



102705 - Northern Ireland  
Project Fact Sheet 2022

# World Day of Prayer 2022: Whole Family Bible Engagement

## Overview

The focus for World Day of Prayer in 2022 is England, Wales and Northern Ireland. As a part of World Day of Prayer, Bible Society Northern Ireland (BSNI) are implementing a Whole Family Bible Engagement plan, which will help bring children, young people, families and individuals closer to the Bible and therefore closer to faith in Jesus.

Churches will be supported by this project to engage with their members, encouraging family Bible reading, and helping adults come to terms with changes and loss from COVID-19.

## The Need

Northern Ireland is still a very divided place after decades of conflict, which many blame on religion. Also, although the number of people identifying with a Christian denomination is higher than in other parts of the UK (In 2011, 42% identified as Protestant, and a similar number as Catholic), often identity and religion are intertwined without necessarily involving church attendance or faith.

Despite the focus of some organisations on Bible engagement, the levels of Biblical literacy in Northern Ireland – especially amongst young people – are declining.

There is a unique opportunity for Bible Society to work across denominations with the Bible, and other engagement resources, to help bring more unity to Christians and society.





## Project Goals

In 2022, BSNI aim to sign up 1,000 babies for their Bibles for Babies project, to receive Bibles, birthday cards and other resources until their 5th birthdays.

A family Bible engagement resource, '52 journeys through the Big Story of the Bible' will be collated into a printed volume for families. It is anticipated that 100 copies of the book will be sold, giving families helpful activities and content.

Adults within churches will be connected through the small group 'Lament' resource, which helps participants pause, reflect, lament, mourn and learn from their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is hoped the Lament small group resource will reach 100 people per year.

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## Impact

The total number of people this project aims to impact over eight years is 20,000. By reaching people with Bibles and other resources in their homes, communities and churches, the impact of this project will be in beginning healthy Bible reading habits amongst children, young people, families and individuals, which will in turn impact society in the longer term. Additionally, it is hoped this project will help bring about more collaboration between denominations in Northern Ireland.

## Prayer Needs

- Pray that all people, young and old, would be impacted by the Bible and develop and grow in Bible reading habits.
- Pray that the Lament program would help people deal with all that has happened during the pandemic, as they prepare for the future.