

# September Prayer Letter 2021

# 1 September: Israel

Please pray for the Arab Israeli Bible Society, who maintain a core Christian presence from their base in Galilee. Praise God for their ministry amongst Christian Arabs, who live against a backdrop of violence, unrest and uncertainty. Thank God for the various programs they run, which build community, and strengthen families and the self-esteem of young people, based on the eternal hope and comfort in God's word.

## 2 September: Australia - CEO/Board

Thank God for opportunities Grant has had to speak to supporters online; pray that many people would be inspired and encouraged by BSA's mission to Open The Bible to all people. Thank God also for the Board meeting at the end of August and pray for energy and wisdom to continue the work that was discussed. Please keep praying for Grant, for wisdom as he leads BSA during this challenging time.

## 3 September: Slovenia

Pray for all those in Slovenia who have faced trauma: violence, abuse, suicide, depression, and post war wounds. Thank God for the work of Bible Society in building a network of trauma healing facilitators and starting trauma healing ministries in churches and communities. Pray that many would experience healing and find truth, love and hope in God's word.

#### 4 September: Testimony

Thank God for Nina, a Slovenian woman and victim of trauma. After joining a healing ministry group, she said, "How liberating it is to accept a freedom given to me by Christ and shared together by our group. I accept God's forgiveness of the perpetrator and also of myself, for my hatred and resentment. I am happy again and perceive the value and beauty of life."

# 5 September: Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

#### 6 September: Cameroon

Please continue to pray for the safety and wellbeing of the families of two Bible Society literacy workers who were killed in attacks by Boko Haram in 2020. Situated in northern Cameroon, the families are still at risk; thank God that Bible Society has been able to discreetly support them with food and shelter, as well as support for the children's schooling.

# 7 September: Australia - All BSA Staff

Please pray for all Bible Society Australia staff tomorrow, as they gather virtually for a staff vision day. Please pray for the creative team responsible for the day, as they work to make the event one that encourages and strengthens BSA as an organisation, even when we cannot be together in person.

# 8 September: Cameroon

Thank God for the Esther Project, which offers rehabilitation to teenage mothers who are victims of sexual exploitation. Pray for the training camps, that attendees may learn and develop self-esteem and confidence, as well as recognise

biblical values as a foundation for a restored and flourishing life. Pray that the young women will also learn practical skills to generate an income through small business and gain financial independence.

# 9 September: Australia - Publishing

Please pray for the team as they prepare a Christmas story activity book for Australian churches. Pray that they can create a resource that will speak powerfully to Australian families this Christmas. Please also pray for the on-going work of preparing the new NIV-UK translation Bibles.

#### 10 September: Cameroon

Pray that many people would be spiritually fed and equipped to improve their family and community life as a result of the literacy project for the Podoka and Mafa people. Pray for these people, who live with the threat of violence. Pray for a climate of security so this vital project may continue unhindered and transform the lives of those it reaches.

#### 11 September: Testimony

Thank God for Amy in Cameroon, who says, "The Esther Project has given me self-employment, by teaching me how to make 'chin-chin', soap, rubbing oils and bags. All these things help me to care for myself and my children... Above all, I am a woman of faith. I have also learnt to forgive and forget the past and to think of a brighter future."



12 September: Isaiah 40:1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

# 13 September: Australia - Fundraising

Please pray for the fundraising team as they engage supporters, individuals and churches. Pray that the team would genuinely seek to know and understand BSA supporters and their passion for Bible work, and that partnerships between staff and supporters would be strengthened.

#### 14 September: Iraq

Please continue to pray for the work of Bible Society in Iraq, who are caring for those in refugee camps and others who are disadvantaged, suffering with COVID lockdowns, or displaced by violence. Pray that the relief packages and Scriptures which are distributed would continue to aid those

in need and bring them hope. Pray that Bible Society workers would be kept safe.

## 15 September: Australia - RIMS

Please pray for the Oral Bible Translation project supporting the recording of the Gospel of Luke into Kimberley Kriol, in partnership with 'Every Tongue Ministry' YWAM Perth. Pray for sustained commitment from at least five translators; for their protection; for greater unity and love; for healing of generational hurts to do with language and missions in the Kimberley; and for hunger for the word of God among Kimberley Kriol speakers.

## 16 September: Syria

Please continue praying for Syrians living in the context of long-term violence and political and economic instability. As people struggle to feed and nurture their children, please pray that God would sustain and bless Bible Society Syria's work of Trauma Healing programs. Praise God for the impact they are having, and for the lives which are being restored!

## 17 September: Australia - Scripture Grants

Praise God for the launch of an ADF testimonial book last month in Canberra. Pray that this book would be widely read, and that by it, Christians would be encouraged in their faith and others would come to faith in our Lord Jesus.

#### 18 September: Testimony

Thank God for Lina in Syria, who, although previously 'untouched' by religion, responded to Jesus immediately. "I realised that (Jesus) had done it all and only wanted me to trust him and live with him. As the bombs have continued to fall, he has been my strong defender; he is the One who has saved me. Now I share my faith with others, telling them to find Jesus in his word and this word speaks directly to my heart."

# 19 September: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4a

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles...'

# 20 September: Australia

Please pray for the two planned Fellowship Gatherings in South Australia this month, due to take place tomorrow in Loxton and Wednesday in Mt Gambier. Pray that all who are able to attend would be encouraged by meeting together with others who share a passion for Bible work.

#### 21 September: Lebanon

Please pray for Bible Society Lebanon, as they try to make a difference in the lives of refugee children. Pray for their Bible based literacy course, that as many young people as possible would participate and get back into the formal education system. Pray that courses which have been delayed due to COVID would be able to run or be adapted to current restrictions. Pray that Bible Society will be able to show God's love to these children from desperate situations.

# 22 September: Australia - CPX

The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) has recently released a new series of high-school classroom resources on the theme of Human Dignity. Please pray that these resources would be used widely by schools around Australia and internationally, and pray that they would help young people consider the truth, beauty, and goodness of the Christian story.

## 23 September: Myanmar

Please continue to pray for Bible work in Myanmar, which is facing unprecedented crises, including military rule and

rampant COVID infections. Pray for their Bible translation projects and their literacy projects, that even amidst the turmoil, they may hold out hope through God's word.

### 24 September: Australia - Hike for Bibles

Please pray for the 'Hike for Bibles' on the Bibbulman Track in WA, which begins tomorrow and continues until the 28th. Thank God for all those who are participating in the hike; for their passion for Bible work, their commitment to fundraising, and their determination to make a difference. Pray for their safety and that God would bless them.

## 25 September: Testimony

Please pray for our Bible Society partners in Myanmar, who say, "The people of Myanmar are thrown into an ocean of fear, facing shortage of all basic needs. The situation is too challenging, we are helpless all the time, but we are not hopeless. Please support us in prayer."

#### 26 September: Psalm 119:50

My comfort in my suffering is this: your promise preserves my life.

## 27 September: South Sudan

Please pray for the people of South Sudan. In the ten years since they received their independence, social unrest, armed conflicts and tribal disputes continue to impact their daily lives. Pray that with literacy skills gained from the Bible Society project, the daily lives of the people would improve, with better relationships, less conflict, and Christians who can read the Bible for themselves and live out its principles.

# 28 September: Australia - Koorong

Pray that God would enable Koorong staff across the country to equip people with God's word, books and resources to further their faith, extend their ministries and build their love for Jesus. With ongoing COVID outbreaks, please pray for the safety of staff and customers across the country. Pray that Koorong catalogues would be successful in meeting the needs of customers; that stock would arrive promptly from overseas, that systems would work efficiently, so that orders can be filled in good time.

#### 29 September: Iran

Please pray for the Bible Society of the Iranian Diaspora. For forty years the political/religious oppression in Iran has never stopped. Every day, there is a new painful story, a new challenge for the people. The political situation is worsening for Christians, with additional persecution anticipated. Thank God for the testimony of our Bible Society partner, who says, "God's word gives us direction. God's presence gives us assurance. God's people give us hope." Please join with millions of Iranians in praying for God's peace to be restored in Iran.



## 30 September: Australia - CPX

Praise God for the opportunities Centre for Public Christianity continues to have to write for, and be interviewed by, the secular media. Please pray that the Australian public would find this content engaging, and through it that they would be intrigued and surprised by the Christian faith.