

Lifewords Prayer, August 2022

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

Luke 11:9-10 (NIV)

Prayer is vital to everything we do. We want to follow Jesus' example and connect with God; to ask for peace, transformation, salvation; and to pray for the impact of the work of Lifewords around the world. Please join us as we pray this month.

31 July – 6 August Reflecting on 2021

We've just published our 2021 Annual Review – a chance to reflect on and celebrate a year where Covid lockdown restrictions eased and churches started meeting together in person again, but also where new Covid variants brought further uncertainty. We stayed constant in our mission to help people engage with the Bible in their everyday lives, churches, and communities.

The Annual Review celebrates sharing the Bible in print, in person, and online all over the world. In the UK, Christmas and Easter resources were shared with friends and family, and at church and community events. Our digital resources, such as Life Changing Words and VerseFirst, helped people connect with and share the Bible. Pavement Project counselled vulnerable children and their families, and the team continued to develop the new app and online training resources. In countries across the world, people were using Pavement Project, Choose Life, and the Ninefold Path to bring transformation and new perspectives.

Visit www.lifewords.global to read our 2021 Annual Review.

Pray with us

Give thanks for another year of Bible ministry and for new ways of reaching people with God's Word.

Praise God for the diversity and creativity of our resources, reaching different people groups in different countries.

Pray for our resources and the people who share, read, and engage with them. Pray that many people would meet Jesus and begin a new life with him.

7–13 August

News from Indonesia

Gunar Sahari, Lifewords Indonesia Director, updates us on the latest from Indonesia:

"In Indonesia, the number of people who are testing positive for coronavirus is increasing.

We are still in the midst of the pandemic and many people still face financial difficulties. This is a good opportunity for us to share food parcels with poor people – we pray that this outreach will reach their hearts. Through this initiative we have had the opportunity to connect with many Muslim people, building relationships and community with them.

"We have also restarted our ministry to street children, which was paused during the pandemic. The number of street children in Jakarta and other cities in Indonesia has increased due to the pandemic. Many children could not go to school because of financial difficulties at home, or because they couldn't join online classes."

Pray with us

Give thanks for Lifewords in Indonesia and for the relationships that Gunar and the team are building with different communities. Pray that they would stay safe and healthy as they minister during the pandemic.

Pray for young people in Indonesia, that they would be protected and cared for, and that they would be able to go to school. Pray for children who are living on the streets that they would be helped to return home or find a place of safety.

14–20 August 50 languages project

Our 50 languages project seeks to create a core range in widely spoken languages, giving the 5 billion people who speak these 50 languages access to literature in their first language. Jarek Jankowski, Bible Resources Director, updates us on progress:

"This year is the second year of our 50 languages project. Since January we have translated and typeset new resources in nine new languages: Albanian, Norwegian, Portuguese European, Punjabi East, Serbian, Slovak, Swedish, Tagalog, and Thai. At the end of June, we had 20 new titles ready for printing in total. On top of that, in the first half of 2022 we printed seven titles in Bengali, Russian, and Ukrainian.

"We also have new animations for *An Invitation* and *Finding Hope* in Norwegian, increasing the number of animations published this year to 14. Other animations created this year are in Arabic, Dari, Gujarati, Sundanese, Turkish, and Urdu."

Pray with us

Give thanks for the progress and success of the 50 languages project. Pray that the new resources find their way to people across the world, and that those people would discover Jesus as they read the Bible.

Pray for the team in Poland as they continue to translate, typeset, and print new resources.

21–27 August

Pavement Project around the world

Clenir dos Santos, Pavement Project Director, shares items for prayer:

"We have recently had more people who want to learn how to use the new Pavement Project app. This is wonderful, considering the thousands of children who need it so much. Please pray for our trainers, so that they have the availability to train more workers.

"We now have 30 active trainers and 28 active trainee trainers in 19 countries (5 in Africa; 1 in India; 21 in Latin America; 1 in Europe). So many have been struggling after the pandemic with health problems and unemployment, so please pray that God would give these 58 volunteers around the globe strength and determination.

"Thank God for the 10 training sessions that happened in the first half of this year, including two led by Biju, our trainee trainer in India. Pray for the trainers and their plans for training. Our expectation is to have 20 training sessions this year. Please pray for the newly trained workers as they use the green bag with the children.

"Thank God for over 89,000 counselling sessions so far! Please pray for Pavement Project at work in 24 countries."

28 August – 3 September Little Book of Prayer

Our resource *Inspiring Prayer* has had a makeover! It has been reformatted and renamed – *Little Book of Prayer* is now part of the <u>Little Book range</u>. Whether you pray regularly or have never really tried it before, this booklet combines prayers from the Bible with other written prayers and exercises. It's perfect for church events, pastoral ministry, chaplaincies, youth work, or just as a way to offer spiritual support to a friend.

Visit <u>www.lifewords.global/shop</u> to order the new *Little Book of Prayer*.

In other exciting news we are running a brand new Digital Storysharers Challenge for young people over the summer. We are inviting anyone under the age of 25 to create brand new digital content that is inspired by the Bible, and there will be a prize of £350 for the winner, to help with their future creative journey. Anyone who is interested in applying can email us at hello@versefirst.com.

Pray with us

Give thanks for how the Bible helps us connect with God. Pray that the *Little Book of Prayer* would inspire us to deepen our relationship with God.

Give thanks for the way in which we can read and engage with the Bible digitally, opening up new possibilities for sharing good news. Pray for our new Digital Storysharers Challenge – that many young people would be inspired to share the Bible creatively.

Thank you for praying with us! Your partnership in prayer is vital to all that we do as we share the Bible's life words around the world. You can make a donation to our work online at www.lifewords.global, by post, or by calling 020 7730 2155.