



'Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand.'

Revelation 8:3.4 (NIV UK)

If you follow Read and Pray each day then you will have read these verses towards the end of February, just a couple of days after Russia invaded Ukraine. Perhaps the context made me sit up and take more notice of the vital part prayer plays in God working out his plan of salvation. Here is what a couple of the Scripture Union note writers shared about these verses:

'If you have ever wondered whether there was any point in praying; whether prayer actually changes anything at all, this image is a great encouragement to persevere. No prayer is wasted, even if currently it is awaiting God's time.'

'Does this bring home to us the crucial role of prayer and the seriousness with which the Lord takes the intercessions of his people?'

May this be both a challenge and an encouragement as we stand with sisters and brothers in Christ around the world, bringing their needs and opportunities before God's throne of grace.

Thank you for praying along with us.

Elaine Duncan Chief Executive

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April 2022



A representative from the Ukrainian Bible Society delivers Bibles to a soldier.

1 April - Matthew 25:14-30

The *Bible-a-month* partner for April is the Ukrainian Bible Society. They publish and distribute special editions of Bibles and New Testaments to army units all over **Ukraine**. At the time of writing, Russian forces have launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, attacking locations across the country. Please pray with urgency that the governments of Russia and Ukraine will agree to a cease-fire and be willing to negotiate towards peace. Pray for a new openness to the Gospel message amongst military personnel on both sides.

2 April - Matthew 25:31-46

Elaine Duncan is speaking at a *Women's Weekend* at the Compass Christian Centre in **Glenshee**. Pray that this would be a time of good fellowship and challenging teaching for all those attending.

3 April - Psalm 40

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Pray for Norman Liddle, Community Partnership Manager, as he shares about the work of SBS at **Menstrie United Free Church** today. Pray that people will be inspired as they hear about what God is doing around the world.

4 April - Matthew 26:1–16

Literacy for Women in Africa is a project currently running in five African countries. In **Malawi**, literacy classes are provided in two minority languages Lomwe and Yawo. Pray that women attending these classes will become skilled readers, grow in confidence and be able to discover the Bible for themselves.

5 April - Matthew 26:17-25
A vehicle is needed for the National Literacy Coordinator at the Bible Society of

Malawi. Reliable transport is crucial in the delivery of the Literacy for Women in Africa programme. Pray that the Lord will provide for this particular need.

- 6 April Matthew 26:26-35
 Pray for everyone who will use our *Wonder Walks* resource this Easter.
 As people of all ages read, think, talk and are active around the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, pray they would be drawn closer to him.
- 7 April Matthew 26:36-46
 10 Must Know Bible Stories are free downloadable RME lesson plans for schools.
 Please pray for Sue Thomson, Educational Resources Coordinator, as she works with SBS to develop these.
- 8 April Matthew 26: 47–56
 New Easter Trails has been released as part of our educational resource,
 10 Must Know Bible Stories. Please pray that many teachers hear about the trails and use them with their class to explore the Bible.
- 9 April Matthew 26:57-68
 Please pray urgently for the Bible Society of Mexico as they work to provide medical staff with Bibles. The doctor to patient ratio in Mexico is alarming 2.1 doctors for every thousand people and the situation has become increasingly desperate due to COVID-19.
- 10 April Psalm 41
 The Micronesia Partnership aims to make Bibles available to the population of the remote Micronesian Islands. Pray especially for the provision of Scripture materials for young people living there. Pray that many will accept God's message of love.
- 11 April Matthew 26:69-75
 The Ties that Bind: Linking Families through the Scriptures aims to distribute Family Bibles to vulnerable families and single parents in Moldova. Pray that lives will be changed and family bonds strengthened as households read God's Word together.
- 12 | 12 April Matthew 27:1-10 | Pray for the team currently working on the translation of the New Testament of the Mongolian Standard Version of the Bible. Give thanks for the diligence and faithfulness of staff at the Mongolian Union Bible Society. The complete Bible is due for publication in 2027.

- 13 April Matthew 27:11–26
 Give thanks for everyone who has already donated to our appeal for Algeria and Morocco. It is a great start to reaching our target of \$30,000 to support the persecuted church in those countries.
- 14 April Matthew 27:27-44
 In Mozambique, more than 60% of the population cannot read. Please pray for the vital work of the *Faith Comes by Hearing Programme*, run by the Bible Society in Mozambique, the aim of which is to share God's Word in audio format. Give thanks for the many lives this programme has transformed.
- 15 April GOOD FRIDAY Matthew 27:45–56
 Pray for churches in Scotland conducting Good Friday services today. Pray that as we focus on the suffering Jesus endured, his sacrificial death for us will touch our hearts deeply and fill us with love and gratitude.
- 16 Pray for Norman Liddle, Community Partnership Manager, as he prepares to preach tomorrow at Ferniehill Evangelical Church, Edinburgh. Pray that people will catch the joy of the great news that Jesus is alive!
- 17 April EASTER SUNDAY Matthew 28:1–10
 As we celebrate Easter, pray that we might not receive the message of the cross with over-familiarity but rather it would be like we are hearing it for the first time. May we respond by giving our risen Saviour the central place in our lives.
- 18 April Matthew 28:11–20
 Elaine Duncan is speaking at the Capernwray Spring School in Cumbria this week. Pray that the students will gain a deeper understanding of God's Word as Elaine delivers her lectures on Philippians.
- 19 April Jeremiah 1:1–19
 Translations of the Bible in the Oshikwanyama and Oshindonga languages are in progress in Namibia and Angola. The Bible Societies in both countries are collaborating on the project. Please pray that the recently completed Book of Mark will be printed and distributed soon and that it will be well-received.
- 20 April Jeremiah 2:1–37
 The Bible Society of Namibia is translating Stories of the Bible 101 Bible Stories
 Every Child Should Know into the country's seven local languages. Give thanks that this will make it possible for children in Namibia to read Bible stories in their mother tongue for the first time.
- 21 April Jeremiah 3:1-25
 The Nepal Bible Society aims to provide *The Bible for Every Home in Nepal*.
 Pray that many Nepalese will experience a change in their lives as a result of having access to God's living Word.

22 | 22 April - Jeremiah 4:1-31

As we continue to move out of the pandemic, many people are coping with loss, loneliness and fear. Give thanks for the work of *Bible-based Trauma Healing* in **Scotland** which is reminding those who are struggling that God cares, God understands and God loves them.

23 April - Jeremiah 5:1-31

Please pray for Bible study resources written and published here at SBS. An End to the Darkness on Job and Where You Go on the book of Ruth include engaging audio narratives and are designed for small group discussion. Pray that they will be used by churches across **Scotland**.

24 | 24 April - Psalm 42,43

Pray for the Bible Society of **Nicaragua** as they join with the Bible Society in **Venezuela** to provide and distribute 15,000 missionary Bibles to Venezuelan churches. Pray that the progress made by sharing resources will be of mutual benefit.

25 April - Jeremiah 6:1-30

Progress on the **Vietnamese** Study Bible last year was hampered by a strict COVID-19 lockdown. Additional team members have been added to this project to ensure that the Study Bible will still be published on time. Pray that new members will gel quickly with the existing team.

26 April - Jeremiah 7:1-29 Continue to pray for the Vi

Continue to pray for the **Vietnamese** Study Bible, due for publication by the end of this year. Pray that it will prove to be a valuable resource and help to deepen people's knowledge of Scripture.

27 | 27 April - Jeremiah 7:30-8:19 The Rible Society of the West

The Bible Society of the **West Indies** is offering parents the opportunity to become a Bible reading household by engaging in the 100 Steps Family Bible Challenge. Pray that those families will grow in their knowledge of God.

28 April - Jeremiah 8:19-9:26 Give thanks for the work of the

Give thanks for the work of the Bible Society of **Zambia**. Pray that they will be able to expand the staff team there so that they can monitor projects more effectively.

29 | 29 April - Jeremiah 10:1-23 Pray for Faith Comes by Heari

Pray for Faith Comes by Hearing groups in **Zimbabwe**. Pray particularly for some of the elderly, visually impaired participants. Most started to lose their sight later in life and have never learned to read Braille. An audio Bible is the only way they can access God's Word. Pray that they will find encouragement through what they hear.

30 April - Jeremiah 11:1-23

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Please pray for the translation team from the Bible Society of Zimbabwe as they work on a New Version of the *Tonga Bible*. The *Tonga* language is spoken by nearly 300,000 people in **Zimbabwe** and the Southern province of **Zambia**.

May 2022



Children in Malawi eagerly read Bibles they have just received at Sunday School.

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1 May - Psalm 44

The *Bible-a-month* partner for May is the Bible Society of Malawi. In **Malawi**, Sunday schools are often hugely under-resourced. It is not uncommon for one hundred children to share one Children's Bible, with each child having to wait for their turn to take the well-used copy home to read. Please pray that funds will be raised so that more Children's Bibles can be provided. Pray that children will no longer need to share, and each child can receive their own copy of God's Word. Pray that many will come to know the love of Jesus in their lives.

- 2 May Jeremiah 12:1-17
 - New resources are available on our website to use with *Dear Theo* (a book containing the text of Luke and Acts in the NiRV). Pray for young people as they read *Dear Theo* and use these resources, that they would meet with God.
- 3 May Jeremiah 13:1–27
 This year the Bible Society of Lithuania has set a target of supplying Lithuanian schools with Bibles to resource teaching about the Christian faith. Please pray that God's Word will have a lasting impact on pupils' lives.
- 4 May Jeremiah 14:1–22
 Please pray for Bible Society staff in Algeria. Please pray that they will know God's protection as they go about their work. Pray that they will have the resources to respond to every person asking for a Bible.

5 May - Jeremiah 15:1-21

A group of UK Bible agencies is working together to host an event this week called *illumiNations Europe*, focusing on the challenges of global Bible translation. Pray that those attending will be moved to support this important work.

6 May - Jeremiah 16:1-21

The Malagasy Bible Society in **Madagascar** aims to help over 1,500 adults to become literate by 2023. Pray that, from the outset, students will benefit from their new reading skills by being able to access easy-to-read Bible portions.

7 | 7 May - Jeremiah 17:1–27

Literacy through Listening is a project run by the Bible Society of Myanmar. Give thanks for the 1,500 Karen-speaking students who graduated last year, having gained basic reading and writing skills.

8 May - Psalm 45

In **Algeria** imported Bibles are often delayed at customs because of religious or political differences, despite having the necessary import licenses. Pray that these will soon be released and distributed throughout the country.

- 9 May Revelation 12:1-17
 The Bible Society of Malaysia aims to help students of Theology in that country.
 The Bible Society is working to provide Seminary libraries with Greek and Hebrew texts. Pray that these will prove a vital resource for students.
- 10 May Revelation 13:1–10
 The Interconfessional Bible Society of Albania runs the Social Academy of Football with partner organisations including the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Ministry of Welfare and Youth. The Academy supports vulnerable children by teaching God's Word, sports coaching and friendship. Give thanks for the way the government has
- 11 May Revelation 13:11–18
 Elaine Duncan is speaking at the Strathpeffer and Dingwall Free Church Mission Focus meeting (via Zoom). Give thanks for the support of this congregation and their continued interest in Bible Society work.

endorsed this project, and pray that young lives will be transformed by it.

- 12 May Revelation 14:1–5
 The Interconfessional Bible Society of Albania is hosting a Bible Engagement Forum to share information about Bible engagement practices in different countries. Pray that, as a result, there will be new beginnings in Bible engagement ministry in Bible Societies across the world.
- 13 May Revelation 14:6-20
 Pray for the communities of the Bonaire and Curaçao Islands in the Southern
 Caribbean. The local Bible Society there shows Gospel films regularly and then
 invites the audience to a Faith Comes by Hearing listening group where they can
 receive a free Bible. Pray that interest in the message of the Bible will grow from
 this outreach.

- 14 May Revelation 15:1-8
- Many Bible-based Trauma Healing groups are taking place around **Scotland**. Give thanks for our volunteer facilitators as they give of their time to share God's Word with others bringing hope, healing and restoration.
- 15 May Psalm 46
 Remember the translators of the Bible into the *Pitjantjatjara* language in
 Australia. Pray for them as they continue to learn and develop translation skills.
 These translators live in several remote communities in Central Australia and have been coming together voluntarily for training and translation since 2011.
- 16 May Revelation 16: 1-11
 Pray for the team working to translate the Bible into the *Kikongo* language of Angola. Pray that through reading God's Word in their heart language, *Kikongo* believers will grow in their faith and knowledge of God.
- 17 May Revelation 16:12–21
 The Magdalena project from the Arab Israeli Bible Society reaches out to women and families in Israel with God's Word. Give thanks last year 4,000 women and their families also benefitted from workshops on pain and healing, a series of Mothers Day events, and a magazine specially written to minister to women.
- 18 May Revelation 17: 1-18
 SBS will launch five short Bible engagement films to accompany our youth resources for *Joseph and the Triumph of Grace*. Please pray that the films will be well used. Pray that they will help young people to understand the key themes in the Joseph story.
- 19 May Revelation 18:1-10
 Today is Outdoor Classroom Day! Please pray that the outdoor learning ideas found in the 10 Must Know Bible Stories resources are used in schools across
 Scotland and will help children to explore the Bible.
- 20 May Revelation 18:11–24
 Elaine Duncan is attending the *Biblica* Board meeting today. Give thanks for the work of *Biblica* and for the good relations SBS has with them.
- 21 May Revelation 19:1-10
 Today is the start of General Assembly week, with the Church of Scotland
 Assembly starting today in Edinburgh and the Free Church Assembly on Monday.
 Please pray for the new Moderators of both Assemblies as they carry out their duties this week and in the year ahead.
- 22 May Psalm 47
 The SBS publication of John's Gospel called *Light and Life* has been very popular. Please pray that every one of the 10,000 copies printed will be distributed and read this year.

23 May - Revelation 19:11-21

Please pray for the island of **Aruba**. The Bible Society in Netherlands Antilles and Aruba aims to strengthen Bible ministry there. Give thanks to God that their vision to transform an old depot into a new Bible Distribution Centre and Bookstore has been realised.

24 May - Revelation 20:1-6

Please pray for the *Outspoken Bible* podcast team, Fiona, Neil and Jen, as they record discussions from John's Gospel, *Light and Life*. Pray that the audience will grow as people share the content online.

25 May - Revelation 20: 7-15

Please remember the Bible Society in **Mali** working to provide the *Malinké* people of West Africa with their first Bible by 2030. Please commit this translation project to the Lord and ask that he will bless the *Malinké* through his Word and that many more will come to faith.

26 May - Revelation 21:1-14

Proise God in Angola, the Ribbs

Praise God in **Angola**, the Bible Society is expanding its ministry by opening bookshops in the different provinces there. Give thanks that in the last five years four new stores have opened. Pray that this will increase the sales of Bibles and related material and make God's Word much more accessible to local people.

27 | 27 May - Revelation 21:15-27

The Truth at Hand by the Argentine Bible Society aims to provide Bible materials in Braille for people living with visual impairment in **Argentina**. Pray that many who live with this disability will have the joy of discovering Jesus.

28 May - Revelation 22:1-9

Pible to Schools provides a market

Bible to Schools provides a method of teaching the Bible for teachers in Armenia.

A special workbook for pupils, developed by the Bible Society of Armenia is also available. Please pray for teachers, that they might be able to answer children's questions about the Bible confidently and accurately, whatever their personal beliefs are.

29 May - Psalm 48

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Moving Gospel: Good News for Border Villages is a project in Armenia bringing presentations of Bible stories and parables to remote rural communities. Please pray that this project will be a significant link to God and the Gospel for the people living in these border villages.

30 May - Revelation 22:10-21

Please remember the Rible Society of

Please remember the Bible Society of **Mauritius** as they seek prayer and financial support to increase Bible work in that country.

31 May - 2 Corinthians 1:1-11
Please pray for the work of the Austrian Bible Society as they make Bibles available for refugees in Austria. Pray especially for refugees who are held in detention centres and prisons, that they will discover God's love.

June 2022



The Good News is a blessing to the different generations of people in Laos.

- 1 June 2 Corinthians 1:12 2:4
 The Bible-a-month partner for June is the Laos Bible Society. Many Christians in Laos live in poverty and come from oppressed minority groups where owning a Bible is quite simply beyond their means. Give thanks for the free Scriptures
 - a Bible is quite simply beyond their means. Give thanks for the free Scriptures being distributed, and ask that God's Word will bring salvation to those struggling because of poverty.
- 2 June 2 Corinthians 2:5-11
 Celebrations are taking place to mark the Platinum Jubilee of our Patron,
 HM The Queen. Give thanks for her faithful service and pray that, after recent restrictions, it will be a time of rejoicing for the nation.
- 3 June 2 Corinthians 2:12–17
 Pray for Norman Liddle, Community Partnership Manager, and other staff attending the *Keswick in Ayrshire* event over the next three days. Pray for inspiring conversations about our work at the Scottish Bible Society stand.

4 June - 2 Corinthians 3:1-6

The first Bible in the *Udi* language is currently being translated. The *Udis* are native people of the Caucasus who live in **Azerbaijan** and five other countries. Give thanks for the success of the *Udi Bibliya* website and promotion on social media about this work by the Azerbaijan Bible Society.

5 June - 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

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Students Action for Christ is a series of Bible workshops run by the **Bangladesh** Bible Society. Pray that as a result, many Christian young people will become confident to share the Good News with their friends at school.

6 June - 2 Corinthians 4:1-6

Our Initial Training course for *Bible-Based Trauma Healing* takes place this week online. Give thanks for the participants who have already booked in, and pray that God will encourage and inspire us as we share around his Word.

7 June - 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

Give thanks for opportunities to share the Bible in schools in **Scotland**. Please pray that the *Bibleworld Books* resources and illustrations will inspire many children and staff to read more of the Bible.

8 June - 2 Corinthians 4:13–18 Give thanks for the work of the

Give thanks for the work of the Bible Society in the Republic of **Belarus** as they reach out to vulnerable children with Children's Bibles, colouring books and other Bible-based literature. Pray that through their efforts many young people will learn about the love of God.

9 June - 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 The SRS Roard meets today

The SBS Board meets today. Give thanks for the commitment and dedication shown by our Trustees as they oversee the governance of the Society.

10 June - 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2

In **Benin**, the Bible Society is working to help people living with visual impairment. Their *Give Hope* project aims to open Braille libraries stocked with Braille New Testaments, and audio Bibles, to give blind people access to God's Word.

11 June - 2 Corinthians 6:3-13

Our latest appeal should land through letterboxes today. Please pray as we partner with the Bible Society in the **Dominican Republic** to provide A *Bible for every Schoolbag*. Pray for the 7,000 children who we hope will receive a copy of the Bible for use in lessons and at home. Pray that through it, God will speak into children's lives.

12 June - Psalm 49

Pray for the Bolivian Bible Society as they reach out to children living in some of **Bolivia's** poorest rural communities. Pray that the ABC writing primer supplied to schools will help many of those children learn to read whilst discovering stories from the Bible.

13 June - 2 Corinthians 6:14 - 7:1
The Rible Society in Rotswana reco

The Bible Society in **Botswana** recognises that there are very few churches that cater for people who live with hearing difficulties. Pray that the Bible will soon be available in sign language in that country, and many deaf people will encounter Jesus through it.

14 June - 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

SBS values the good relations it has with other Christian charities, and today we remember the *Nazareth Trust* as it celebrates its 160th Anniversary with a reception at the Scottish Parliament in **Edinburgh**. Give thanks for their long-standing work in Israel.

- 15 June 2 Corinthians 8:1–15
 Please pray for the Bible Society in Russia. A team there is currently working to translate the Bible into the *Buryat* language. Pray that the new Bible will become a powerful tool for evangelism.
- 16 June 2 Corinthians 8:16-24
 Continue to remember the *Light in the Amazon* boat, which serves the riverside communities of the Amazon in the northern region of Pará, **Brazil**. Ask that through the provision of medical aid and Bibles many people will receive hope.
- 17 June 2 Corinthians 9:1–15
 SBS aims to add more *Equip* Bible studies to the existing free downloads available on the website. Please pray for Adrian Armstrong, Head of Bible Engagement, as he writes these studies. Pray that the new material will make the Bible accessible and better understood by an increasing number of people.
- 18 June 2 Corinthians 10:1-6
 Give thanks for the work of the

Give thanks for the work of the Bulgarian Bible Society. Staff there aim to increase Bible distribution coverage in **Bulgaria** this year and would value prayer as they make contact with smaller Christian bookstores and Protestant and Catholic churches. Pray that this may result in fruitful partnerships.

19 June - Psalm 50

The Bible Society of **Burkina Faso** gives a Bible to members of their *End to End* listening groups. In each group, members listen to a recording of God's Word and discuss the message they've heard. Pray that the Bibles given out will encourage people to read more for themselves.

- 20 June 2 Corinthians 10:7–18
 In Burundi, the Bible Society works with illiterate church members via Faith
 Comes by Hearing groups. Pray that as groups listen to the audio Bible and interact with its message they will become firmly established in their faith.
- 21 June 2 Corinthians 11:1-15

 Bible Match is a children's sports programme run by the Interconfessional Bible Society of Albania which combines sport with Bible teaching. Pray that the children who participate will be transformed by God's grace.

22 | 22 June - 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

A team at the Bible Society of **Brazil** is working hard to transcribe the Bible into Braille so that people with visual impairment can access God's Word. Please pray for them as they seek financial support for this project.

- 23 June 2 Corinthians 12:1–10
 In response to COVID-19, the Columbian Bible Society continues to supply PPE and hygiene products alongside Scripture passages to vulnerable communities in Colombia. Pray that this act of compassion will open hearts to the Gospel.
- 24 June 2 Corinthians 12:11-21

 Hack My Bible is a creative project from the Bible Society in France to find innovative ways for people to access the Bible. Please pray that God would guide the project team.
- 25 June 2 Corinthians 13:1–14
 Scripture Union Scotland will be giving a copy of *Joseph and the Triumph of Grace* to every young person who attends one of their holidays this summer. Pray that many of these young people would get to know Jesus better as they engage with the Bible.
- 26 June Psalm 51
 Pray for the Japan Bible Society as they translate the Bible into sign language and that through their work, many people who have hearing loss will encounter Christ.
- 27 June 2 Samuel 1:1–16

 Work is underway in Kazakhstan to produce a Children's Bible in Russian.

 Initially, the Bible Society planned to create this publication only in Kazakh, but Russian-speaking churches learned about the project and began to send requests for a Russian version. Please pray for many children to be reached through this project.
- 28 June 2 Samuel 1:17-27
 15% of Kenya's population cannot read. The Bible Society there is delivering audio Bibles to areas of high illiteracy and organising listening groups so that communities can hear and help each other understand God's Word. Please pray for continuing good relationships with the local partnerships involved.
- 29 June 2 Samuel 2:1-17
 Hundreds of *Kravet* people living in North Eastern Cambodia have become Christians in recent years, but there is no Bible in their language. Pray for the Bible Society in Cambodia as they aim to make the *First Kravet New Testament* available by 2024.
- 30 June 2 Samuel 2:17–3:5
 In Cameroon, work is underway to translate the Bible into the *Guidar* and *Mafa* languages. The translation consultant on the *Mafa Bible* had to work full time on the *Guidar Bible* during part of 2021. Please pray that his work on the *Mafa Bible* can recommence soon and that the Lord will be with him in this task.

Help God's Word find a place in hearts in

2022

When you join our **Bible-a-month Partnership** you can help people from all around the world encounter Jesus, by putting a Bible into their hands

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A free colour calendar with photos and information about 12 different Bible Society projects

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The Scottish Bible Society seeks, under God, to put the Bible into people's hands and hearts.

We work so that all people can have the Bible in a language they understand, a form they can access, and at an affordable price, to aid genuine encounters with God.

Our vision is to see lives transformed through the Bible.



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