

1 October: Australia - Events

Please pray this month for the planned online events, as BSA connects with supporters to mutually encourage each other with the Bible work taking place. Pray for the Online Thank You gatherings on the 7th and 21st of this month, as well as for the Bible Society South Pacific Prayer meeting planned for the 7th.

2 October: Testimony

Pray for Srey, a 12-year-old Cambodian girl who has been eagerly attending Bible Society's one-hour-a-day literacy course. Srey has no time to attend school, as she works to feed herself and her grandparents. Srey wants to read and write to be able to earn a living. In tears, she told Bible Society staff, "I do not know what the future holds for me, but I will try my very best to study." Pray that Srey and others like her would achieve their goals and discover God's love through his word.

3 October: 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.'

4 October: Afghanistan

Please continue to pray for the 18 million Afghans now in need of humanitarian aid. Pray for their physical safety and emotional wellbeing. Pray that women and girls would continue to have opportunities for education and empowerment. Pray for the many Afghans fleeing their country to find safety, for protection on their journey, and generosity from foreign governments towards them.

5 October: Australia - CPX

Praise God for the opportunities CPX has, in a time of lockdowns, division, and uncertainty, to speak into the media. Pray that the writers and speakers on the team can offer grace and truth as they bring aspects of the gospel message to bear on a difficult situation.

6 October: Cambodia

Please continue to pray for the Learning through Listening project. Pray for the classes which have been suspended or slowed by the impact of COVID this year. Thank God that some students have still graduated, and Bibles have been distributed. Pray that they would find a way to keep reaching people with God's transformative truth and love.

7 October: Australia - CEO and Board

Please pray for the Board Meeting tomorrow, where the audited accounts will be presented. Pray for guidance and wisdom for the Board Members and thank God for his graciousness with BSA's finances.

8 October: China

Thank God for the literacy classes for rural Christians, which are giving them greater accessibility to the Bible. Thank God that every Christian who learns to read can become grounded in the word of God and more able to resist false teaching. Pray that the 96 classes applied for at the end of June would go ahead and many would attend; pray that the provinces beginning the literacy project in the second half of this year would be blessed.

9 October: Testimony

Thank God for literacy teachers in China who help people to read the Bible each year. One teacher says, "Many of the students are elderly and learning to read is a dream come true for them!" A 74-year-old student adds, "We are getting to know our Bibles very well and learning to read too!"

10 October: Galatians 5:13 (NIV)

'You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.'

11 October: Ghana

Thank God for the literacy work Bible Society is undertaking in Ghana, using the Bible to both encourage literacy skills and spiritual growth. Thank God for the 80 new teachers who received training this year, and the 40 new literacy classes which have been set up.

12 October: Australia - Koorong

Please pray for Koorong store managers, who are making daily decisions without really knowing what the next change in restrictions might look like. Pray too that Koorong's new Call and Collect program would offer easy solutions to customers.

13 October: Egypt

Thank God for Bible Society's post literacy classes in schools and churches. Thank God that these classes enable literacy graduates to reimagine their lives as literate people with increased opportunities. Pray for the work, which, although restricted by the pandemic, is continuing as Bible Society Egypt adapts and progresses.

**14 October: Australia - RIMS**

Please pray for the PEV (Plain English Version) Multivoice Audio Recording Project. A recording workshop has been planned for this month at Shiloh Church at Goodna, QLD. Please pray that the workshop can proceed as planned, that the audio recordings will go well, that Bible readers will be able to travel from regional areas to take part in the recording, and that this will be a time of joy and bonding for all involved.

15 October: Egypt

Thank God for the way in which the literacy project is making the Scriptures available, accessible and affordable to newly literate adults and children, helping them to understand and comprehend the message and effectively apply it. Thank God for the Scripture distributed this year in over 6,000 student books and over 200 large print New Testaments as graduation gifts.

16 October: Testimony

Thank God for the translation of the Plain English Bible, which will be a bridge for thousands of Aboriginal people who do not have the Bible available in their own language. Pray for the team, including Translation Coordinator Dave Glasgow, who explains: "The aim of the Plain English Version (PEV) is to make Scripture easily understood by Indigenous Australians whose mother tongue is an Indigenous Australian language..."

17 October: Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)

'And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.'

18 October: Mozambique

Please pray for the work of Mission Educate and Bible Society in the impoverished city areas and rural communities. Pray that the literacy project would equip more people with literacy skills and open the Bible to them.

19 October: Publishing

Thank God for Dr Nick Hawkes, for his love of the Lord and for the 40 Day Devotional he has written. Please pray that *Soar Above the Storm* will bring the Lord's comfort and hope to those suffering. Pray that it arrives back from the printers swiftly and goes out to as many people as possible.

20 October: Pakistan

Thank God for this literacy project, which offers a 'beacon of light' in the darkness of illiteracy, for hundreds of Pakistani women. Please pray for the classes which began earlier this year, despite ongoing struggles with COVID. Pray for the teachers and the students as they open the Bible together.

21 October: Australia - Fundraising and Bequests

Please pray for our Church Team members planning their next months of work, that they can engage with churches despite lockdowns and the ongoing impact of COVID. Please give thanks for the wonderful work that has been achieved by the team.

22 October: Pakistan

Please pray for the 13 partners in the program, churches and para church organisations, that they may work well with Bible Society in delivering the literacy project. Thank God for the 290 classes which began earlier in the year, for the 288 teachers and the 5,680 enrolled students. Pray that all involved in the classes may receive their COVID vaccination and stay safe.

23 October: Testimony

Thank God for Maria, who participated in the Mission Educate Literacy program in Mozambique. "I was looking forward to going back to school, so I started attending classes," Maria says. Despite challenges along the way, Maria was able to complete most of the classes and pass the exam. Praise God that, because of the practical skills she learnt as a part of the program, Maria can now dream of supporting her family.

24 October: Romans 12:10-11 (NIV)

'Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.'

25 October: Rwanda

Please pray for African Enterprise and Bible Society as they work with people experiencing lingering trauma from the genocide 30 years ago. Pray that the promotion of biblical literacy – and reconciliation based on biblical principles – may make a real difference to emerging issues in these fragile communities.

26 October: Australia - CPX

Pray for CPX's annual Richard Johnson Lecture, which is being held remotely this week. Pray for the speaker, Scott Stephens, as he speaks about resisting contempt and choosing grace. Pray that many would watch and be impacted, especially people who aren't Christians.

27 October: Vanuatu

Please pray that God would bless the efforts of Bible Society South Pacific, in partnership with World Day of Prayer, as they seek to advocate and empower women who are the victims of domestic violence in Vanuatu.

28 October: Australia - Grants

Pray for ESL ministries as they try to connect with people in a COVID-safe way. Please pray for people in detention centres, who have less access to Bibles and Christian ministry due to COVID, that they will still find peace with God through Jesus.

**29 October: Vietnam**

Thank God that many people are learning literacy skills using the Bible. Thank God for the students who have graduated this year, despite the difficulty imposed by COVID. Please pray for the preparations to run this literacy project online next year, as the team creates a channel on YouTube and begins to upload lessons.

30 October: Testimony

Thank God for Susan, who lives in the north-western region of Vietnam, and is a part of an ethnic minority. Susan always felt indescribably sad at her lack of learning. She says, "I am incredibly grateful to the Literacy program for bringing the books up here to teach us... Now I am not only literate but also know about the life of Jesus. I found that when I finished this program, my faith was also different. I often pray to God while studying."

31 October: Romans 15:13 (NIV)

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'
