Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.
– Matthew 4:4

Humankind is inseparable from the Word of God, the basis for human life.

Every word breathed from God contains the seeds of certainty, hope, and transformation. Whatever language we speak, whatever culture we live by, and whatever direction we’re heading in, God’s Word provides guidance for our journey, inspiration to choose the good and righteous way, and it transforms our lives, our society and our world.

However, many people in this world have not yet experienced God’s Word. How can they when they do not have access to a Bible, or if no one has told them about Jesus? Take here in Indonesia for example: with a population of over 250 million, the majority of our people have not yet been exposed to the Bible’s words of life.

We often hear Scripture referred to as the Living Word, because it has the power to make us alive. Therefore, if we are to live life to the full, we should savour the Word of God. But not only this, let us also hold out the Living Word to others and share its truth and power that transforms lives.

Gunar Sahari
SGM Lifewords, Indonesia

Welcome to the September issue of SGM Lifewords’ Prayer and Praise. We’ve got lots of news to help shape your prayers: looking ahead to Christmas; Lifewords at work in Kenya; news from Indonesia; and stories of people sharing the Bible one-to-one. Please read on and ask God to lead you as you pray with us.

Week 1: 2–8 September
Looking ahead: Christmas – UK
At SGM Lifewords we’re already thinking about Christmas and are excited about our brand new booklet for 10-14 year olds, Journey Out of Darkness. Please pray and plan for opportunities to share our resources over the Advent and Christmas season.

• Praise God for many stories over the years of people using SGM Lifewords’ Christmas booklets to share the Bible with others. Thank him for the many lives that have been impacted by his Word through Christmas outreach.
• Praise God for Journey Out of Darkness. Pray that it would give young people a fresh understanding of the Christmas story and inspire them to find out more about Jesus.

• Pray for youth and schools workers who will be using Journey Out of Darkness, pray that they would find exciting and creative ways of sharing it with the young people they work with.

If you work with young people, or know someone who does, please get in touch for a sample of Journey of Darkness. We’d like to freely give away as many copies as possible for use in schools and youth clubs.

Week 2: 9–15 September
Reaching out to Kenya’s young people
On a recent trip to Kenya, Steve Bassett, SGM Lifewords Creative Director, met some inspiring people who are using God’s Word to bring hope and transformation.

• Praise God for Pastor Joseph, who is working in the slum area of Kibera. He uses You Matter, Why Me? and The Little Book of Character in Bible study groups with young people. Please pray for him as he builds relationships and leads these young people to faith in Jesus.

• Daniel and Ambassada are two passionate men with a vision to see young lives changed through music and God’s Word. Praise God for their commitment to Kenya’s youth, and pray that God would bless them as they use SGM Lifewords booklets in schools.

• Thank God for Morris, who works with Life Transformed Ministries. He goes out and meets people in their own contexts, from young people playing football in a field to regularly visiting the Maasai. He uses booklets like Day by Day and Don’t Be Afraid to share the Bible. Please pray for his work, that God would open hearts and transform lives.
Week 3: 16–22 September
Indonesia
The scale of the gospel task in Indonesia is enormous – please pray with us for those who are committed to reaching their communities with the Word of God.

• Last month 22 students from Moriah Bible College in Jakarta were trained to use The Visible Story. These young people have just been commissioned for 12 months’ ministry placements – many are now returning to their home villages to share God’s Word there. Please pray that The Visible Story tools will give them confidence to introduce others to Jesus.

• In June we trained and resourced 16 people working with children-at-risk to share God’s Word through Pavement Project, in and around Jakarta. They’ve been able to meet one-to-one with dozens of children already. Please pray that these children will meet Jesus through Pavement Project’s work and experience God’s powerful healing and restoration for their lives.

• SGM Lifewords Indonesia was able to begin making Bible resources available to local Christians this year, after a hiatus. So far this year, well over 10,000 booklets have been taken by pastors, churches, and Bible schools. National Director Gunar Sahari asks: “Please pray so that these booklets will be a blessing for many people, especially to the unbeliever.”

Week 4: 23–29 September
Sharing the Bible one-to-one
Praise God for the individuals doing the simple thing of sharing the Bible with others.

• Praise God for one UK supporter who took a leap of faith and offered Daily Strength to a man she met in hospital. To her surprise, he said that he remembered a soldier in his company during the war who read the Psalms to the other men and that opened up a discussion about the Bible. He gratefully took the booklet home with him. Please pray for this man and others like him who have received an SGM Lifewords booklet, that the Holy Spirit would continue to speak to them and make them hungry to find out more.

• Thank God for the teenage girl who was attending the youth events at the Keswick Convention. She came to the SGM Lifewords stand and picked up a copy of Little Book of Help. She was so excited about it that she lent it to all her friends and then brought them to the stand so they could all get a copy. Please pray that others would have the same enthusiasm for sharing the Bible with their friends.

• Thank God for another person we met at Keswick – a woman who was delighted to discover Living With Loss. She wanted one for her friend whose husband had died in a cycling accident. Praise God for the power of his Word to bring peace and healing, and pray that Living With Loss would be a comfort to this woman’s friend and others like her.

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 all around the world. Keep in touch with us online through Facebook, or visit www.sgmlifewords.com. You can make a donation to our work online, by post or by calling 020 7730 2155. Thank you!