



**BIBLE SOCIETY**

# Prayer letter

July 2019

**1 Mozambique – Literacy for Life:** Cyclone Idai decimated the city of Beira back in March, and the BSA-funded literacy classes were forced to cease as a result of damage to churches. Praise God that BSA was able to supply emergency funding to Mission Educate (who runs the literacy project) to rebuild the lost churches and replace all the literacy materials, books and Bibles for every student. Thank God especially for the donors who contributed to the emergency funding.



**2 Australia – Community relations and fundraising:** Pray for two NSW Thank You events being held today in Katoomba and tomorrow in Penrith. Pray for BSA staff travelling to speak at these events and that God would be glorified through the Bible stories that are shared.

**3 China – Affordable Bibles for the Millions in China:** Bible Society seeks to provide Bible paper to support the church in China with printing and distributing Bibles. Pray that Bibles will be made available to the growing number of Chinese Christians, and that Bible Society will be able to support the church by sharing the Word of God. Pray that free Bibles can be provided to those who cannot afford to buy their own.

**4 Australia – Senior Leadership:** Following Greg Clarke’s departure as CEO at the end of June, pray for the BSA Exec team during this transition. Pray for Melissa Lipsett as she leads the organisation as Acting CEO, and for the Board as they search for a new CEO.

**5 Mongolia:** Bible Society is working to develop a New Testament that can be used by the deaf, to help them understand God’s word. Pray that the project runs smoothly and can meet all expected deadlines. Pray that many more Mongolians would be reached with the love of God and enjoy access to his word.

**6 Australia – Bibles in Schools:** Pray that children in SRE will come to realise that they can both know about God and know God in a personal relationship by reading from his word. Pray that they will learn that the Bible is important to listen to and is trustworthy. Pray that they will have a desire to read the scriptures for themselves now and into adulthood.

**7 Word of the Week:** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

**8 Australia – Donor Care:** Pray for wisdom as the donor care team plans donor engagements for the new financial year. Pray that the team will always honour and engage supporters, understand their passions for BSA and keep them updated.

**9 Literacy for Women in Africa – Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi:** Pray as Bible Society seeks to train 1600 literacy facilitators and 16 literacy supervisors for this non-formal education programme, reaching 20,000 women and girls in eastern and southern Africa. Pray that national literacy coordinators for each of the four Bible Societies can be appointed and mentored. Pray for the international consultants as they mentor staff and guide the training workshops.

**10 RIMS (Australia):** Pray for two Pitjantjatjara Translation Workshops being held in July. The first will be a front translator workshop with Translation Consultant Carl Gross in Caloote, South Australia. The second will be a community check of the book of Judges, held in Port Adelaide. Pray that both workshops would give support and encouragement to the translators.

**11 Myanmar:** Bible Society of Myanmar has committed to making the Bible available to every language group in Myanmar. Please pray that ethnic minority groups would be able to read the Word of God in their native language, understand it clearly and grow in the knowledge of God. Pray that, in cooperation with churches and other organisations, Bible Society of Myanmar would oversee the translation projects well, and that these minority ethnic groups would receive the Bible in their own languages as soon as possible.

**12 Australia – Koorong:** As the new financial year begins, please give thanks with us for a fiscal year where God has blessed us with abundance despite difficult economic times. Please give thanks for the diligence of the store teams who undertook stocktaking in the preceding period.

**13 Lebanon – Literacy skills for refugees and underprivileged communities:** Thank God for this project, which aims to help children in underprivileged communities in Lebanon (including refugee communities) back into the formal education system through a Bible-based literacy course. Pray that Bible Society will be able to show God’s love to children who have come from desperate situations. Pray that more children will remember their love of learning and be encouraged and enabled to go back to school.

**14 Word of the Week:** Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

**15 Hong Kong:** Please pray for the Hong Kong Bible Society as they prepare to participate in the annual Hong Kong Book Fair from 17-23 July. Bible Society’s booth at this major event will have three sections to reflect the theme “Past. Present. The Future”. Pray that the display of Bibles will have an impact on those attending, and that God’s word will go out.

**16 Australia – Community relations and fundraising:** Pray for two Thank You events in NSW, today in Dubbo and tomorrow in Tamworth. Pray for BSA staff travelling to speak at these events and that

God would be glorified through the Bible stories that are shared.

**17 Cambodia – Learning through Listening:** Pray for this empowering project, which aims to provide literacy skills to 5000-6000 students, particularly in rural Cambodia. Pray that with increased literacy more people will read the Scriptures for their own personal growth and contribute more effectively to their communities. Pray for protection and strength for staff and volunteers, and that churches will be diligent in recruiting and training volunteers so that more classes can be offered. Pray that God will continue to transform rural communities through the literacy projects.



**18 Australia – Publishing:** The publishing team meets today for their monthly meetings to review submitted manuscripts and production schedules. Please pray for wisdom in selecting manuscripts that will encourage and edify readers and for expertise in managing the logistics of production.

**19 Philippines – Trauma Healing for Hurting Women:** This project aims to help Filipino women who have suffered trauma through domestic and other forms of violence by leading them in healing sessions and introducing them to the Scriptures as the ultimate source of comfort, hope and peace. Pray for the selection and training of suitable facilitators, the printing and effective distribution of course materials, and for the selection of the most appropriate beneficiaries who have experienced trauma and need counselling and healing.

**20 Australia – Koorong:** Pray that the launch of our new website in the month ahead goes well and that any glitches may be sorted out quickly. Pray that we can continue to prosper through

servicing our existing customers and new customers with the resources they need in this new fiscal year and that God would give us good stewardship over our resources.

**21 Word of the Week:** For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives... Colossians 1:9

**22 Australia – Strategic Partnerships:** Pray for the Global Leadership Summit today in Melbourne and tomorrow on the on the Gold Coast, where Craig Groeschel will be appearing as part of GLS Plus. Pray that Craig's talks will move delegates to further investigate the Christian faith, and encourage them in the leadership roles wherever they are.

**23 Australia – Community relations and fundraising:** Pray for two Thank You events in South Australia, today in Adelaide and tomorrow in Mt Gambier. Pray for BSA staff travelling to speak at these events and that God would be glorified through the Bible stories that are shared.

**24 Philippines – Trauma Healing for Hurting Women:** Praise God for the 23 women who joined the two healing group sessions in January and February, and the seven who also attended equipping training. Most participants are church leaders who are very thankful that they gained knowledge and understanding about receiving true healing from trauma. Praise God that most expressed their desire to adopt this programme in their own church ministries.

**25 Australia – Local Mission:** Pray for the youth Masterclass events planned to begin next month. Pray for the speakers as they prepare their talks, for the teams as they plan the 10 events and the livestream, and for energy and safety as the team and speakers travel across the country for the events.

**26 Cambodia – Learning through Listening:** Praise God for students who have enrolled in new classes, and for new villages which have been reached. Give thanks for the connections made with local pastors and leaders in these new villages. Pray that God will use the programme to bring salvation to students and spiritual growth to believers.

**27 Australia – CPX:** Give thanks for two new CPX staff members, Anthea Godsmark (podcast producer) and Mark Stephens (research fellow).

Pray that they would settle in quickly and that God would guide them in their work.

**28 Word of the Week:** ...that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience. Colossians 1:10-11

**29 Literacy for Women in Africa – Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi:** Pray for these four Bible Societies, that they will be provided with the necessary skills and expertise that are required to implement comprehensive literacy projects for minority languages. Pray as they recruit staff to lead and develop the programme. Please pray for the local church partners as they implement the literacy classes at the local level.

**30 Iraq:** Bible Society is at work in this country. Please 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.

**31 China:** Pray for the growing population of Christians in China, that God's word would be "...a lamp to (their) feet and a light to (their) path" (Psalm 119:105). Pray for each Christian who receives a copy of the Bible that they may read and understand the Word of God and be nurtured and transformed. Pray for each non-believer or seeker who receives a copy of the Bible, that their hearts will be opened to the Word of God. Pray that the Word of God will help the reader to grow in understanding and belief in Jesus Christ.

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