



BIBLE SOCIETY

Prayer letter

September 2019

1 Word for the week: “See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come...” Song of Songs 2:11-12a

2 Nicaragua – Hope and Smiles for Children with Cancer: Please pray that children suffering from cancer in Nicaragua will be impacted by Bible Society’s work and will know God’s love through his word. Pray that their parents will feel God’s love and put their trust in him. Pray for each volunteer at the La Mascota hospital, that they will be blessed as they share God’s word with the children and their parents.



3 Australia – Community Relations: Please pray for the thank you events in Adelaide North today, Loxton tomorrow, and Barossa Valley the day after. Pray that the stories shared would be encouraging and that God would be glorified. Please pray also for the youth Masterclasses being held in Canberra and Albany WA on 5 September. Pray that the students who attend will be both encouraged and challenged as they seek to live out their Christian faith.

4 Lebanon – Literacy Skills for Refugees: Pray for this project which seeks to reach refugee children, as well as children of the underprivileged communities that are hosting them. Pray that the project will provide a safe and loving environment where the children can benefit from literacy courses based on Bible stories, to help them get back to the formal education system.

5 Australia – Church Relations: Please pray for the ACC Indigenous Conference held at Gangallah Church Tweed Heads beginning tomorrow and running until 7 September. Pray for a significant attendance, and that emerging leaders can use their voices to bring forward fresh and innovative ideas to keep the gospel spreading among Indigenous communities.

6 Syria – Trauma Healing for the Syrian Community: Please pray for the Trauma Healing Seminars which equip local churches to run their own Trauma Healing Centres. Pray that these churches will be able to reach out to their communities and support people dealing with the experience of trauma. Please pray for the trainers, trainees, and participating families. Pray for the leaders to facilitate this program with wisdom. Please also pray for political stability to enable them to complete the program successfully.

7 Australia – Fundraising: Please pray for tomorrow’s Adelaide Hymnfest. Pray that many would attend, that logistics would run smoothly, that generous funds would be raised for Bible work, and that the cathedral would be filled with worship!

8 Word for the week: “Whoever... sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.” Galatians 6:8

9 Pakistan – Beacon of Light in the Darkness of Illiteracy: Please continue to pray as Christian women acquire the ability to read and write, empowering them to hold greater influence and impact in their households and communities, and equipping them to read and understand the Bible better. Thank God for the progress this year, with 240 classes running mostly in

remote areas, villages and among the brick kiln workers. Thank God for the 12 churches and organisations who are partners in the project this year.

10 Australia – The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX): Please pray that CPX’s weekly podcast, *Life & Faith*, will reach a wide audience and that through it many will discover the surprising ways the Christian faith illuminates the world we live in.

11 Cambodia – Children of the Word: Please pray for this project, seeking to distribute Scripture in schools. Please pray for Bible Society Cambodia, as staff support young people’s spiritual development, and encourage healthy decision making. Pray that many schools will open their doors to receive the materials, and that school principals and local authorities will be supportive. Pray for the school children and youth, that their hearts will be open to God’s word and that their lives will be transformed.

12 Australia – Publishing: Give thanks for the launch of *Metanoia* by Anna McGahan at the end of last month. Pray for the events this month promoting the book and giving Anna the opportunity to share her story; pray that many lives will be touched.

13 Cameroon – Holistic Literacy: Please pray for the two people groups in Cameroon which attend these Bible-based literacy classes, that as well as being able to read the Bible and deepen their faith, they would gain a valuable general knowledge about respect for others, human rights, the harmful effects of violence, and health and sexuality, so their way of life may be improved.

14 Australia – Bibles in Schools: Give thanks that through this grant Scripture teachers have been supplied with Bibles for their classrooms. Pray that the children reading the Bible will be touched by the truth and beauty of the gospel and meet the great ‘I AM’ for themselves.

15 Word for the week: “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these.” Matthew 6:28-29

16 Myanmar – Learning Through Listening: Please pray for the Sgaw Karen and Asho Chin ethnic groups, as well as Myanmar native speakers, as this project seeks to increase their literacy using audio material. Please pray that the program will be well established in the rural villages and accepted by the

people. Pray also that this project will play a vital role in bringing the gospel to seekers, especially by distributing the Bibles, comics and New Reader materials.

17 Australia – Community Relations: Please pray for the two NSW thank you events in Hornsby tomorrow and Gordon the day after. Pray that all will be encouraged by the stories of how God is working through Bible Society and that God would be glorified.

18 South Africa – If You Can Read, You Can Learn: Thank God that Bible Society is working to offer hope with God’s powerful word through South Africa’s greatest chance for the future – its children. Please pray for this project which is teaching basic literacy skills to children from pre-school to Grade 2 in disadvantaged areas. Pray that this project will go on to assist the children greatly with their formal education through the school system and give them an understanding of the Bible at a very early age.

19 Australia – Fundraising: Please pray for the Sing for Bibles event on the Central Coast of NSW at Kincumber Anglican Church on this coming Sunday. Pray that this inter-denominational event would be inspiring and unifying for all who participate and attend.

20 South Africa – Spiritual Care Drives Rehabilitation: Praise God for the opportunity to enter South African prisons and preach God’s word. Thank him that prisons are open to their inmates receiving the Bible and learning from it. Pray for the leaders from World Hope Ministries as they facilitate the discipleship course in the prisons, that they may be wise in leading prisoners to the Lord. Pray that lives will be changed in South Africa’s prisons as eyes and ears are opened to the word of God.

21 Australia – Mission: Please pray for the group from Australia departing for the Great Wall of China trek today. Pray that as they visit China over the next nine days and challenge themselves trekking the Great Wall, that they would be blessed by their efforts to raise funds to help provide Bibles to the exponentially growing number of Christians in China. Pray for safety and a wonderful and inspiring trip.

22 Word for the week: “...the cooing of doves is heard in our land. The fig tree forms its early fruit; the blossoming vines spread their fragrance.” Song of Songs 2:12b-13a

23 China – Scripture Literacy for Illiterates: Please pray for the literacy classes that help rural Christians read the Bible so that they can come to a deeper understanding of the Christian faith. Pray that the classes will give them a better grounding in the word of God.

24 Australia – RIMS: Pray for the translation of the Book of Ruth into the Nyoongar language of south west Western Australia in the region around Perth, as Bible Society offers support to the local Nyoongar translators through Bible Translation Consultant Rev Dr John Harris. We pray this translation will bring healing and restoration to a language group that was forbidden to speak their language and have suffered so much.

25 South Africa – George Whitfield College: Please pray for Bible Society as they partner with this Bible college in supplying Greek and Hebrew Bibles to theology students from different African language backgrounds. Pray as the College seeks to improve the quality of all translation work being undertaken so it can deliver much needed services to pastors and church leaders throughout Africa.

26 Australia – Mission: Please pray for those embarking on the 72km Bibbulmun Track trek for Bibles today in WA and continues until 1 October. Thank God for the trekkers’ willingness to raise funds for Bible work and for the generosity of their sponsors. Pray for safety as they complete the challenging trek, that they would be blessed by the experience and be encouraged by their participation in supporting the Bible cause, helping to supply Bibles to chaplains serving in hospitals, emergency services, prisons and the Armed Services.

27 Lebanon – Literacy for Refugees:

Please pray for the many refugee children like sisters Darine and Asraa, whose formal education came to a halt when they arrived in Lebanon. Their mother said, “When we first came here, they didn’t know how to read or write. But now after going to school, they know how to read and write. Thank God they’re in a much better state than when we first arrived here.” Thank God for the



school these sisters are now enrolled in, a school for refugees set up by a church in Zahle which adopted the Bible Society Arabic literacy program for children who are behind in their education.

28 Australia – Senior Leadership Team: Please pray for the senior leadership team and acting CEO Melissa Lispett. Give thanks that the work continues in a ‘business as usual’ mode as everyone presses on to do the work God has prepared for us.

29 Word for the week: “Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?” Matthew 6:26

30 Nicaragua – Hope and Smiles for Children with Cancer: Continue to pray for 8-year-old Martha Pastran and her mother, Maritza, who live in Puerto Cabeza, Nicaragua. They experienced the Bible Society ministry at La Mascota hospital when Martha underwent treatment four months ago for a tumour in her kidneys. The team prayed for Martha, and after several visits Maritza gave her heart to Jesus. She began to feel peace and learned to leave her worries to God. Maritza says, “My life has changed with the Bible, because the Bible is an instrument of God in my life, it helps me to have peace.”

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