



BIBLE SOCIETY
1817-2017

Prayer letter

March 2018

T 1 China: Praise God for the many millions of copies of the Bible that are printed and distributed annually in China. Pray that the word of God will bring about transformation in the world's most populous country. Play also for the development of Bible portions and for pastors and preachers as they spread the gospel in China.

F 2 World Day of Prayer: The host country for this year's World Day of Prayer is Suriname, on the north-eastern coast of South America. Family violence, child abuse and child labour are serious ongoing issues there. Pray for the 560,000 inhabitants of Suriname and for their children in particular.



S 3 Swaziland: Please pray for the Bible Society's goal to reach more than two-thirds of the population of Swaziland with God's word through distribution and sales, Bible engagement and Bible advocacy. Christianity is the dominant religion in Swaziland. If the goal is achieved, it would make the Bible the best-selling book in the country.

S 4 Word for the Week: There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 1 John 4:18

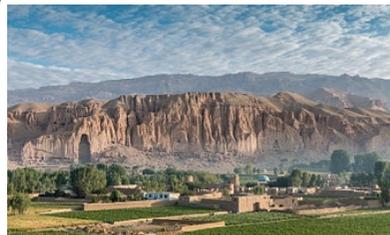
M 5 Australia—Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Please pray for the second phase of the Pitjantjatjara New Testament recording. This is a multi-voice recording in which more than 20 different Pitjantjatjara speakers are used to portray different characters from the New Testament. Pray for stamina and strength for the team, particularly as many of the readers are grieving recent deaths in their communities. Pray they'll have a lasting hope that comes from God's word.

T 6 Cambodia: Please pray for the planning of the Bible Society's 50th anniversary celebrations this month and for the establishment of partnerships with churches. Pray that God will bless the ministry of the Bible Society in Cambodia. Pray also for Cambodia's national elections in July and for a new Prime Minister who will support Bible Society's ministry.



W 7 Australia—Mission: Pray for this month's two *Good Book Talks* on Thursday 8 March and Tuesday 13 March in Sydney. Pray for speakers Greg Clarke, John Dickson, Nick Spencer and Justine Toh. Pray that these free events would bring people to see that the Bible, the book that shaped the Western world, still has ongoing value in areas of truth-telling, ethics and culture.

T 8 Afghanistan: Ranked in the top three most dangerous countries to be a Christian, Afghanistan needs our prayers. Please pray that God's word will become more widely available. Pray also for those who persecute believers in Afghanistan, that God will reveal himself to them.



F 9 Australia—Church and Community Relations: Please continue to pray for the success of RIMS (Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support) projects in Australian Catholic churches and for clergy to welcome Bible Society visits to all parishes throughout Australia. Pray for God's blessings and guidance for Richard Allcock as he regularly meets with Catholic bishops and clergy.

S 10 Canada: Please ask God to help spread the Bible's message more and more in Canada, especially among young people and children. Also pray for Dr Rupen Das as he settles into the position of National Director of the Canadian Bible Society.

S 11 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 12 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): This week CPX is holding its annual Richard Johnson Lecture in Sydney on Wednesday 14 March and Melbourne on Thursday 15 March. Please pray for speaker Nick Spencer from Theos Think Tank in London, speaking on the topic "Where did I come from? Christianity, secularism, and the individual". Pray many people will attend and find Nick's case for the significance and goodness of Christian faith compelling.

T 13 Australia—Mission: The second of our Good Book Talks is on tonight in Sydney. Please pray for our speakers as they address how the Bible is viewed in modern day society. Pray for Greg Clarke, John Dickson, Nick Spencer and Justine Toh as they tackle the topic "Unknown, unloved and unbelieved; the book that shaped the Western world is now on the back shelf".

W 14 South Korea: Over the past five years the Korean Bible Society has been working on a new Bible translation project. Pray that this translation may serve people in their time of worship, education, and living. Pray that it may help the next generation of Bible readers in South Korea better understand God's word.



T 15 Australia—Events: Please pray for the group of cyclists who are meeting today in Perth to plan a Bike for Bibles ride in Western Australia later in 2018. Please pray that we will find more people willing to lead Bike for Bibles events and fundraisers Australia-wide. Thank God for our supporters who have a heart for fundraising.

F 16 Australia—Donor Care: Please pray for the Launceston Hymnfest, this Sunday 18 March. Pray that it will be a wonderful afternoon of fellowship between churches in the city, singing God's praises through the hymns we love. Pray that many will hear from God's word and join in giving hope to children with cancer in Nicaragua.

S 17 Burundi: Praise God for the progress being made in spreading the word of God in this country. Pray that the local Bible Society would be able to teach biblical principles to young people and children in particular. Pray also that Bible publishing projects may attract more and more people to the gospel of Jesus.

S 18 Word for the Week: You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
Jeremiah 29:13

M 19 Ivory Coast: Please pray for the Bible Society of Côte d'Ivoire, which faces difficulties in obtaining Bibles. It's estimated that between



500,000-800,000 Bibles a year are desperately needed in Côte d'Ivoire. Pray also that all their Bible orders are approved to help meet the need.

T 20 Australia—Donor Care: Please pray for the Donor Care team as they learn to work through new processes and methods for engaging and building meaningful relationships with our supporters. These new methods were discussed at last month's Staff Day, where a number of new staff joined the BSA family.

W 21 North Korea: Due to political and economic restrictions, people do not generally have access to the Bible in North Korea and cannot read God's word. Please pray that the scriptures may reach the people of North Korea, and that churches may take root and be revived through God's word.

T 22 Mission—Africa: Please pray for the four Bible Societies in Africa who are developing a literacy programme for 20,000 women. Pray for Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Tanzania as they look for the right staff to lead and develop this programme. Pray for the local church partners as they implement the literacy classes at a grass-roots level.

F 23 Chile: Please pray for the translation project of the Old Testament into the Mapudungun language of the Mapuche people in south-central Chile. Pray for the translators, as well as dialogue, understanding and peace in southern Chile. Pray that the project would be fully funded.

S 24 East Caribbean: Praise God for the achievements made in spreading the word of God throughout Barbados and surrounding nations, including Trinidad and Tobago. Please pray that the local Bible Society would be able to teach biblical foundations to different generations, especially young people and children.



S 25 Word for the Week: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
Philippians 2: 9-11.

M 26 Australia—Koorong: Please uphold Koorong's ministry heading into Easter. Koorong promotes and sells books and Bibles to share the central message of the gospel about the death and resurrection of Jesus while encouraging customers to buy Bibles and Easter related materials to give away. Pray that many would take up this challenge, and that more will come to know Christ as they reflect on the Easter message.

T 27 Sudan: Pray for Sudanese Christians who have taken part in Bible school training. Pray that their growing relationships with Jesus will have a positive impact on others. Praise God that despite the threat of persecution, Sudan's Christian population is growing.



W 28 Australia—Content and Publishing: Praise God for the success of *Mr Eternity* and *Our Mob, God's Story*. Please pray we would continue to set the bar high, following up with more books that fire the imagination, promote the Bible and change hearts for the kingdom of God.

T 29 Israel: Please pray for *Words of Life*, a new publication from the Arab-Israeli Bible Society, introducing Jews to the words of Jesus in the New Testament. Also pray for finances to help distribute a recently-produced illustrated Hebrew New Testament for children.

F 30 Cyprus: Praise God for the New Testaments distributed by the Ministry of Education in Cyprus's schools. Pray that this donation will continue to help students to learn about God's word. Pray that the distribution of scriptures worldwide would be strengthened through churches and friends of Bible Society.



S 31 Singapore: Pray for our Bible Engagement and Advocacy programmes happening throughout the year, especially *Colours of the Bible*, *Declare*, and *D6 Family Conference*. Pray that Christians will grow in their love and understanding of the word of God and that non-believers will come to saving faith in Christ.

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