



BIBLE SOCIETY

Prayer letter

April 2019

1 China: Please pray as Bible Society seeks to support newly graduated Chinese pastors and preachers, to reduce the financial pressure in their first year of ministry. Pray that this project would help to establish and sustain leaders in their roles. Pray that graduates would persevere in their ministry calling, especially those who are serving in rural churches.

2 Australia – Grants Programme: Pray that we can find, connect with and support more parachurch ministries and chaplains engaging people with God’s word around the country.

3 Mozambique: Please continue to pray for Central Mozambique, which was badly hit by tropical Cyclone Idai in March. Beira, the capital of Sofala province, was drastically affected. Many people have died and many more are injured and displaced. Please pray for Bible Society’s six staff who are well but very traumatised. Bible Society’s Beira depot was destroyed and the Scripture stock in the warehouse lost. Bible translation equipment was also badly damaged. The Mission Educate literacy project which Bible Society supports, based in Beira, is now unable to run and it is unknown when it will resume. Please pray for students and facilitators of the literacy project living in Beira. Please pray for God’s intervention to save his people and heal the trauma caused by this tragic natural disaster.

4 Philippines: Pray for the Philippines Bible Society as they extend genuine compassion to abused and hurting women, in the spirit of God’s grace and love. Pray for the Trauma Healing for Hurting Women Programme, which offers counselling and healing. Pray for the training of facilitators and for those who will participate in the programme, that they would experience God’s love and healing.

5 Australia – Local Mission: Thank God for the opportunity for Bible Society to partner with Alpha Australia this year. Over 90 Alpha leaders have requested Bibles to distribute to people attending their courses. Please pray that these Bibles would encourage and equip people in their faith journey.

6 South Africa: Pray for those working to offer hope with God’s powerful word in some of South Africa’s darkest places – its prisons. Pray for those working with World Hope International as they seek to reach prisoners with the knowledge and hope that they too can experience a personal relationship with Jesus as their Saviour. Pray that prisoners would engage with the Scriptures through understandable teaching on practical issues of Christian life, as the Bible Discipleship Courses run in prisons across South Africa.



7 Word of the week: ...Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage... being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Philippians 2:6,8

8 Australia – Donor Care and Fundraising: Please pray for our teams across Australia who travel extensively in the support and service of our individual donors and churches, keep them safe and well-rested, and their families blessed during their absences.

9 Cambodia: Pray for the work of Bible Society in Cambodia, as we seek to make the word of God available to all throughout the country, including remote and rural areas and among the very poor. Please pray that God’s word will bring salvation to those experiencing poverty, bringing transformation to their personal lives and to their communities.

10 Australia - Strategic Partnerships: Planetshakers conference in Melbourne from today until the 13th and again in Brisbane on the 16th – 18th of April. Please pray that Bible Society’s presence at the conferences, and our participation, would speak boldly of our work and its importance. Pray that many would be inspired by our work and would be encouraged to support Bible Society into the future.

11 Bangladesh: Please pray for the Bangladesh Bible Society, who are working with the local church to reach adults who cannot read or write, and invite them to learn so that they are able to read the Bible for themselves and gain literacy skills that will help them in the rest of their daily lives. Please pray especially for those who successfully completed the two-year course and are now able to read the Bible, that they may help other believers who still cannot read or write.

12 Australia – Remote and Indigenous Ministry Support: Pray for the Kriol Audio Recordings, a workshop is scheduled in Beswick next week. Pray for the recordist Peter Hacquoil as he masters the final edits for the New Testament and also as he records the book of Psalms. Pray also for the Kriol readers and their families and for those involved in organising the logistics for this workshop. It is hoped these recording will be available in various formats for the Katherine Christian Convention (KCC) in early May.

13 Lebanon: Please pray for Bible Society Lebanon as they aim to provide children in underprivileged communities in Lebanon – including refugee communities – with a Bible-based literacy course designed to help them back into the formal education system. Please pray that Bible Society will be able to show God’s love to children who have come from desperate situations. Pray also that more children will remember their love of learning and be encouraged and enabled to go back to school.

14 Word of the Week: For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14

15 Australia – Centre for Public Christianity: Please pray for the work of CPX in the lead up to Easter and over the Easter weekend, that their words and presence would have a positive impact in the mainstream media.

16 Slovenia: Please pray for Bible Society's work in Slovenia, training and equipping people to facilitate trauma healing sessions for Slovenians who face various traumas such as violence, abuse, suicide, divorce, alcoholism, depression, post-war wounds and division. Pray especially for Slovenian women to experience the freedom of finding the love and truth of God, and that the Bible Society of Slovenia will continue reaching many hearts with hope and healing.

17 Australia – Publishing: Please pray for the Bible publishing meeting today as the team considers new Bible projects. Please pray for wisdom as they make decisions on practical matters such as print run quantities and choice of cover design.

18 Egypt: Pray for Bible Society's work in Egypt, as they seek to develop a lifestyle of literacy for students of all ages and prevent a relapse into illiteracy. Please pray for a better understanding of the Scriptures for all students who take part in this project. Pray also for security and a continued increase and growth in the programme, despite the political uncertainty and upheaval of the country.

19 Australia: Pray that opportunities Bible Society has taken to support churches this Easter would bear fruit, as Christians show forth God's glory at this important time in the church calendar. Pray especially for the impact of the little book distributed by Bible Society, *The Seriously Surprising Story*, that many children and families would be impacted by the Bible's story of Easter and its message of life.

20 Iraq: Pray for Bible Society workers seeking to support Christians under pressure in Iraq. By distributing Scriptures and relief packages that provide for physical needs, including food, medicines and hygiene supplies, Bible Society hopes to encourage a dwindling Christian population to persevere in the faith. Pray that Iraqi Christians will persevere during these difficult times, and will not lose trust in God. Pray for courage for the people and for a strengthening of their faith through Scripture. Pray that refugee and displaced families will have the chance to return to their homes in the future.

21 Word of the Week: Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last. The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, 'Surely this was a righteous man.' Luke 23:46-47

22 Australia – Senior Leadership: Pray for the Senior Leadership team as they prepare the budget for the new financial year. Pray for wisdom, careful discernment and good stewardship. Please also pray for them and their teams as the annual event season commences.

23 Australia – Strategic Partnerships: C3 Presence conference runs from today until the 26th. Please pray for Bible Society's involvement, that our participation would boldly speak of our work and its importance. Please pray that we would be able to garner support for Bible work from those at the conference, and into the future.

24 Suriname: Please pray for the work of Bible Society in Suriname, as workers visit children in schools and orphanages for annual days of celebration around the Bible. These days will include praise and worship, dance and drama. Pray for children in Suriname who have experienced abuse, that they will find the love of God even in desperate situations. Please pray for the children who live in orphanages and safe homes that they can have a relationship with the living God and experience him as their Father.

25 Australia – Donor Care: Please pray for the Donor Care team as they look to further build relationships with their donors which honour them and allow them to express their passion for BSA through their giving.

26 Nicaragua – Hope and Smile for Children with Cancer: In the words of those running this project: "Lord, we pray that you extend Your loving hands to each child who suffers cancer and according to your will you can do the healing work in each of them... Please release their parents from their pain and with your love and mercy be with them at all times. Bless each volunteer who assists the children; increase them courage, faith, conviction and discernment to provide parents spiritual help, faith and hope through your holy word."



27 Australia – Koorong: With the upcoming federal election, please pray that Koorong's trade is not unduly disrupted with the uncertainty that surrounds future policy implementation. Pray that the Koorong staff team will remain focussed on God's mission knowing that he is always in control.

28 Word of the Week: With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all. Acts 4:33

29 China: Pray that much support can be raised to provide paper for the printing of Bibles, and for the distribution of Bibles to a growing number of Christians in China. Please pray for the millions of poor rural Christians who still do not have their own Bible, that they would receive one through this work. Pray that each Christian who receives a copy of the Bible would read and understand the Word of God, and be transformed, growing in their understanding of Jesus Christ. Pray that each non-believer or seeker who receives a copy of the Bible has their heart opened to the word of God.

30 Australia - Bibles in Schools programme: Pray for God's blessings on all the Scripture teachers and children in SRE classes who will be opening up the Bible together this year. Pray the Holy Spirit will touch the children's hearts as they read God's word. Please pray also that the classroom sets of borrow Bibles are read and enjoyed by the younger children. Pray that God will help them grasp his wonderful salvation plan and saving work.

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)