



Scriptures for the ADF

Overview

Bible Society Australia (BSA) seeks to serve and equip chaplains and Christian ministries who are working with the Australian Defence Forces (ADF), ministering to Australians serving with the armed forces, by providing Bibles and Scripture Resources through a Scripture Grant.



The Need

There is sustained demand for specialty Scriptures in the ADF, as men and women take up the opportunity to search the truths of the Bible, encouraged by their 'padres' Bible Society has provided specialised ADF badged Bibles for members of the armed forces for over 100 years.

100+

years Bible Society has provided special ADF Bibles

170

full time and part time Army chaplains spread across Australia, and 95% are Christian chaplains

581,100

people have served in the ADF

2.8%

of the Australian population aged 15 years and over (as per 2021 census)

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15, NIV

Goals

The goal of this project is to Open The Bible to people serving in the ADF. By resourcing ADF chaplains and other Christian ministries with Scriptures and Gospel materials, they can engage people with God's word. This grant shares the transformative hope of the gospel, equipping gospel workers with both God's word and the ability to encourage and disciple those they work with.

In 2024, the goal of this project is to continue responding to the needs of the ADF chaplains and approved ministry support partners as they work with the personnel in the Australian armed forces.

Impact

The impact of this Scripture grant is ultimately seen in the changed lives of recipients. BSA has supported and partnered with Military Christian Fellowship-Australia (MCF-A), Focus Military Ministry, Solid Rock ministries and AMCF (the international arm of MCF-A) as well as the chaplains who work within the ADF, and ADFA. In addition to this, BSA reprinted the Waterproof New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs for the Navy, Army and RAAF, as well as the CEV full Bible.

BSA continued to provide its current range of camouflage scriptures, ADF specialty books and other supportive gospel materials to the ADF. BSA partnered with ADF support ministries to produce new materials that help ADFA graduates dig into the Bible and think through the issues of service in light of Christ. In the 2022-2023 financial year, ADF chaplains received various specialty Scriptures and Scripture portions, including:

- 1,053 ADF CEV Tri-Service Compact Bibles
 - 1,039 ADF Tri-service Devotionals
 - 1,628 ADF Army Daily Devotionals
 - 2,720 ADF NLT Army New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs Waterproof
 - 1,298 "My Story, My God" Scriptures
 - 2,425 copies of the tract "40 Scriptures for Life"
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Testimonies

"You reach a huge number of people, often at their most vulnerable or when they are confused about the situation they find themselves in. Having ADF specific material enables easier conversations or distribution and interest along with helping those in the ADF answer the big hard questions, especially about war, disaster, suffering, death and the like. It is great the Christian Military Ministries across the ADF can use the same material for continuity for those we minister to." — Military Christian Fellowship

Prayer Needs

- Pray for continued opportunities to Open The Bible with Australians in the Defence Forces, for chaplains to be encouraged and strengthened in their work, and for open hearts to hear God's word.