

B
BIBLE
SOCIETY

October 2015 - February 2016



PRAYER
in action



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請找出正確的答案
題目：
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與平麻律巴力的一樣
25分

October – a focus on making the Bible accessible

Bible translation, UK-style

Even in the UK, where most Christians have between four and six Bibles on their bookshelves, there's a need to translate Scripture into different formats or versions. That's why we're publishing the newest translation of the Bible in Welsh next month (see WIA p15), and why we've recently produced a dyslexia-friendly gospel of Mark (WIA p10).

We exist to offer the Bible to the world and to break down barriers that stop people engaging with Scripture – and we hope you'll join us in praying for these things too.

5 - 11 OCTOBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Give thanks for the vision and support that led to the development of the dyslexia-friendly gospel of Mark (WIA p10). Praise God that it's been so well received.
- Pray that those with dyslexia hear about this new version, and engage with God more deeply through it. Pray they'll find new joy in Bible reading.

12 - 18 OCTOBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray that the publication of the newest translation of the Bible in Welsh, in November, will create a real impact (WIA p15). Pray the final edit and printing process go well, and pray for good publicity around the launch.
- Pray for our wider work in Wales, particularly through our visitor and education centre Mary Jones World. Ask God that all who visit have a sense of the Bible's importance in Wales and around the globe.

A focus on making the Bible accessible

19 - 25 OCTOBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for Bible Society's press officer, Richard Franklin (WIA p15), whose job is to promote the Bible in the UK. Pray for creativity, energy and persistence in his challenge to offer the Bible to people in new ways.
- Pray for the rest of our campaigns team who work to open the Bible for those who may never give it a second thought. Pray for positive media attention and the wisdom to discern our best opportunities.

26 OCTOBER - 1 NOVEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for our Christmas campaign as we distribute thousands of Nativity booklets to UK families. Ask that children will discover the true meaning of Christmas and will want to explore more Scripture.
- Ask God to challenge and guide you as you share the Christmas story this year. How could you pass on the Bible among your friends, family or neighbours? Pray for opportunities!



Revd Mark Wilson (WIA p10)

Sharing the Bible with children this Christmas

Every year our Palestinian team head into the West Bank to bring the Christmas story to life for hundreds of children. In 2014, for the first time in many years, they were also able to access Gaza. They distributed children's Bibles and small gifts to 400 youngsters as they tried to recover from the 51-day war that left their city in ruins.

Next month, our staff will be embarking on this major project again. Your are vital – not just for the impact of the programme, but for everyone's safety.

2 - 8 NOVEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Give thanks for our courageous teams, who risk much to share the Bible with children in the West Bank and Gaza. Please ask God to protect them as they go through checkpoints and travel through dangerous areas.
- Pray particularly for those who travel into Gaza. This is highly sensitive, risky work and we rely on God to keep our staff and volunteers safe.

9 - 15 NOVEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray we'll be able to match the scale and scope of Bible distribution and outreach to children in Gaza this year.
- Pray for Christian families in Gaza. Pray they'll be light in a dark place this Christmas. Pray they will have strength and hope despite their desperate situation.



A focus on Bethlehem

16 - 22 NOVEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Last year, we reached 5,000 children in Gaza, Bethlehem and across the West Bank with Bible puppet shows, plays, arts and crafts and festivals. Praise God that a generation of Palestinian children are meeting Jesus through interactive Scripture.
- Pray that children will discover an alternative message in the Bible. Pray they'll see that violence, hatred and extremism is trumped by love, kindness and forgiveness.
- Pray for the commitment and safety of our volunteers who give their time freely to provide Scripture, fun, joy, peace and Christmas spirit to children living in areas of hatred and fear.

23 - 29 NOVEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for Nashat Filmon, who oversees the Palestinian Bible Society and his team. Pray for their safety and for wisdom as they share Scripture in a challenging context.
- Give thanks for Nashat's good relations with our other staff in Jerusalem, who serve the Israeli and Arab-Israeli communities. Ask God to protect them as they meet together to pray.
- Ask that the unity of Bible Societies across the Holy Land sends a powerful message to communities and other organisations there.
- Pray that this project continues to break barriers of theological difference. Praise God as he unites various ministries under one common title - the Bible.



'And the Lord added to their number daily...'

This Christmas, we'll once again be supporting the growing Church in China – and raising money to provide Bibles to new Christians there. We've been printing and distributing Bibles in China for years, but still demand outstrips supply.

This Communist nation is home to three times as many Christians as you'll find in the UK. We need to print five million Bibles a year to ensure there are enough for every new believer.

It's a huge undertaking that relies on prayer as much as financial gifts. Please, will you remember Chinese Christians in your prayers this month? Thank you.



30 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Give thanks for the testimony of Yin Jianhui (WIA p4), who came to faith after an encounter with the Bible and who's now a pastor responsible for 200,000 believers. Thank God for shaping her life in an amazing way.
- Chinese Christians often give the Bible as a gift to family and friends, as evangelism is illegal. Ask God to use these encounters with Scripture to touch people's lives.

7 - 13 DECEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- To keep up with demand for Scripture, we aim to supply five million Bibles a year to the Chinese Church. Pray for the finances, infrastructure and manpower to make this happen.
- Pray for colleagues at our printing centre, Amity, in Nanjing. Give thanks for their dedicated work and commitment to high standards.

A focus on China

14 - 20 DECEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray that our Christmas fundraising campaign will be successful, attracting new supporters to share in this Bible mission.
- Pray that many people will use and share our new Christmas stickers, designed by artist Emma Skerratt (WIA p13).

21 - 27 DECEMBER

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for our wider work in China, particularly for efforts to train church leaders. Currently, there's one ordained pastor to every 6,000 Christians.
- Give thanks that we've been able to stock seminary libraries with biblical studies books, and pray we'd continue to have funds to provide Study Bibles to students.



28 DECEMBER - 3 JANUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for those who'll learn to read through our Bible-based literacy classes in China in 2016. We're aiming to teach 500,000 people to read using Scripture as the main text. Praise God that the first words they'll read are: 'God is love'.
- Ask God to continue to provide leaders for these literacy classes – people who can facilitate the lessons for their own community.



Reading their new Bibles outside church in Henan Province.

January - a focus on Malawi

Changing a nation

As we begin a new journey with our colleagues in Malawi, we ask for your prayers and support in making this a successful partnership. We're working with Malawi's government leaders to implement a number of programmes across the nation. Improving knowledge and understanding of the Bible among these leaders is paramount.

Our hope is that the guidance of these influential figures combined with government-backed, Bible-based literacy classes, will feed into the lives of Malawi's people; changing attitudes, behaviours and communities so that they feel more able to live according to God's word.

3 - 10 JANUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray that Malawi's government leaders will take the Bible seriously in their leadership and that this will be reflected across society as they go about their daily lives.
- Pray that delegates in this programme will be inspired to tackle issues of integrity, justice, peace, health and youth through the Bibles' message.

11 - 17 JANUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

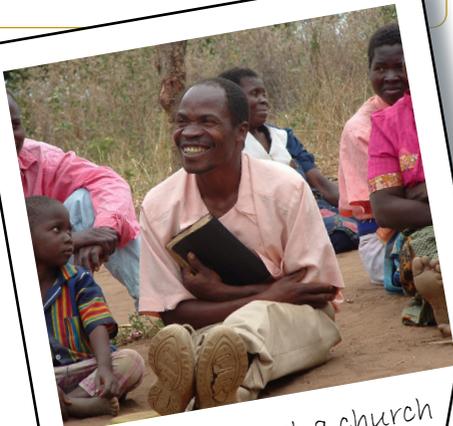
- Pray for the Bible Society team working with leaders in Malawi, thank God for their commitment and ask that they are given strength, wisdom and safety as they embark on this journey.
- Pray that this work will be holistic, meaningful and relevant among communities across the nation.

A focus on Malawi

18 - 24 JANUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Thank God for the positive relationships that we have built with local churches and Word Alive ministries International in Malawi. Pray that they develop as we expand our programmes in this area.
- Pray that making God's Word available will ignite the desire for the recipients to spend time regularly studying the Bible both as an individual and with others.

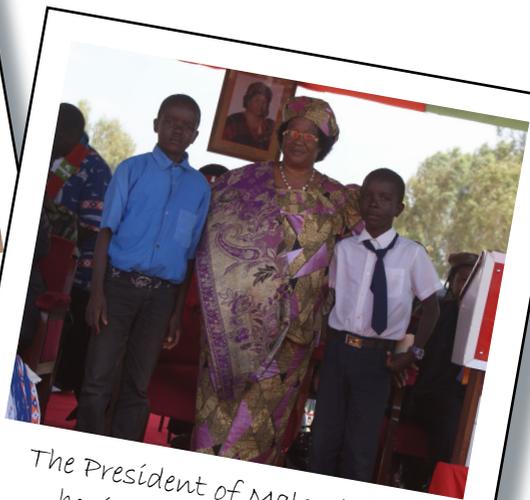


Local people at a church
in Rivirivi

25 - 31 JANUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for the translation of a Study Bible with notes in Chichewa. Thank God for those who worked for 20 years on this translation and ask that distribution goes smoothly.
- Pray for the muslim people that make up 13% of the population in Malawi. Ask that God is with us as we begin working with this community to discover how we can serve them.



The President of Malawi at the
beginning of Bible Week

February - a focus on passing it on

The Bible: too good to keep to ourselves

What do a million free booklets, an inflatable whale and an actor playing the angel Gabriel perched atop a Penny Farthing have in common? They're all elements of our hugely popular Pass it On campaign!

Our research shows that nine out of ten people don't read the Bible. So Pass it On aims to give them a reason and the opportunity to open it up. We want to demonstrate that Scripture can be exciting, dramatic, inspired and intriguing – and we want to give people a reason to open the Bible for themselves.

There are exciting plans for Pass it On in 2016 – and we value your prayers for this campaign.

1 - 7 FEBRUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Give thanks for the creative ways the Bible has been opened up to people in recent years. From a Nativity re-telling on bikes in Bristol, to a giant inflatable whale beached at Weston-Super-Mare recreating the story of Jonah.
- Praise God that so many families experienced the Bible at these events, and pray they'll consider Scripture afresh as a result.

8 -14 FEBRUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Pray for our campaigns team who are working on plans for Pass it On in 2016. Pray they'll be able to connect with key people who can support and further the campaign.
- Pray for our web team. Pass it On is promoted strongly through our website; pray we'll be able to use the internet smartly to reach the widest audience.

A focus on passing it on

15 - 21 FEBRUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Give thanks that so many people received our nativity booklets during Christmas 2015. Praise God for the kind supporters whose gifts allowed us to distribute booklets free of charge.
- Pray that families who read the Nativity story will be open to hearing more of the Bible. Pray they will read about Jesus' life and consider the claims he made.

22 - 28 FEBRUARY

PLEASE PRAY:

- Ask God to show you how you could pass on Scripture to the next generation. Is there a child you could read or share a Bible story with? A family you could pass one of our booklets to?
- Pray for opportunities to share this campaign with your church. Visit our website biblesociety.org.uk to find out more and consider how your community could be involved.



Nativity cycle ride,
Bristol



Feeding the five thousand
on Brighton beach

This could be your most powerful gift

A gift in your will to Bible Society could bring a precious gift to others: the gift of God's Word. A single Bible can change a life, and a single life can change a family and eventually a whole community.

Please, remember Bible Society in your will, and give a powerful gift.

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