



Prayer letter

April 2018

S 1 Word for the Week: He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: "The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again" Luke 24:6-7

M 2 Australia—Mission: Praise God for the two Good Book Talks that were held in Sydney last month. Three accomplished speakers spoke about how the Bible is still relevant and valuable for modern society. Pray that those who attended will continue to be challenged by what they heard and reignited to pursue what the Bible has to say to them.

T 3 Ecuador: Thank the Lord for the achievements made in spreading his word to Ecuador's 16 million people. Please pray that the local Bible Society is able to teach Bible principles to various generations, especially young people and children. Pray also that publishing projects may attract more and more people to the Bible message.



W 4 Australia—Church and Community Relations: We will be meeting churches this month who are involved in the distribution of our Gospel of Luke giveaway for the Commonwealth Games. Pray these books will have a reach farther than we could ever imagine. Pray for outreach projects during the Commonwealth Games which officially start today on the Gold Coast.

T 5 Kazakhstan: The Bible Society of Kazakhstan is launching a new project to translate the Bible into the Kazakh language. Please pray for the selection of the group of translators, for protection against enemy attacks, for smooth progress of this project and that the work of the Bible Society will be blessed by God. Pray also that many may come to know the Lord through this translation.

F 6 Malaysia: Pray for the upcoming BSM Pre-AGM meeting scheduled for 7 April to approve BSM's audited account for 2017 and draft budget for 2019. Pray for travelling mercies and a productive experience for staff members who will be visiting Sri Lanka and Taiwan for various workshops. Pray for a surge in the sale of Bibles in Malaysia.



S 7 Australia—Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support (RIMS): Please pray for new BSA member Dave Barnett who has taken over the coordination of the Pitjantjatjara Old Testament translation project. This wonderful project consists of more than 30 translators from across the north of South Australia and into the Northern Territory. Pray that Dave will lead the project with vigour and enthusiasm.

S 8 Word for the Week: Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written. John 21:25

M 9 Egypt: Praise God for the many years of production that has gone into the Van Dyck Study Bible in Arabic. The New Testament has been printed, as well as two books of the Old Testament. Please pray that the Bible Society of Egypt will be able to complete this great work by the end of 2018.

T 10 Syria: Please pray for Syrian Christians who are so appreciative of the Scriptures we supplied late last year. Pray that God's word would continue to sustain them after more than seven years of war in Syria. Pray also for Syrian children who have received their first Bibles; may God's word impact their lives (and others) forever!



W 11 Australia – Content and Publishing: Please pray for tomorrow's launch of Meredith Lake's new book, *The Bible in Australia: A Cultural History* published by NewSouth Books. Pray that readers will be inspired by Meredith's insights into the untold story of the impact of God's word upon Australia. Pray too that this 'alternate history' of Australia will encourage people to investigate the Bible for themselves.

T 12 Australia—Mission: Praise God that the full Bible is now available in the languages of around 81% of the global population. However, almost 210 million people across the world (3773 languages) still do not have the chance to encounter any part of Scripture. Please pray for this vital area of mission and for the Bible Societies and partner agencies who are committed to meeting this need.

F 13 United Kingdom: Pray for the many Christians who are sharing the Bible with Muslims in the UK. Pray in particular for the thousands of students who come to the United Kingdom from Muslim-majority countries, that they would meet Christians and be exposed to the Bible. Pray also for the many Christian students who are sharing God's word in the UK.

S **14 Pakistan:** Please pray for new Bible-based literacy classes running in 2018, that God will help the students to learn how to read and write. Pray also for faithful teachers and supervisors, and for more partners to work with Bible Society in Pakistan.

S **15 Word for the Week:** Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Proverbs 12:13

M **16 France:** Please pray for Bible ministry specifically aimed at the half a million Jewish people who live in France. Against the backdrop of terrorist attacks and rising anti-Semitism, many Jewish people are leaving France, while those who remain are becoming increasingly marginalised. Please pray they'll come to know the hope that can only be found in Jesus Christ.

T **17 Australia—Church and Community Relations:** Following a meeting with Bishop Daniel of the Coptic Church in Sydney, pray for a closer friendship between Bible Society Australia and the Australia Coptic Movement. Please continue to pray for a closer friendship with Australian Catholic Churches and for clergy to welcome and support our visits to all parishes in Australia.

W **18 Australia—Church Relations:** Please pray for Rick in Church Relations as he visits churches and schools in the Busselton/Geographe region in WA. Praise God for opportunities to visit Down South Gospel, Busselton Uniting and the Dunsborough Christian Men's Breakfast. Pray that God will speak through Rick as he shares Bible Society's vision and mission.

T **19 Scotland:** As in Australia, Scotland's children are being brought up in an increasingly secular society with limited exposure to the Bible. Pray that the Bibleworld Books will help Scottish children in church-based after-school clubs with their general literacy. Pray also that Bibleworld will expose more and more young people to God's word.

F **20 Vietnam:** Praise God that the first ever Tay New Testament has been so enthusiastically received since it was launched in 2017. Tay translators have described the book as precious. Please pray for the translation of the Old Testament into Tay, which is spoken by more than 1.6 million people.



S **21 Australia—Events:** Pray for the riders in the annual 'Round the Bay in Two Days' Bike for Bibles ride in Victoria this weekend. They will ride 250 km around Melbourne's Port Philip Bay to raise funds for literacy programmes in South Africa. Praise God for the faithful riders who come back year after year to support this ride.



S **22 Word for the Week:** Those who are kind benefit themselves, but the cruel bring ruin on themselves. Proverbs 11:17

M **23 Australia—Centre for Public Christianity (CPX):** Pray for the Centre for Public Christianity's weekly podcast, *Life and Faith*. Pray for our producer Karen Tong, and presenters Simon Smart, Justine Toh and Natasha Moore, as they put together a show aiming to reach the public with thoughtful and creative content that reflects the nature of the Christian message. Pray too that more and more people will become regular listeners, especially those who are sceptical about faith.

T **24 Australia—Church Relations:** For the first time, Bible Society Australia is sponsoring the C3 Australia Conference, starting today in Sydney. Please pray for BSA's presence at the event and that Bible will be elevated in the hearts and minds of all who attend. The conference will have a global reach of more than 85,000 people.

W **25 USA:** Please pray for God to ignite Scripture engagement initiatives across the US, including Project Magellan (see www.collective.bible). Pray also for Bible-based trauma healing efforts and plans for the Philadelphia-based Faith and Liberty Discovery Center to flourish, bringing the transformative message of hope and healing through God's Word.

T **26 Australia—BSA leadership:** The Executive team is working hard toward the roll out of the new Bible Society Group five-year strategic plan. It's very exciting work but the team would love you to pray for them as they seek to follow God's leading. Uphold the team in prayer as they steward the resources Bible

Society has been blessed with to champion the Bible and share the love of Jesus.

F **27 Ethiopia:** Praise God for the achievements made in spreading the word of God in this country. Bible Society Australia's Autumn Appeal will directly aid East African countries like Ethiopia to reach more and more young women through Bible literacy programs. Pray that this Appeal is well supported.



S **28 Australia—Koorong:** Please pray for Koorong staff as they prepare for their upcoming anniversary celebrations. Australia's largest retailer of Christian books and media turns 40 in early June 2018. Pray for the success of marketing and promotions during this period and for Koorong's customers to be drawn to their wide range of Bibles and Bible resources.

S **29 Word for the Week:** And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. Hebrews 13:16

M **30 Australia—Content and Publishing:** Please pray for Catherine Fuertes, who has recently begun the task of co-ordinating Bible production for BSA. Pray that the Scriptures she arranges to publish and print will be effective, as God's word always is, in bringing the message of Jesus around the world.

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