—Fundraising and Community Relations: Please pray for our representatives Jonathan Harris and Sue Brown, who are attending graduation ceremonies at two theological colleges in Brisbane on February 26th and 27th (Malyon Baptist College and the Brisbane School of Theology), to present a prize from Bible Society. Pray that this will be a positive experience of interaction with Bible Society for another group of pastors, and that they will respond positively with their support for BSA.

S 24 Australia—Events for Bibles: Give thanks for our faithful team of Bike for Bibles riders in Tasmania this weekend, raising funds to support BSA's literacy programme in Cambodia. Please pray for safety as they ride to and from Cradle Mountain over the two-day ride.

S 25 Word for the Week: For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction. Psalm 1:6

M 26 Guatemala: Please pray about the troubling issue of violence that exists in Guatemala and for the work that the Guatemalan Bible Society does to help people break this cycle for both victims or victimizers. Pray for life-changing encounters with the scriptures as many Guatemalans seek a path of peace.



T 27 Egypt and the Middle East: Please continue to pray for peace in Egypt and the Middle East following the fatal attack on a Coptic Orthodox church near Cairo late last year. Terrorists have specifically targeted Egypt's Coptic Christian minority since December 2016 with a series of church bombings that have killed more than 100 people and wounded many others.

W 28 Australia—Content and Publishing: As we continue with our work of publishing targeted scripture resources, please pray that the printing of 20,000 copies of the Commonwealth Games Gospels of Luke would run smoothly and on time. Please also pray for the production of the *Life Saving New Testament* for Life Saving Australia.

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

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