



# Prayer and News

Bible Society  
Making the Bible heard since 1817

Update

December 2009

Dear Prayer Supporter,

What motivates someone to be faithful? Usually faithfulness comes out of a personal desire to please someone. Is prayer any different? In this scripture we find that our faithfulness in prayer will have its reward by the receiving of God's grace and mercy. What better rewards are there for us to be faithful?

As we come to the end of another exciting year in the Lord, I would like to thank you all for your faithful prayers given over many unseen hours. Coming to God alone in prayer, has its reward, not in the accolades of crowds but in the annals of eternity. God's presence alone is reward enough for the many hours labored in prayer for His work.

Once again many thanks for your prayers which will one day be rewarded in eternity for all to see.

## Blessings

**Daniel Barreca**  
**Donor, Church & Volunteer**  
**Coordinator**

*"Therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us at the proper time." Heb 4:16 (Holman)*

## URGENT NEEDS FOR PRAYER

### Australian Defence Forces

ADF personnel on active deployment in Afghanistan are facing very dangerous conditions with the recent upsurge in terrorist activities. Continue to pray for their safety especially over the Christmas period while they are separated from family and friends.

## WEEK ONE

### India Reap Missions Trip

Over the first three weeks of December a mission team will travel to India to work with REAP Literacy. They will travel within the Andhra Pradesh region, based from Hyderabad, reaching out to local Indian children. This team will minister in churches, schools and will be involved in after school REAP classes teaching and giving out Bibles. Many of the people they will reach come from non-Christian backgrounds. Please pray for the team's safety and for success in reaching out to these children.

### Sports DVD

As Australia is a strong sporting nation the Bible Society has produced a Sports DVD that contains interviews with famous Australian Christian sportspersons. Coupled with this is a Sports New Testament that also includes similar testimonies. This is a great gift to give to anyone interested in sport. It truly speaks their language. Please pray that this DVD and New Testament will continue to reach many who are interested in sport.

## WEEK TWO

### Kids Games Fiji

As part of an alternative to "Schoolies Week" the Bible Society has a mission team of year 12 graduates ministering to the children of Fiji. Working in with local churches, they will be conducting Kids Games as part of their outreach. These games speak the language of children and therefore enables the team to give out Scriptures and Christian materials to these receptive children. Many come from non-Christian backgrounds. Please pray for the success and safety of this trip.

## **Scripture Grants**

In a hospital environment, where patients, their relatives and staff are all confronted with life's big issues, tracts that address relevant concerns such as grief and loss provide much needed hope and encouragement. The Bible Society provides grants for Scripture portions to hospital chaplains throughout NSW to assist their ministry to the sick and elderly. Please continue to pray for the funding to continue to enable this ministry to flourish.

## **WEEK THREE**

### **South Africa**

*"Your contribution by providing Bibles has really made a difference in this centre. It is not easy for inmates to be converted in this place, but God is always true to His Word that 'what seems impossible with man is possible with God'. The hand of God is always moving in the lives of inmates. Even hardened criminals change and submit under the divine name of Jesus Christ..."* (Mr. K. Monametsi, Losperfontain Correctional Centre). Pray that the Gospel will continue to make inroads into lives of many prisoners in South African jails.

### **Indigenous Scriptures:**

Nothing compares with reading and understanding God's Word in your own language. Highly motivated Indigenous Christians, with limited education, are supported by Bible Society Translation Consultants and partner agencies to check final drafts of translation work. This vital ministry is a slow and deliberate process that requires skill, patience and accuracy. Please pray for this work and the funding necessary to continue the translation and distribution of the Scriptures for Indigenous Australians.

## **WEEK FOUR**

### **Rwanda:**

Almost one million people were killed in one hundred days in 1994. Someone somewhere within Rwanda was a victim with a family member, relative or neighbour being killed. How would you have felt if this happened in Australia? The natural reaction would be hatred and retribution. As part of the healing process the Bible Society and African Enterprise are conducting a forgiveness/reconciliation program for children (and their parents) using Bible Stories. Because of its' success, the government has now allowed the program to be extended to children in all primary schools - some 2.5 million children. Please pray for the continued success of the program and for the healing process to extend throughout the land.

### **Australian Showcases 2010:**

As part of our strategy for 2010 the Bible Society will be conducting 70 Showcases in metropolitan Sydney and regional New South Wales. These Showcases give a snapshot of the work of Bible Society and are designed to inform and excite people about our work. At previous Showcases people have commented that *"even though I am a regular supporter of Bible Society I did not realise the diversity and extent of your work. Great presentation."* Please pray for good attendances over 2010 and for an overall growth, both in prayer and in financial support, for our projects.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Mary Jones Thanksgiving Luncheon 10th December at Bible House.
- Christmas Office Closure from noon 24th December. Office resumes on Monday 4th January 2010.

*Your on-going prayer support for the Staff of Bible Society is greatly valued and appreciated. Also a number of our supporters from time to time face health, financial and other family issues. Your regular prayer for our brothers and sister in Christ who are in need, both here in Australia and overseas, is both welcomed and valued.*