



**BIBLE SOCIETY**

# Prayer letter

February 2019

**1 Suriname:** Thank God for the new Javanese Bible which has recently been published. This is the first Bible for the 75,000 Java people in Suriname. Please pray that the Java people will be drawn to the love of God through the power of Scripture. Pray also that God will bless the distribution efforts so that this Bible is made available to all in the Java community.

**2 Australia—Bike for Bibles:** Please pray for upcoming Bike for Bibles rides in February, March and October. Pray for the organisers in each state as they plan routes, put together many details and encourage riders to participate. Pray also for participants for courage and perseverance to reach their fundraising goals and fitness preparation.

**3 Word for the Week:** For this is what the high and exalted One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite. Isaiah 57:15

**4 Iraq:** Pray for people experiencing ongoing and devastating trauma as a result of the conflict in Iraq. Pray that Bible Society trauma healing programmes might be effective in easing their distress, healing their hurts and pointing them to the One who saves.

**5 Australia—The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX):** Please pray for the CPX team organising the annual Richard Johnson Lecture, to be held in March in Sydney and Melbourne. Please pray that many people would register to attend and for speaker Tim Dixon as he prepares his lecture.

**6 Singapore:** This year Singapore reflects on 200 years of history. Give thanks for Bible Society of Singapore's 182 years and pray for this year's programmes and events. Pray for continued development of Bible Society's digital presence, including the SOWGOOD app, and that the Bible will be accessible to all people wherever they are.

**7 Australia:** Give thanks that today the Bible Society Group, which includes Koorong, CPX, Eternity, Acorn Press and Morning Star Publishing, can gather to give thanks to God for all that was achieved in 2018 and be renewed and inspired as we seek God's guidance for 2019. Please pray for our staff members as we continue to champion the Bible to share the love of Jesus here in Australia and around the world.

**8 Syria:** Last Christmas and this coming Easter will see some of the biggest distributions of Scriptures that Bible Society Syria has ever undertaken. Ask God to bless each recipient with a revelation of himself and that these resources may be used to bring many into a relationship with Christ.

**9 Australia:** Please pray for continuing development of strong relationships between churches and Bible Society Australia, so that we can work together in championing the Bible to share the love of Jesus here and overseas. Pray that we can continue our life-changing initiatives to give God's word to those still waiting.

**10 Word for the Week:** Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Isaiah 58:6-7

**11 Malaysia:** Please pray for safe delivery and distribution of Arabic/English Bilingual Bibles for Migrant Ministry. Thank God for the completion of the Bahasa Malaysia formal translation of the New Testament and Wisdom books. Pray for a smooth process with printing and distribution, that many will soon engage deeper with God's word.

**12 Uganda:** Pray for the Bible Society of Uganda as they begin the revision of the Bible in the Ateso language. Pray for God's guidance and accuracy for the translation team as they work on this project.

**13 Australia—Koorong:** Praise God for pleasing Christmas sales results in a tough environment. Pray that resources purchased as gifts for others will bring the message of hope and salvation to those who do not know God, as well as reaffirm and instruct those who do. Pray also that in the current tough economic conditions God will give wisdom, patience, and a refreshment of passion for serving in all that staff do in and through Koorong.

**14 Egypt:** Thank God for the thousands of young Egyptians who have grown in understanding of the Bible through Bible World, an interactive journey of discovery. The current tour was written and produced 10 years ago and there is an urgent need to develop it with updated technology and materials. Please pray for this updating and continued engagement of young people through Bible World.



**15 Scotland:** Please pray that Scottish Bible Society staff can respond well to ever-changing demands and challenges and that all their work will honour God. Give thanks for the successful trial run of the new Scripture-based literacy programme. Pray that this will be effective in improving children's literacy skills and that it will bring them closer to God as they learn about Jesus.

**16 Australia:** Thank God for supporters of Bible ministry. Please pray for each Donor Care team member, that they will be able to continue building enduring relationships which honour and encourage their supporters, resource Bible Society Australia and bring glory to God.

**17 Word for the Week:** Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. Isaiah 58:8

**18 West Indies:** Give thanks for the Bible Society of West Indies as they distribute 2,000 Bibles to children in hospitals and children's homes throughout Jamaica. Pray that young lives will be transformed as they read about the wonderful message of God's love for them in the Bible.

**19 Cambodia:** Please pray for new Bible Society projects in 2019, including literacy, Children of the Word, Living Word for All and the Khmer Study Bible. Also, pray for the new Scripture translation project in Kravet, a minority language, pray for recruiting and training of translators and establishing an office in the provinces.

**20 Australia—Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support:** We thank God for the Pitjantjatjara Old Testament Translation Project checking workshop, held from 14–18 January. At these workshops the translation is read and checked to ensure both the original meaning is conveyed and that the language used is clear and easily understood by Pitjantjatjara speakers. Please continue to pray for this very significant translation project as work continues in 2019 and beyond.

**21 Azerbaijan:** Christians are a small minority in Muslim majority Azerbaijan. Pray for the publication and distribution of Bibles to those in need.



**22 Cyprus:** Praise God for the New Testament distributed by the Ministry of Education in schools. Pray students will be drawn to God's word. Pray for Bible Society to grow in strength and effectiveness as they seek to increase Bible distribution and engagement.

**23 Australia—Missions team:** Please pray for Ignition, that it will lead to growth in church unity and youth evangelism across Australia. Pray that more churches will apply to run Ignition youth events in many locations around Australia.

**24 Word for the Week:** Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." Genesis 1:26

**25 Vietnam:** Give thanks to the Lord for the new office in Hanoi. Please pray Bible Society can show God's love in the neighbourhood. Thank God for progress of translation work of the New Testament for two minority languages in North Vietnam checking process.

**26 Australia—Publishing:** Please keep the publishing team in your prayers as they work on some major projects due by mid-year. Pray that the projects will not be impacted by delays and that many people will be blessed as they read our books.

**27 Armenia:** Please pray for new Bible Society projects aimed at capacity building and raising awareness of the Bible, producing the Audio Bible, engaging more children with God's word, and providing teachers with their own Bibles.



**28 Malawi:** Pray for the ongoing development of Bible Society resources and materials for children. Pray that these will encourage many to engage with the word of God and lay a solid foundation for the faith of many throughout Malawi.

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