

Prayer Letter

July 2024

1 July: Australia

Thank God for Bible Society Australia's New Beginnings Bible and 'Read this' Youth Bible, which are being distributed by church partners across Australia. Pray they would reach more people as BSA's partnerships with churches grow, and that recipients would be led to deeply engage with God's word and be transformed.

2 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray for those living in conflict induced uncertainty in the Middle East. Please pray for Bible Society Lebanon's program for refugee children, 'Reconcile!' — an interactive drama presentation. Pray it would impact many, helping heal children's wounds of trauma, and that refugee families would openly receive the Arabic Peace and Justice Bible.

3 July: Australia

Please pray for the Bible Society Australia team, for good health, for wisdom and insight, and for unity as we work together to expand the work of Bible mission in our country and with our partners around the world. Pray as we work to translate, distribute and advocate for the Bible, that God would give our leaders discernment, in all our Bible mission and evangelism work.

4 July: China

Please pray for the 'Bibles for Millions' project distributing affordable and free Bibles to Christians in China. Please continue to pray for a strong and close relationship between the authorities and United Bible Societies. Pray for a continuing supply of the Bible to seekers and Christians, and that they will read and understand, be nurtured and transformed.

5 July: Australia

Thank God for BSA's Disaster Recovery Scripture Grant which equips chaplains and gospel workers with Scripture resources. Angie from Disaster Chaplaincy Network is thankful for the resources she received early this year saying, "They have been a huge blessing to our chaplains. I've run four trainings and have handed out the resources to the chaplains to use when deployed to disasters. They have absolutely loved them!"

6 July: Words of faith from the Middle East

Praise God for the growing faith of Asif*, an 8-year-old living in a Lebanese refugee camp who took part in Bible Society's 'Reconcile!' program. He said, "Jesus is the one who can fill my heart with constant joy and love." Amira* added, "I love Jesus very much, and I will open my heart to him and I will tell all my friends."

7 July: Word of the Week

"You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand." Psalm 16:11 (NIV)

8 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray for those living in conflict induced uncertainty in the Middle East region. Pray particularly for students of Bible

Society Egypt's literacy program, that they would gain a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Pray for God's wisdom for the Bible Society team in meeting the challenges, including the provision of facilitators and a dynamic program which attracts and retains participants.

9 July: Australia

Thank God for the new resources available to Australian Indigenous communities: Esther and Judges in Pitjantjatjara; the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Prayer Book (produced by BSA in partnership with the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council); Psalm 23 in Plain English Version and Pitjantjatjara, and the Book of Genesis in Barkly English. Pray these resources enrich many lives.



10 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray for the stability and safety of Jordan, despite conflict in the region. Please pray for the 'Bibles and Bread for Refugees' project which serves refugee and underprivileged families with practical aid and the word of God. Pray for an expanded outreach in sharing the message of hope, and for God's wisdom to guide these families in being steadfast in following Christ.

11 July: Australia

Please pray for safety for the Brisbane 'Bike for Bibles' Ride starting this Sunday, over the five days of the ride. Thank God for the volunteers riding and fundraising for Sri Lankan children and youth reached by Bible Society's literacy project.

12 July: Myanmar

Please pray for Bible Society Myanmar's 'Literacy by Listening' project; for peace in the country as it faces political unrest, for the safety of students and teachers and especially for salvation and the freedom to worship for the Christian Karen people.

13 July: Myanmar

Praise God for Wah*, a literacy student who said: "Although I am Karen, I cannot speak and read Karen well. Whenever I think about that I feel so shy ... God knows my feeling and he opened the door for me ... Because of this class, I can read and write our mother language. Whatever I learn from this class I will share to our next generation."

14 July: Word of the Week

"[God] comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." 2

Corinthians 1:4 (NIV)

15 July: Australia

Please pray for the YouthQ event (Gold Coast on 26th July) and Masterclass (Gold Coast on 25th July and Perth on 30th July), that they will inspire, equip and connect with Youth Groups and High School students. Pray that this event would help young people understand the gospel message and pursue God.

16 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray for those who are persecuted and a minority in their communities, living out their Christian faith amidst conflict. Pray that God will be with our Bible Society partners in the war-torn countries, as they work at their Bible mission with grace, under devastating circumstances. Pray that the teams will be empowered by God's presence and that all financial needs will be met. Pray for protection as they serve their communities. Pray for salvation, peace and an end to war.

17 July: Australia

Please pray that the new books released by Acorn Press would be a blessing to Christians, through the writing of Simon Smart, Naomi Reed and Tony Rinaudo, bringing hope and encouragement. Pray for Koorong stores and all Christian booksellers, that they may help share these Australian faith voices.

18 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray for the children from disadvantaged and refugee families who are enrolled in Bible Society Lebanon's Bible-based literacy project. Pray that these children and more will know God's love in the midst of desperate situations, and be able to integrate back into the formal education system.

19 July: Mongolia

Please pray for Bible Society's new literacy project helping people with visual disabilities to read Braille. As they plan, pray that the team would build a strong and sustainable working relationship with their partners, Mongolian National Blind Federation and Mongolian Campus Crusade for Christ, as well as local churches and governments.

20 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray with Dina, Director of The Arab Israeli Bible Society who shared, "We live in an unsafe place where things might escalate suddenly ... The land of Christ is screaming from pain. There is a great need to build a culture of peacemakers and a community of forgivers." Pray that God would sustain and strengthen his people amidst the Middle East conflict, as they seek to be his peacemakers and to live out the forgiveness his word teaches.

21 July: Word of the Week

***"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* John 16:33 (NIV)**

22 July: Ukraine

Continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and for the Bible Society team as they continue to distribute much needed Scriptures. Pray for governments, military, churches and individuals. Pray too that the International Peace Summit that took place in Switzerland last month would help bring the nations closer to a resolution to this war.

23 July: Australia

Pray that Koorong customers find inspiration, comfort, and a deeper understanding of God's word in the products they purchase. Pray that every book, Bible, and resource distributed through Koorong be a tool for spiritual growth and a catalyst for positive change in the lives of individuals and communities.

24 July: Ukraine

Please pray for mental and physical strength for the Bible Society staff in Ukraine as they continue serving churches and individuals

with God's word. A staff member said, "It still takes a lot of courage and resilience to continue serving in the city amidst regular explosions of huge, guided bombs nearby, so please keep our team there in your prayers."

25 July: Papua New Guinea

Please continue praying for the safety and health of people in PNG where recent flooding and an earthquake has severely impacted villages. Malaria and other diseases continue to rise as vegetable gardens and water tanks have been destroyed. Pray for the people Bible Society is reaching in partnership with Mega Voice, distributing audio Bibles through the work of Living Child in the East Sepik Province, that relief would reach them, and their faith would grow.

26 July: The Middle East Region

Please pray fervently for our Bible Society partners working in communities amidst conflict, displacement and suffering. Praise God for Bible Society's Living Stones Centre in Ramallah and for the ministry which takes place there; pray they would be able to continue to gather around the Bible and encourage one another from God's word. Please pray for protection and provision for Bible Society staff, volunteers, and all those in their community who are facing devastating loss.

27 July: Words of Faith from the Middle East

"We will continue our efforts to be a living testimony and stand with the body of Christ during this tough time," says Nashat, the Palestinian Bible Society's General Secretary. Let us join with Nashat in praying for peace in the Middle East region. Nashat says, "We very much appreciate your prayers and support."

28 July: Word of the Week

***"We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."* 1 Thessalonians 1:3 (NIV)**

29 July: Bangladesh

Pray for the Bangladesh Bible Society's literacy project as they foster the early stages of learning of pre-primary children living in rural areas, to prepare them for primary school. Pray for the facilitators leading the classes, for God's wisdom upon them as they teach the children. Pray for more to support the program and for more classes to become available to children who are waiting to be admitted.



30 July: The Middle East Region

Pray for a new Bible Society project in Bahrain that seeks to empower marginalised female Sri Lankan domestic workers living in the city with literacy skills. Pray for the Bible Society of The Gulf team as they research and plan, preparing for literacy classes. Pray for the right trainers to be identified to help in the capacity-building efforts.

31 July: Australia

Praise God for Scripture Grant BSA can supply for the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students (AFES) to help them engaging university students with God's word. Edmund, an AFES worker, says: "I am thankful to God for Bible Society allowing me to have access to the Bible in different languages ... It makes it easier to teach from God's word in English, and it makes it easier for the listeners to follow in their mother tongue."

*Name changed to protect privacy.