

Australia



Bibles for Youth

Project: N/A
Non Tax Deductible



38,300

copies of the 'Read This.' Bibles have been sold and distributed since its launch in May 2024

16,500

'Read this.' Bibles distributed to churches between Feb–Apr 2025

6,850

Bibles distributed by Youth Alive in 2025 across 60 events

Overview

Bible Society Australia (BSA) is equipping the next generation with the life-changing message of Scripture through the 'Read this.' Bible, designed specifically for Australian youth. This project aims to make the Bible accessible, engaging, and relevant for teenagers navigating today's complex world by distributing copies of the Bible and subsidising the cost for youth ministry.

The Need

Australian youth face increasing pressures — mental health challenges, identity struggles, and the constant noise of social media. In this environment, many have never owned a Bible, let alone read one. Yet, the Bible offers timeless wisdom, peace, and hope.

Less than one in three Gen Y Australians own a Bible (McCrindle, 2014), and while 59% of teens hold a high view of Scripture (Barna, 2022), many lack access to a Bible that speaks to their context. That's why Bible Society Australia partnered with youth ministers and theologians to create the New Living Translation 'Read this.' Bible, designed specifically for Australian teens.

This Bible is more than a book; it's a tool for transformation. With engaging design, accessible language, and contextual notes, it invites young people to explore the Christian faith for themselves. In a culture where distractions are constant, this Bible helps young people focus on what truly matters — discovering Jesus and growing in their relationship with him.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. - Matthew 28:19, NIV

Goals

BSA aims to expand the reach of the 'Read this.' Bible in FY25–26 by printing and distributing 20,000 additional copies to churches across the country.

A key focus is distributing these Bibles through Youth Alive events, where 7,000 Bibles will be given directly to young people who have decided to follow Jesus, an essential step in equipping and stewarding new believers.

BSA is committed to expanding its reach even further, continuing to subsidise this beautiful Bible to make it as affordable as possible for outreach and evangelism, enabling more young people to open the Bible.

This project is not just about Bible distribution, it's about discipleship. Each Bible placed in a young person's hands is a step toward lasting transformation.

Impact

After publishing the 'Read this.' Bible in 2024, it is already in its third reprint, with the most recent 18,000-copy run selling out between February and April 2025. Demand continues to grow as churches and ministries see the impact.

In 2025, 6,850 'Read this.' Bibles were distributed by Youth Alive across 60 events. In May 2025, Dave Edgar, Director of Youth Alive Victoria, is promoting this Bible across 20 locations, giving away hundreds more to new Christians. This is not only happening in Victoria but across every state in the nation and stands as one of the most significant seasons of Bible distribution for the next generation. Youth Alive has seen over 342,000 faith commitments since 1982. From 2022 to 2024, decisions for Christ at their events doubled from 5,223 to 10,333. Having a Bible readily available for new believers plays a vital role in helping them grow in faith.

Testimony

"All ten recipients have received their Bibles with deep appreciation ... it is a joy to see lives changed and faith deepened through access to God's Word." — The Reverend Jim Raistrick, Surfers Paradise Anglican Church

"I'm so excited we can put this Bible into the hands of thousands of teens ... I hope that, in a moment of struggle or trial, they actually will read it." — Dave Edgar, State Director, Youth Alive Victoria

Prayer Points

- Pray that when young believers 'read this' New Living Translation, they will gain an introduction or new insights to Jesus as the hope of the world.
- Pray for the upcoming youth rallies and events happening across Australia, that young people's hearts would be open to hearing and accepting the gospel.
- Pray for continued provision and partnerships to meet the growing demand for the 'Read this.' Bible.