



**BIBLE SOCIETY**

# Prayer letter

August 2018

**W 1 Australia – Remote and Indigenous Ministries:** Praise God for the dedication of the Kunwinjku Shorter Bible today at the Gunbalanya Emmanuel Church in West Arnhem Land with Bishop Greg Anderson and Reverend Lois Nadjamerrek. Thank God for the efforts of the many Indigenous translators and the support of CMS (Church Missionary Society) finishing this translation.

**T 2 Australia – Missions:** Please pray for Bible Society's Masterclass for students in years 9-12 being held today in Albany, Western Australia. Pray that the teaching from Rory Shiner, Richard Shumack and Natasha Moore would help the build the young peoples' confidence in the Bible, encourage them to live out their faith and challenge them by exploring contemporary issues of faith and culture from a biblical prospective.

**F 3 Nicaragua:** Continue to pray for an end to the political unrest and violence in Nicaragua, and for peace, comfort and protection for all involved with the Hope and Smiles for Children with Cancer project. Praise God that the cards and gifts from Australia were able to



reach the patients in Nicaraguan hospitals. Praise God for little Fernando Cesar Sandoval Sánchez, who said: "I like these letters, because they are very beautiful and because I know they are praying, because I am sick and I need chemotherapy."

**S 4 Australia – Community Relations and Fundraising:** Pray for the Riverland Hymnfest taking place tomorrow at St Peter's Lutheran Church in Loxton, South Australia. Pray that all who attend would be encouraged as they sing praises to God and enjoy musical items. Pray that the support for BSA would be enthusiastic and generous.

**S 5 Word for the Week:** Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain. In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat – for he grants sleep to those he loves. Psalm 127:1-2

**M 6 Suriname:** Thank God for the Kids at Risk project which provides fun days for neglected, abused and vulnerable children in Suriname, as well as distributing school bags, school supplies and their very own Bible to the children. Siarra says, "I'm happy with the new schoolbag. I am also very happy with my own Bible because I have never had a Bible." Thank God for the support of the World Day of Prayer Australia for this project earlier this year.



**T 7 Australia – Mission:** Please pray for Bible Society's Masterclasses for students in years 9-12 taking place today in Sydney and on August 9 in Newcastle. Pray for the speakers, Dan Paterson, Richard Shumack, Patricia Weerakoon and Mike Hands, that they would be able to inspire, stretch and encourage the young people who attend.

**W 8 Australia – Mission:** Please pray for the Good Book Talks taking place tonight in Newcastle, NSW. Pray for the speakers, Dan Paterson, Mike Hands and Patricia Weerakoon, as they argue for the ongoing value of the Bible in areas of truth-telling, ethics and culture.

**T 9 Philippines:** Please pray for the Trauma Healing for Hurting Women Programme, which helps Filipino women who have suffered from trauma. Pray that

more women would find true and lasting comfort and safety, and be wholly restored in the community, move on in life, and experience life in all its fullness through knowing Jesus Christ.

**F 10 Publishing:** Please pray that the two recently-released Acorn books would be widely read and encourage many in their Christian walks. *Christ-Centred Mindfulness* by Katherine Thompson explains where the practice of 'mindfulness' has come from, and how we can make sure we focus on Christ, not self. *Character Reborn: a philosophy of Christian Education*, by James Pietsch reasserts that forming followers of Jesus is the true priority of schooling.

**S 11 Pakistan:** Please pray for the Beacon of Light women's literacy project, launched in 2014, as it seeks to tackle one of the outcomes of a social structure that suppresses women's rights. Thank God that the project is running smoothly and benefited more than 5600 women in 2017, and for the more than 25,000 women who have graduated from the literacy programme since it started. All these women can now read the Bible.



**S 12 Word for the Week:** So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13

**M 13 Australia – Church and Community relations:** Pray for Richard Allcock as he seeks support for the Remote and Indigenous Ministry project in the Catholic Dioceses of Sydney, Parramatta and Canberra. Please pray that God would give Richard many opportunities to speak within the Dioceses.

**T 14 Australia – Missions:** Please pray that the Good Book Talks taking place tonight in Adelaide would encourage and challenge those who attend. Pray for Simon Smart and Richard Shumack as they speak on the topics, 'Are we better off without Christianity?' and 'What is true Islam, and who is my Muslim neighbour?'

W **15 Australia – The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX):** As CPX negotiates for the distribution of the documentary *For the Love of God* in cinemas overseas (in the UK and the US in particular), please pray for a wide release and a real impact on people's perceptions of the church and of Jesus himself.

T **16 Cameroon:** Please ask God to bless the Bible work in this country and pray that his Word would reach the hearts of the entire population. Please pray for the Esther Project, a Bible-based trauma healing programme which helps vulnerable girls and refugees across Cameroon.

F **17 Australia – Donor Care team:** Pray for the Donor Care Team as they start to implement the plans to better communicate with and serve our donors. Please also pray that all those who support Bible Society with their donations would continue to be inspired and moved to support the mission of BSA.

S **18 Australia – Fundraising:** Please pray for Richard Allcock as he presents on the Remote and Indigenous Ministries (RIMS) project at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Carnes Hill NSW. Pray that those who hear will be moved by the project and will generously support the work of Bible Society Australia.

S **19 Word for the Week:** This is the meaning of the parable: the seed is the word of God...But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop. Luke 8:11,15

M **20 China:** Praise God for the millions of Bibles that are printed and distributed annually. Please that Scripture materials can be provided for the needy, including the sick, those hit by natural disasters, the less well off, and the physically disabled. Pray that the word of God will bring about transformation amongst China's millions.

T **21 Australia – Missions:** Please pray for the youth Masterclass taking place today, and for the Good Book Talks taking place this evening, at the Southport Church of Christ in QLD. Pray for the speakers, Simon Smart, Mike Hands and Justine Toh. Pray that the students at Masterclass would be challenged, and that those who attend the Good Book Talks would consider the ongoing value of the Bible in their lives.

W **22 Vietnam:** Please pray for the Bible-based Learning through Listening audio literacy programme in the rural areas of Vietnam.

Illiteracy is common amongst these minority groups and communities who do not have access to basic education. "One day, I will be able to read the whole Bible in Vietnamese and have full conversations in Vietnamese with confidence. I am learning for myself so that I can be a testimony for the Lord," says Lieu Thi Su.



T **23 Australia – Koorong:** Praise God for the provision of a new general manager, David Foster. Pray for David as he settles in to the role. Pray too for the store managers and other staff as they meet together this month in Sydney to be trained and encouraged in their work of resourcing the body of Christ in Australia.

F **24 South Africa:** Please pray for Bible Society's work amongst prisoners in South Africa. Through the Biblical Discipleship programme, the local Bible Society team is helping prison inmates engage with the Scriptures and gain a better understanding of what the Bible teaches on practical issues of Christian life. The team says, "We are grateful to you, Bible Society Australia, for assisting us with Bibles to place in our prisons. We are humbled by your generosity to us, and praise the Lord for you."

S **25 Australia – Community relations and fundraising:** Please pray for the Word Songwriting Showcase concert being held in Hobart tonight. Pray that many would be encouraged and that much support would be raised for the work of Bible Society Australia.

S **26 Word for the Week:** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. John 1:1-3

M **27 China:** Please pray for the work of Bible Society in China. Pray for the development of suitable pocket-sized Bible portions, some which are bilingual, designed specially to attract those who are interested in learning English. Pray that BSA would be able to continue raise support to supply Bibles for China's millions.

T **28 Australia – Missions:** Please pray for the Masterclass being held in Victoria today, at Heathdale Christian College. Pray for the speakers, Jordan Thyer, Natasha Moore and Patricia Weerakoon, as they encourage the young Christians attending on the day to live out their faith in their schools, churches, communities and homes.

W **29 South Sudan:** Please continue to pray for Bible Society's work in South Sudan. Praise God that the literacy project is helping Shilluk Christians to read the Bible in their own language, and will help Shilluk churches to reach out to the non-literate communities around them to read and understand the word of God.

T **30 Australia – Missions:** Please pray for the Good Book Talks being held tonight in Sydney. Pray for Greg Clarke as he speaks on 'The great Bible swindle' and Justine Toh as she speaks on 'Self-help as secular salvation'. Pray that many would attend and be challenged on the on-going relevance of the Bible in their life.

F **31 Community relations and fundraising:** Please pray and give thanks for the Australian Defence Force Chaplains of Tasmania. Today Jonathan Harris presents Commemorative Gallipoli Bibles to Chaplains in Hobart, along with the new waterproof Army Bibles to Army Commanders.

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