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BIBLE SOCIETY
NORTHERN IRELAND

PRAY WITH US

SEPTEMBER 2024

Hello

It's hard to believe we're already into September. We pray that this email finds you in good health and that you feel God's guiding presence with you today. Thank you so much for your continued partnership in this mission to reach everyone with God's Word. None of the projects that you read about each month could happen without the generous prayerful and financial support of people like you.

Northern Ireland

As we move towards Harvest season, and the Autumn months, we wanted to remind you that we would love to come and share about our work with your church or group. If you would like to have a speaker come and share with your church or group about the Bible Society and the work we do, please contact the office on 028 9032 6577 or email info@biblesocietyni.co.uk

- 17th September - Mark speaking at CIYD Youth, Children & Family worker 'Connect' day.
- 30th September - Wilson (our new CEO) begins with us.

BIBLE-A-MONTH PROJECT

PAKISTAN

Literacy rates in Pakistan are very low especially amongst Christian women who are based in villages and slums – they don't have the same opportunities to learn. Women in these contexts work hard under difficult circumstances, they have to provide and care for their families as well, which leaves little spare time to go to church or to learn.

The literacy rate of women in Pakistan is generally around 64%, but in the Christian community, this drops lower to only 34%.

The 'Beacon in the Darkness of Illiteracy' project helps these women to learn how to read and write, and grow in faith, making a difference to the whole family unit.

Through this project, women are given the opportunity to engage in literacy classes. Here they can gain a level 2 certificate in Urdu, the most common language in Pakistan, as well as receiving their own copy of the New testament. The Bible Society's hope is that after completing the literacy programme, these women will be able to read the Scriptures for themselves.

From 2014 to 2023, a total of 57,964 women graduated from this project, each with new skills and their own copy of the New Testament. Thanks to this, it is estimated that over 289,820 people have been impacted through this project so far as the whole family benefits from the education of the women in it. The Bible Society of Pakistan hope that this figure will be doubled in the next five years as the project continues.

Your support this month will help to provide Bible-based teaching materials to be used in these literacy classes, as well as the gift of God's Word to the graduating women.

Pray for this Project:

- Pray for new students on these courses; that they would be keen to learn.
- Give thanks for the 57,964 women and their families who have benefited from this project so far.
- Pray for the creation of more opportunities for Christian women to engage in literacy programs. May barriers to access be removed, and may more women be given the chance to improve their literacy and spiritual knowledge.
- Pray for provision of all the resources needed to support the literacy programs, including funding, materials, and staff. May God provide abundantly so that the project can continue to make a difference.

HELP GIVE A BIBLE-A-MONTH

FROM AS LITTLE AS £5 A MONTH YOU COULD HELP GIVE SOMEONE THE GIFT OF A BIBLE.

This project is our Bible-a-Month project for September. By becoming a Bible-a-Month partner you will help to provide Scripture to people all over the world every month. You will receive a free calendar with information about this and 11 other Bible Society projects. Commit to giving just £5 each month and you will ensure that the Word of God is shared across the world. Sign up here.

Prayer for Sri Lanka

Recently Aaron has been talking with our colleagues in the Ceylon Bible Society, in Sri Lanka. As a Bible Society here in Northern Ireland, we have supported many of their projects over the years and we want to continue to hold them in our prayers.

- Pray for the elections in Sri Lanka this month as they seek to elect a new president during a time of economic turmoil.
- Pray for the economic situation in Sri Lanka following the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused many skilled, professional, and young people to emigrate from the country.
- Pray for an end to the Cost of Living crisis they are facing.
- Pray for the Bible distribution work that continues to happen, despite the high cost.
- Pray for the Braille and Audio Bible translations that are ongoing as well as the translation of the Old Testament into Tamil.

BIBLE SOCIETY
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www.biblesocietyni.co.uk

Charity Registration Number: NIC102557

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