



BIBLE SOCIETY

Prayer letter

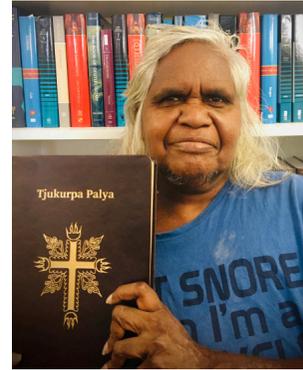
April 2020

1 Australia: As this month begins, please pray for all those around our country and the world who are suffering due to the coronavirus pandemic. Pray for those who are suffering from the virus; for those out of work, or suffering hardship as a result of the sickness and shutdowns; and for those who feel hopeless in the face of the current crisis. Pray that God would be our refuge and strength in this time.

2 Australia – Partnerships: During these challenging times of coronavirus event cancellations, please pray for Bible Society’s partnership with churches and conferences. Pray that many great connections can still be made and that many people would learn about the opportunity to support Bible work in Australia and around the world through BSA’s regular giving program, Bible for Life.

3 Worldwide: Please pray for Bible Society work worldwide, that vital project work can continue with urgency in the face of the coronavirus pandemic, as people need to have the hope that the Bible brings more than ever. Pray that all Bible Society work in translating, producing, distributing and helping people engage with God’s word may be well supported and overcome every obstacle to reach people with God’s love.

4 Australia – RIMS: Please thank God for the revised Pitjantjatjara Shorter Bible (Tujurka Palya). Thank God for all those involved in this translation; pray that they would be able to celebrate this significant achievement. Pray for the distribution of these Bibles to communities across the APY Lands of Central Australia later this year.



5 Word for the Week: Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6.

6 China – Engagement: Please be in prayer for our Christian brothers and sisters in China, especially amidst the suffering and upheaval caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Please also pray for the Scripture Literacy project, that it may continue to run despite all disruptions, offering literacy classes to help rural Christians read the Bible so that they can come to a deeper understanding of the Christian faith.

7 Australia – Koorong: In the lead-up to Easter, Koorong is promoting resources and Bibles so many may know the true message of God’s love and grace in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Pray that the Koorong teams give God the glory in all that they do and that they keep our focus on him to steward our resources well and be of great service.

8 China – Production: Pray for the work of producing affordable Bibles for Christians in China. As the number of Christians continues to grow, there is still a great need for more Bibles to be printed and distributed. Pray that support would be raised to subsidise the cost of printing these Bibles for Chinese Christians, making them affordable, and where necessary, free to those who can’t afford to purchase their own copy of God’s word.

9 Australia – CPX: Please pray that CPX work in the mainstream media over the Easter period will have an enduring and lasting impact, and that through their content many people would engage with the message of Jesus’ death and resurrection.

10 Egypt – Engagement: Please pray for newly literate school children and adults who participate in Bible Society’s post literacy project in Egypt, that they will develop a lifestyle of literacy. Thank God that through the project, they have access to God’s word, and are being helped to understand and comprehend the message of God’s love.

11 Australia – Leadership team: Please pray for Bible Society Australia’s leadership team, Grant Thomson (Chief Executive Officer), Melissa Lipsett (Chief Operating Officer), Malcolm North (Chief Financial Officer), David Foster (Chief Retail Officer), Scott Walters (Chief Fundraising Officer), Penny Mulvey (Chief Communications Officer) and John Park (Chief Technical Officer) as they lead BSA’s mission forward, seeking to impact and influence Australia and the world by ‘Opening The Bible’ to all people everywhere by all means possible.

12 Word for the week: “He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.” Matthew 28:6.

13 Australia – Donor Support: Please pray for all our supporters in this time of the coronavirus crisis. Pray that we all would be convicted of the need to stay generous in the midst of these confusing and difficult times, and remain strong in the support of Bible Society work, so that BSA may continue to open the Bible to those who need it the most. Thank God for BSA’s faithful supporters.

14 Australia – BSA Staff: Please pray for the BSA team – including volunteers and customers at Koorong stores around the country – as the COVID-19 outbreak continues. Please pray for wisdom, protection and good health.

15 Cambodia – Engagement: Praise God for the Learning through Listening literacy program, which has been running in Cambodia for over 10 years. In that time, it is estimated that approximately 46,000 previously illiterate people have learned to read. Thank God that these people have been empowered to read the Scriptures for their own personal growth and to contribute more effectively to their communities.

16 Australia – RIMS: Pray for the Diploma of Bible Translation students who will be completing a study intensive at Nungalinya College in Darwin. Pray that as they learn about the key principles of Bible Translation, they will be inspired to continue translating the Bible into their own heart languages.

17 South Pacific and PNG – Capacity Building: Please pray for the work of Bible Society in the South Pacific and Bible Society of Papua New Guinea. Pray that Bible Society Australia would be able to support and encourage the work of Bible Society in the region, as they seek to translate, distribute and engage people with God's word.



18 Cameroon – Engagement: Please pray for Project Esther, which works to offer support services to young mothers and those who have experienced sexual abuse or exploitation. Pray for these girls and young women, that they may find a way forward free of distress and healed from that trauma. Thank God that this project is reaching the lives of hundreds of women who need additional support.

19 Word for the week: Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;” John 11:25

20 Syria – Engagement: Please pray for the country of Syria, where violence and conflict has led to growing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, and a great need for trauma-

healing programs. Please pray for the Bible Society in Syria's Trauma Healing Seminars. Pray that the training program will equip people and promote individual and family restoration. Thank God for the participant who said, “Attending the healing group was like a restart to my life...the Psalms gave us such a relief from our grief. Jesus had helped both me and my Mum to be set free.”

21 Australia – Community relations: Please pray for supporters of Bible Society in Sydney's Eastern suburbs, that they would be encouraged and inspired by Bible Society's work and mission, even in the absence of the planned Thank You event which had to be postponed.

22 Vietnam – Engagement: Please continue praying for the significant number of people in rural areas and among minority ethnic groups who do not have access to education. Thank God for the Learning through Listening project, which was set up in response to the needs of illiterate Christians who want to read God's Word. Praise God for the opportunity to learn to read the Scriptures and be equipped to contribute to the development of their communities.

23 Australia – Publishing: Please pray as Bible Society Australia develops a new youth Bible that will guide and grow young people. Pray for wisdom, direction and good partnerships throughout the whole process, so many young people may be encouraged by reading the Bible.

24 Iraq – Distribution: Please pray for the thousands of Christians who have had to leave their homes due to sectarian violence, fleeing to other areas of the country. Pray that Christian communities in Iraq would be encouraged as Bible Society seeks to address their physical needs for food, medicines, and supplies as well as their spiritual needs to encounter God's love through the provision of Bibles and scriptures.

25 Australia – Grants: Pray today for Bible Society's partnership with the ADF, in supplying Bibles to those serving our country in the Defence Forces. Thank God for the privilege of being involved in the amazing work he continues to do in the hearts and minds of the ADF. Praise the Lord for the chaplains and pray for more seeds to germinate and grow in our service men and women.

26 Word for the Week: If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9.

27 Lebanon – Engagement: Please pray for Syrian and Iraqi refugee children in Lebanon, who face many challenges when it comes to enrolling into the school system. Many won't make it back to formal education and some have never been in a classroom. Pray for Bible Society's project, which is providing a Bible-based literacy course designed to help the children back into the formal education system.

28 Australia – Fundraising: Thank God for the success of the Autumn appeal for Remote and Indigenous Ministry support. Praise God for the encouraging responses, and pray that people would continue to give generously to enable the important work of Bible translation into indigenous languages to continue.

29 Pakistan – Engagement: Pray that participants in the Beacon in the Darkness literacy project would be empowered in their everyday lives with reading and writing skills. Pray too that they would be empowered in their daily spiritual lives by being able to read the Bible. Praise God for the women who go on to read the Bible to their families each day.

30 Australia – Scripture Grants: Pray that God would bless Bible Society's partnership with juvenile prisons. Pray that young prisoners will find the new life that Jesus offers by engaging with God's word. Pray that God will turn seemingly hopeless, ruined lives into young people humble and repentant, transformed, full of the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, filled with joy and wisdom, meditating on his word day and night.

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

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