

# LIFEWORDS

## Lifewords Prayer, August 2021

*You're blessed when you stay on course, walking steadily on the road revealed by GOD.  
You're blessed when you follow his directions, doing your best to find him.  
That's right—you don't go off on your own; you walk straight along the road he set.  
You, GOD, prescribed the right way to live; now you expect us to live it.  
Oh, that my steps might be steady, keeping to the course you set;  
Then I'd never have any regrets in comparing my life with your counsel.  
I thank you for speaking straight from your heart;  
I learn the pattern of your righteous ways.  
I'm going to do what you tell me to do; don't ever walk off and leave me.*

### **Psalm 119:1-8 The Message**

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Welcome to the August edition of Lifewords Prayer. Let's reflect and meditate on these words from Psalm 119.

This month we have stories from Pavement Project, an update on UK churches, news from Indonesia, and prayer for some of our partners. Please join us as we pray.

### **1-7 August**

#### **Pavement Project news**

Clenir dos Santos shares some Pavement Project stories and prayer requests:

- “The Pavement Project team in Brazil recently gathered online to celebrate 21 years of Pavement Project. We spoke about what brought us to Lifewords; the experience that touched us most; and our greatest dreams and challenges. We also had many volunteers, board members and supporters who joined us, sending messages of affection and congratulations. The live stream was seen by more than 700 people.” Give thanks for 21 years of Pavement Project, for the people involved, the dreams achieved, the hopes for the future. Praise God for the thousands of children and families who have been healed through Pavement Project.
- “One of the Pavement Project workers from Cape Verde, Oliver, who was trained in June 2021, is 30 years old, but she was only 12 when she herself was counselled with the green bag. What joy to see her trained by the same worker who did her counselling session 18 years ago. Now Oliver is counselling others and was able to see a 13-year-old girl have an amazing change in her self-worth and desire to know Jesus more. It is also a great joy to have the work in Cape Verde reactivated with two new trained workers.” Give thanks for the legacy of Pavement Project. Pray for new workers, like Oliver, and for the growing work in Cape Verde.
- During the counselling session, children are asked what they would like to pray about. Here are some responses from children aged 9-17, please pray for them:

"Please God, get rid of the pain of my heart, bring more peace to my family", "Jesus, forgive me, and also keep my siblings safe", "I ask that my parents can also call on the Lord so that they can be happy like I am", "I ask God to not let me be shaken by what happens. I feel grateful for everything I have", "I ask God for self-control and wisdom", "I ask for my brothers to be blessed and to stop doing wrong things. I ask God that I become a successful person who would make my parents proud", "I pray to Jesus that he will heal my pain and that he will be my friend", "Jesus, touch my father's heart so that he would want to find me, and that my mother would come back well and healthy from Malaysia", "I pray that you, Jesus, will help me follow a good path, and also bless my family", "God, take away my sadness. I want to rest in you".

Find out more about Pavement Project at [www.lifewords.global/projects/pavement-project/](http://www.lifewords.global/projects/pavement-project/)

### **8–14 August**

#### **Returning to church**

Over the past few months in the UK, as lockdown restrictions have eased, churches have been opening their doors and restarting services and events. Join us as we pray for churches in the UK this summer.

- After months of online worship, congregations are beginning to meet together in church buildings once more. Pray for church leaders as they manage the transition back to physical church meetings and consider how best to approach outreach and pastoral care. Pray that leaders and their congregations would be equipped, encouraged, and inspired to share good news.
- During the height of lockdown restrictions, many churches adapted to embrace technology and digital resources. Lots of churches also increased their community engagement, delivering food to those who were isolating or vulnerable, supporting those who were dealing with job losses, illness or shielding, and helping people navigate the uncertainty and pain of the pandemic. Praise God for the way churches have responded during such challenging times. Pray that they would continue to reach out and serve communities, and would innovate and adapt, harnessing digital technologies to serve and glorify God.
- Over the past year there have been reports of how non-churchgoers have shown an increased interest in prayer and the Bible. Churches have also reported that their online congregations have increased. Praise God for how in times of crisis the Bible, prayer and church can offer strength, hope and meaning. Pray for anyone who encountered Jesus for the first time through connecting with a church online. Ask that they would continue their journey of faith.

### **15–21 August**

#### **Indonesia**

Gunar and the team in Indonesia continue to reach out to pastors and serve the poor, despite the risk of Covid and in compliance with lockdown restrictions. Here are some updates for your prayers:

- In May and June this year, before Covid-19 travel restrictions came into force, Gunar took "mobile missions" to South East Timor, West Java, Central Java, East Java, and North Sulawesi. Mobile missions are an opportunity to gather with pastors and Sunday School teachers and to offer training in The Visible Story and

other Lifeworlds resources. They also spend time with local children, sharing Bible stories. Praise God that Gunar has been able to carry on visiting, training, and supporting pastors. Pray that these pastors would be encouraged and empowered to serve their communities.

- In Naibonat, South East Timor, Gunar visited Jenny Takal who works with the many refugees who live in the rural areas. These people are very poor, often depending on government support, and their children are unlikely to go to school. Jenny started a pre-school and used to have to pick up the children to take them to school because their parents did not support them going. But after a few months parents began taking their children to school because they realised that education is important for their children's future. Praise God for Jenny and her commitment to these young people. Pray that her ministry would grow, and the community would see the positive impact of their children being educated.
- In 2019, Gunar started Pelita Dunia (Light of the World) Ministry. The community now has about 60 adult members and about 100 children, most of whom are very poor and are now facing more problems because of the pandemic. Gunar has been distributing groceries and gifts for the children. "We have about 30 families who really need our help," says Gunar. "Most of them are widows with three or four children. They face financial difficulties every day and the pandemic makes their situation worse. Many children have not continued with school because they do not have any facility to do online learning. We have tried to help them by starting Lifeworlds Kids Ministry to help their study." Praise God for Gunar and his commitment to serving the poor. Pray for him and for the Lifeworlds team in Indonesia, that they would have the resources they need to help people both practically and spiritually.

## **22–28 August**

### **Making the Bible accessible to all**

We've recently added new large print resources to our pastoral range – *Living with Loss and Why Me?* now join *Daily Strength* as large print versions. Tim Jeffery from Torch Trust, the Christian sight loss charity, says: "How wonderful to hear that you are producing more key resources in large print – thank you for taking that step, it gladdens our hearts to see organisations thinking of those for whom the standard versions are not accessible."

- Torch Trust partners with Lifeworlds to reproduce some of our Bible resources in braille and super-large print. The charity exists to help people with sight loss discover Christian faith and lead fulfilling Christian lives. They provide resources and activities for blind and partially sighted people all over the world. Give thanks for Torch Trust and the work they do. Pray for the team and volunteers as they reach out to and support people who are blind or partially sighted.
- OUTSIDE/IN is another resource in our range that seeks to make the Bible more accessible. One of the partners for the development of the resource was Livability, a charity that enables people with disabilities to live the life they want to lead. They seek to bring about change and help people tackle the obstacles in their life. Pray for Livability as they seek to improve the quality of life for those who are often overlooked and marginalised.
- Count Everyone In, who also partnered with us on OUTSIDE/IN, seek to inspire and equip the Church to be welcoming and accessible to all, especially those who are so often marginalised by society, and even the church, because of learning

disability. Pray for Count Everyone In as they work with and train churches, seeking to advise and support them.

Find out more about our partners at [www.torchtrust.org](http://www.torchtrust.org), [www.livability.org.uk](http://www.livability.org.uk), and [www.counteveryonein.org.uk](http://www.counteveryonein.org.uk)

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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](http://www.lifewords.global), by post, or by calling 020 7730 2155.