



BIBLE A MONTH
REGULAR GIVING

YOUR MONTHLY MEMBER'S REPORT **APRIL 2023**

URUGUAY

In Uruguay, a seven-year-old girl called Camilla began attending a Bible school at a church. She became a Christian and she then took her faith home to her family. After seeing the changes that were occurring in their family, her parents began attending church too. They accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour and in December 2022, they were baptised. This is just one example of the fruit that is being born through the Bible Society of Uruguay's "Breakfast with Jesus" project.

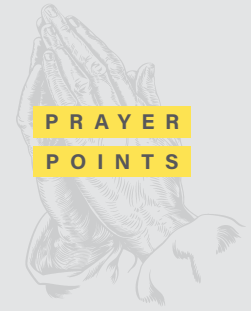
Now in its second year, the project is a response to the struggles many families have been experiencing in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has left serious social and economic consequences in its wake. The project builds on Bible Society's previous experience of the pandemic when it distributed Scriptures and food to needy families throughout the country in collaboration with different ministries.

And for the second year running, churches have responded quickly to the invitation to enrol with all the registrations being filled within three days. Each church receives at least 26 kg of chocolate drink powder fortified with vitamins, one children's colouring-in book entitled "Jesus Life", and one study Bible for children through the programme.

Bible Society often receives feedback from the teachers and pastors of the churches about the needs of these children, particularly those in the interior of the country, and how grateful they are to receive the Scripture books and the chocolate powdered milk food. Your gift to Bible a Month Regular Giving this month will help to support this project.



*Primary source: CIA World Factbook
Photo Credit © UBS China Partnership



Pray for the Sunday School teachers and church leaders for energy and strength for them to teach the children.

Pray that over the course of ten years 10,000 children will come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Pray that in this highly secularised country, churches' evangelistic work will gain momentum causing more people to come to the Lord.

Pray that Uruguayans will realise that New Age thinking which has prevailed is not working and will turn back to Christ.



Scan to get a look at our latest Prayer Booklet!

FURTHER BIBLE MISSION PROJECTS



INDONESIA

In the 12th century, a Christian church was established in Barus, a trading post in North Sumatra, which was frequented by Indian traders. This is the earliest evidence of Christianity in Indonesia. In the 16th century, Portuguese traders arrived, and they also brought Christianity with them.

Today, around ten per cent of Indonesia's population of 279 million people identify as Christian, with most Christians being found in eight of Indonesia's 38 provinces. Many Chinese Indonesians identify as Christian with 35 per cent choosing this designation in the 2020 census. The Indonesian Bible Society is working to bring Bible translation, distribution, engagement, and literacy projects to people in Indonesia.

Photo Credit © Geoffrey Stamp



SRI LANKA

Christianity reached Sri Lanka in the 1st century AD thought to have been brought there by Thomas the Apostle. Today, seven per cent of the population identify as Christian. However, 70 per cent of Sri Lankans identify as Buddhist, with another 13 per cent identifying as Hindu. Buddhism is the national religion and as such it is promoted and protected, although freedom of religion is assured.

The Ceylon Bible Society is working to bring braille and audio Bibles to visually disabled people. It is providing gospel selections in sign language to deaf people. Partnering with churches it is training church leaders to run trauma healing courses, and it is providing e-Bibles for children.

Photo Credit © Wilakshitha Mendis



PAKISTAN

Thomas the Apostle is also attributed with bringing Christianity to the area that is now known as Pakistan. Under British rule, during the 18th and 19th centuries, Christian missionaries established schools, colleges, universities, orphanages, and hospitals, ushering in a new era of education and healthcare. Hundreds of thousands came to faith during this time, partly to escape the caste system, and they provided labour in garrison towns.

Today, Pakistan is a Muslim-majority country of 96.5 per cent, with 3.5 per cent of the population adhering to other faiths, such as Christianity and Hinduism. The Pakistan Bible Society is providing literacy classes for illiterate Christian women, as well as Scriptures for Christian children, through its partnership with Scripture Union.

Photo Credit © Pakistan Bible Society



GULF STATES

In the 4th century, Christianity reached the Persian Gulf brought there by persecuted Christians escaping Iraq and Iran, and the migration of Christian traders seeking to capitalise on the pearl trade. In the 7th century, Islam arrived. By the 9th century, Christianity had all but disappeared.

Today, 70 per cent of Kuwait's population of 4.4 million is made up of migrant workers from over one hundred countries. These migrant workers live and work in harsh conditions and are exploited by their employers. Amid this some are turning to faith. They attend migrant churches which are poor and unable to afford training for their leaders. The Bible Society in the Gulf is assisting by training migrant church leaders by running seminars on Bible-related topics.

Photo Credit © Bible Society in the Gulf



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Bible House • 144 Tory Street • Private Bag 27 901, Marion Square, Wellington 6141
Freephone: 0800 424 253 • Tel: 64 4 384 4119 • CC22121 • www.biblesociety.org.nz



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