

Prayer Letter

April 2024



1 April: Australia

Praise and thank our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for his sacrifice on the cross for our salvation. Pray that we would be reminded of the power his resurrection today and reflect on the new life we have in him.

2 April: Bangladesh

Pray for the Bangladesh Bible Society who are teaching a literacy course for non-literate women in rural areas. Pray for the first-year students who struggle to read and write, that God may give them wisdom to learn, and for protection and provision for participants who also strive for food, shelter and health.

3 April: Australia

Thank God for his faithfulness as Koorong served the Australian Christian landscape over the Easter period, resourcing Christians and non-Christians alike with Bibles, church supplies, and evangelistic and apologetic resources. Pray that these resources would be live-changing and sow seeds of faith.

4 April: Mongolia

Please pray for the new Mongolian translation of the Bible, which will be easier to understand for readers and listeners. Pray for the team, for effective training in biblical language, linguistics and Bible translation, and as they work to review the draft translations of the New Testament. Pray for unity among translators, churches, committee members and the Mongolian Bible Society.

5 April: Australia

Please remember and pray for communities devastated by the QLD fires in 2023, the recent drought in WA and flooding in the NT. Pray that God will help people struggling to come to terms with loss of life and property. Bless the disaster recovery chaplains as they distribute the scriptures and gospel resources that BSA sent up to Chinchilla. Please pray for wisdom and energy to reach out to these distraught people.

6 April: Bangladesh

Thank God for Gina*, a 45-year-old wife and mother who was able to learn about Jesus through the literacy program in Bangladesh: "Before attending this class I could not read any book ... I desired to read and write but I did not have the opportunity to do so. Even I did not know Bible stories. I was so curious to know about Jesus Christ, and my desire has been fulfilled after attending this literacy class."

7 April: Word for the Week

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

8 April: Laos

Thank God for the Laos Bible Society, who are providing literacy skills to ethnic minority groups and underprivileged people. Pray that the classes will help foster individual and community development

and spiritual growth. Pray that churches will be motivated to run the program as part of their outreach to both believers and non-believers.

9 April: Australia (Eternity News)

Please pray for all those impacted by the BSA Group's difficult decision to close Eternity News at the end of April. Praise God for how Eternity News has impacted the Australian Christian landscape and encouraged readers over the last 15 years. Thank God for those who have contributed to and supported the ministry, and please pray for the BSA Group, our leadership and staff as we continue to plan initiatives into the future to Open The Bible to all people everywhere.

10 April: Cambodia

Please pray for the Learning Through Listening project run by Bible Society Cambodia. Pray that God will continue to transform rural communities in Cambodia through these literacy classes, and that more communities and authorities would be willing to open their doors to this program. Also pray that God will use the program to bring salvation to students and spiritual growth to believers.

11 April: Asia Pacific

Pray for Bible Societies in the Asia Pacific and for the United Bible Societies (UBS) Advisor in the Asia Pacific, Cito, who is working to establish a literary framework, guide project prioritisation and ensure quality of programs. Please pray for increased literacy class opportunities for non-literate individuals, particularly in the Asia Pacific, through this project.

12 April: Australia

Please pray for the recording of Scripture in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. Thank God for these Scripture recordings, which ensure communities can engage and be transformed by the love of Jesus. Thank God for the dedicated Kriol Recording Team, and pray that other smaller language groups can participate in Audio Recording Workshops, and ultimately, receive Scripture recordings in their own language.



13 April: Laos

Thank God for Vila* who attended the literacy programs in Laos: "I have taken the literacy books to show the younger ladies that I can read the Bible now even though I am 50 years old and asked them to study. Knowing God's word is the most important thing in my life."

14 April: Word for the Week

"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." Romans 15:13 (NIV)

15 April: Asia Pacific

Thank God for Bible Society literacy programs in the Asia Pacific and pray for capacity-building efforts in 2024. Pray that those who participated in training in 2023 can apply their knowledge of literary practice principles, program planning, research and implementation as they develop their literacy projects in the future.

16 April: Australia

Please pray for the distribution of audio players to remote Australian communities, as well as for the availability of audio recordings through the Australian Bibles App. Pray that many, particularly younger generations, will hear the Scriptures through this digital medium.

17 April: Vietnam

Pray for Bible Society Vietnam as they reach ethnic minority groups in Vietnam and help them engage with God's word in their heart languages. Thank God for the distribution of Bible stories and the Gospel of Mark in 2023 to different tribes. Pray that Christians would be empowered as they learn to read God's word, and that non-believers would come to know God through this program.

18 April: Australia

Praise God that BSA was able to produce, publish, print and distribute thousands of copies of Fern Martins' book, The Easter Love Story to churches during Easter as part of BSA's Jesus. All About Life campaign. Please continue to pray that people will be touched by the Easter Love Story, especially the message of servanthood, forgiveness and reconciliation through the blood of Jesus.



19 April: Sri Lanka

Thank God for the Ceylon Bible Society and the literacy classes run by church networks and Christian organisations in rural, slum and undeveloped areas. Pray that the students would be empowered as they learn to read the word of God, and for the protection of the participants and their families who are often at risk of natural disasters.

20 April: Bangladesh

Thank God for the Bishop (the Chairman of an Evangelical Church in Dhaka), who said about Bible Society's literacy program for young children in Bangladesh: "This program is excellent for children, which I could not have in my [childhood]. Everyone should support to this program." Please continue to pray for the full support of this program from church and community leaders.

21 April: Word for the Week

"The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand." Psalm 37:23-24 (NIV)

22 April: Australia

Pray for the work of the Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) with schools, that they will be able to provide classroom resources that speak compellingly into students' experience and understanding of

the world and invite them to consider the way of Jesus. Pray for our new Youth & Schools Coordinator, Nate Armsberry as he settles into his role and explores ways to deepen connections between CPX and Australian schools.

23 April: Vietnam

Please pray for Bible Society Vietnam and the translation of the Old Testament and related content to complete a Vietnamese Study Bible. Pray that this Study Bible will meet the needs of Vietnamese Christians and pray that the translation team will be blessed with wisdom and skills. Pray for the project completion of the content in 2024 and publication in 2025.

24 April: Australia

Please thank God for BSA's supporters and their shared passion for BSA's mission. Pray that the BSA fundraising team can strengthen relationships with supporters, so that these mission partnerships can flourish. Please pray that BSA's seasonal fundraising appeals would communicate clearly the needs and opportunities present within all BSA's mission projects, so that more hearts would be touched to give and pray to the mission of Opening The Bible to all people, everywhere.

25 April: Bangladesh

Pray for the Bangladesh Bible Society as they seek to reach pre-school aged children with God's word through a literacy course in rural and remote areas. Pray for the children that they will be encouraged to come to class regularly, and pray for the support of church leaders, pastors and community leaders.

26 April: Australia

Please pray for the successful launch of the 'Read this' Bible, a youth Bible designed for young people to better understand God's word, published by BSA in partnership with Youth Alive. Thank God for churches and Christian ministries in Australia who are partnering with Bible Society Australia in Opening The Bible to all people. Pray for even greater engagement between churches and BSA, so that this mission can be as widespread and effective as possible in this nation. Pray that God's people will have boldness and be filled with wisdom and God's love as they share the gospel to those who need it most.

27 April: Vietnam

Thank God for Ricky*, a 26-year-old Bible college student, who has been very encouraged by the Vietnamese Study Bible: "we are more drawn toward the application of biblical knowledge to solve today's problems of young people ... I saw that many of them have the urge to study the Bible more deeply ... I was driven to help them come closer to the Bible."

28 April: Word for the Week

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)

29 April: Pakistan

Thank God for the literacy program established by the Pakistan Bible Society teaching women to read and write. Pray that participants will quickly embrace these teachings and be impacted by God's word, that partner churches will continue to respond positively to the program, and for the wisdom and safety of the Bible Society staff on this project.

30 April: Pakistan

Praise God for women like Shaina* who are learning to read through the Bible Society Pakistan's Bible-based literacy project. Shaina shares, "I joined the class just as a fun in the start but as I became involved, I learned that the education changed my lifestyle. I feel that I have developed self-confidence and now I can speak boldly with other people."

*Name changed to protect the person's privacy.