



BIBLE SOCIETY

Prayer letter

September 2018

S 1 Australia – Church and Community relations: Pray for events in Victoria taking place today and tomorrow: 'Basketball for Bibles' in Mildura, a basketball tournament to money for Bibles in China, and a dinner in Nhill to raise support for Bible work in Nicaragua through our *Get The Word Out* programme. Pray that the events would run smoothly, that great fellowship would be enjoyed and that much support would be raised for Bible work.

S 2 Word for the Week: You were taught...to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:23-24

M 3 Japan: Pray for the people of Japan, who have been hit by one weather disaster after another since the start of July, including fatal flooding in July and a record-breaking heat wave in early August during which many lost their lives. Please lift up Bible Society staff as they minister in this context of grief and turmoil.

T 4 Australia – Missions: Pray for the Good Book Talk, taking place today at Southern Christian College in Hobart. Pray that those who attend would be challenged by Patricia Weerakoon's talk and by the ongoing relevance of the Bible in areas of truth-telling, ethics and culture.

W 5 Suriname: Praise God for last month's Bible dedication, when the 75,000-strong Surinamese Javanese community received the first complete Bible in Surinamese Javanese. Continue to pray for the children in the Kids at Risk programme who are living in less than ideal situations, some in orphanages and safe homes, most having faced abuse. Pray that as each child is introduced to the God who loves and cares for them, they may seek a relationship with him.

T 6 Australia – Missions: Please pray for the public talk taking place tonight in Canberra. Pray that many would attend and be challenged by John Dickson as he weighs up the influence Christianity has had on the world we live in, and asks the question: if Christian history is full of violence and oppression, how can anyone still take Jesus seriously today?

F 7 Australia – Community Relations and Fundraising: Please pray for the annual Sing for Bibles concert this afternoon in Erina, on the NSW Central Coast. Pray that those who attend would take joy in the music, and that good support would be raised for Bible work in Nicaragua through our *Get The Word Out* programme.

S 8 International – Literacy Projects: Today, as we remember the International Day of Literacy, please pray for the Bible-based literacy programmes BSA supports: for women in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Tanzania and Pakistan; for young children in South Africa; for the marginalised in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Bangladesh. Pray that the ability to read God's word would change these people's lives.

S 9 Word for the Week: Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19

M 10 Australia – Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Give thanks to God for the positive reception of CPX's new documentary *For the Love of God*. Pray for churches and schools in particular as they use these resources to reach people sceptical about the church's record and encourage them to take another look at Jesus.

T 11 Laos: Pray for our literacy project as we record and edit new audio to match the new literacy textbook. Pray especially that God will use these efforts to bless the communities around Laos with the ability to read and, more importantly, saving faith in Christ. Pray

for Bible Society staff as they work on typesetting a new design for the 1973 version of the Lao New Testament, scheduled to be printed soon. Pray that God will give them wisdom and strength to complete the tasks set before them.



W 12 Australia – Donor Care: Please pray for our donor care team, that in their busyness, they remain focused on the mission of Bible Society Australia. Pray they take time to reflect and ask for God's guidance in their daily work.

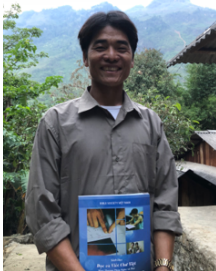
T 13 Pakistan: The Punjabi New Testament translation is in progress. Please pray that the Lord will help Bible Society staff to complete the audio and book formats, to reach both the illiterate and literate. Pray that God would grant staff the grace to persevere and complete this important project on time. Thank God also that the Women's Literacy Programme has had very good progress, teaching thousands of women to read and write.

F 14 Bangladesh: Continue to pray for our literacy programmes across Bangladesh, that God will guide the facilitators who lead the groups and the field supervisors who oversee their progress. Pray for our audio Bible listening programmes as listening devices are sent to rural churches so that people can listen to the Bible together. Pray that these communities will be blessed through God's word.

S 15 Australia – Events and Fundraising: Please pray for the Word Songwriting Showcase concert being held in Launceston tonight. Pray that many would be encouraged and that much support would be raised for the work of Bible Society Australia.

S 16 Word for the Week: Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1.

M 17 Vietnam: Pray for Bible distribution efforts in Vietnam, that God will connect Bible Society with more churches and bookshops. Also pray for the translation projects, that all the translators will be granted wisdom and knowledge to translate into their own language. Please pray for the Tay recording programme as they begin recording Luke's Gospel.



T 18 Australia – Koorong: During September and October Koorong is running 16 Colin Buchanan events around Australia. Please pray that Colin's music and speaking will impact on the thousands of children, parents and carers attending, as they hear the good news of Jesus' love. Pray that each concert would run smoothly and that Colin and the team would travel safely from venue to venue.

W 19 Cambodia: Thank God for the good feedback and fellowship for pastors, church leaders, and school principals at a recent literacy evaluation workshop, as well as the opportunity to hear about their challenges. Pray for continued good relations as Bible Society continues to work with, visit, and encourage them. Pray for the promotion of our hand-written Bible, that churches will be excited to get involved and donate to Bible mission work in Cambodia.



T 20 Australia – Publishing: Praise God for the recent acquisition of Morning Star Publishing into the Bible Society Australia Group. Pray for Bible Society Australia's work in publishing, that we would be able to build a sustainable publishing arm that serves the Australian Church and all interested in the Christian faith.

F 21 Australia – BSA group: The BSA board meets today. Pray for board chairman Anne Robinson and the directors as they deliberate and provide guidance to the executive team. Pray too for two new directors, Kate Harrison Brennan and Barry Morris, who were appointed to the board at the last meeting.

S 22 Australia – Community Relations and Fundraising: Please pray for the annual Hike for Bibles on the Bibbulmun Track in WA, which begins today and will run until September 25. Pray that those taking part would have a challenging and enjoyable experience hiking in God's creation, and that they would be well supported as they fundraise for the Bible Society's work supporting chaplains in hospitals, schools and the Australian Defence Forces.

S 23 Word for the Week: They waited for me as for showers and drank in my words as the spring rain. When I smiled at them, they scarcely believed it; the light of my face was precious to them. Job 29:23-24

M 24 Australia – Auslan Bible Translation: Yesterday was the International Day of Sign Languages. Please pray for the Auslan Bible Translation project, that it may keep pace with new technology and be made available as an app and for download. Pray that the word of God becoming available in Auslan would build up people's lives of faith.

T 25 South Pacific: Please pray for the translation work in progress and the digitisation of the Bible to make it available via the internet for wider audience reach. Pray for stability and security in the eastern parts of the Pacific as well as safe travel between the different island countries for all involved in this work. Pray that the spiritual lives of people in the Pacific may be strengthened by the provision of Scripture products, and that the people will be encouraged to read and understand God's word in their mother tongue.



W 26 Egypt: Pray for a better understanding of Scripture for those taking part in the literacy programme. Pray that the programme would increase and grow, despite the difficulties and security issues in the country. Pray for safety for all involved and that God would bless the new strategy coming into place to double the current numbers of participants.

T 27 Nicaragua: Please pray for the Hope and Smiles for Children with Cancer project. Pray for each child with cancer, that God will, according to his will, do healing work in each of their lives. Pray for the parents and family members of each child, that the

peace and hope of Jesus would be with them. Bless each project volunteer; increase their courage, faith, conviction and discernment to provide spiritual help, faith and hope through God's holy word to the children and their families.

F 28 Australia – Donor Care: Please pray for upcoming events, including the Global Leadership Summits, ACC Conference, Gathering2018, and our ongoing Thank You! Events for donors. Give thanks for all our long term, loyal, prayerful donors. Pray that God will raise up the next generation of donors to support our mission, and for wisdom in building a strategy to engage with Gen X, Y, Z and whatever comes after Z!

S 29 Iraq: Pray for Christian and other minority communities in Iraq who are under enormous pressure and are suffering daily hardships. Pray for Bible Society's holistic distribution project which is seeking to meet Christian communities' physical needs for food, medicines, and supplies as well as their spiritual needs. Pray that those in need would encounter God's love, and that other minority communities would also be reached. Pray for perseverance for Iraqi Christians, for courage for the people, and a strengthening of their faith through Scripture.

S 30 Word for the Week: Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. Hosea 6:3

* Please note

The August prayer newsletter incorrectly listed Wycliffe Bible Translators with the Kunwinjku Shorter Bible translation instead of CMS (Church Missionary Society). Bible Society Australia apologises for any confusion caused and is grateful for both of these mission partners with whom we work closely in Indigenous translation projects.

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

Bible Society

M: GPO Box 9874 In Your Capital City
E: bibles@biblesociety.org.au
P: 1300 BIBLES (1300 242 537)