

Dear Praying Friends

Have you ever wondered why God answers our prayers?

John Piper puts it like this, *Jesus died for our sins that our prayers might be answered. (That is why all of our prayers are 'in Jesus' name')... Any blessing at all that comes to us, including all the answers to our prayers, is sheer mercy on God's part.*

At huge cost, God sent His precious Son so that we could be adopted into His family. Because Jesus died, God hears and answers our prayers. That alone should assure us that when we pray, we are to be like little children coming to a loving, generous, good father. How do children ask for what they want? 'Please Daddy, can I have...'; 'Daddy, please help me...'

Jesus emphasised this. *Ask and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you.... If you...who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!* (Matthew 7:7-11)

In this copy of Prayer News there are many needs and requests for the SU family around the world - and much to be thankful for. Let's come as eager, thankful children to our loving Abba Father, certain that he will delight to pour out good gifts when we ask Him.

*Ask, and it will be given to you. Search, and you will find.
Knock, and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks will receive.
The one who searches will find. The door will be opened to the one who knocks.*
(Matthew 7:7-8 NIRSV)

2-8 APRIL

- **South Australia:** Praise God for the volunteers sharing the Easter Story in dozens of schools. Please pray that the ears of students and teachers are open to hearing God's truth.
- **Bulgaria:** Please pray for children attending the Easter children's Holiday Clubs in church communities and public kindergartens every Saturday in April.
- **Portugal:** Please pray for the training of volunteers at campsites and for the camps being held from April to June.
- **Victoria, Australia:** (5-12) Please pray that the Primary and Secondary students attending MAD (Make a Difference) will: know they are loved and valued; understand how God has gifted them; and recognise the difference they can make in their schools and local communities. Please also pray for the volunteer team and chaplains who will lead them.
- **Japan:** Please thank God for the blessing experienced at the 7th International Students' Camp by 51 young people from Japan. Praise God for SU Indonesia's hospitality.
- **Zimbabwe:** Praise the Lord for the life of **Dr Phineas Dube** who passed away earlier this year and pray for Tebbie and the children as they adjust to life without Phineas.
- **Peninsular Malaysia:** Please pray for **Jennifer Chew** and a team of volunteers running the SU Children's Sports Camp in Kampar. The camp is run in partnership with Wesley Methodist Kampar, bringing together the church and community children for a full day of sports! Please pray that children will encounter God in their own way, and that volunteers will build friendships with them.
- **Scotland:** Give thanks for all the volunteer holiday and mission team members running 12 SU Holiday events over the first two weeks of April. The events include a Snowsports Holiday, a Drama Camp and two Study Holidays for pupils revising for exams. Pray for good relationships with the young people and for enthusiasm in opening the Bible and sharing Jesus.
- **International Director search:** Interviews for the International Director position were held last week. Pray for the Interview Group as they now deliberate on the outcomes and seek God's choice for this important role.

9-15 APRIL

- **ACT, Australia:** (9–13) The Wild Wee Jasper Secondary Camp takes young people out of the city and disconnects them from social media for a week. Please pray that this time will create the space for the young people attending to connect to God and the temporary Christian community of camp.
- **South Australia:** (14-17) Please pray for good attendance at the Easter Camps, and that there will be first time decisions made and many strengthened in their faith.
- **New South Wales, Australia:** Please pray for the two brand new camps Rugby League Camp and Creation Care Camp that are commencing. Please pray that any issues that arise will be handled smoothly and there will be learning opportunities for coming years.
- **Madagascar:** Praise God for the common program for the whole island planned at the Zonal Coordination Meeting / RCZ in the three zones: North, Centre and South held earlier in the year.
- **Victoria, Australia:** Praise God for the generations of children, young people and families who have been welcomed to school camps and holiday camps at SU Victoria's Camp Coolamatong Farm Camp - celebrating 40 years of camping ministry. Praise God for lives transformed; give thanks for the hundreds of volunteers who have served; and please pray that God will continue to work in powerful ways through this camping ministry.
- **Honduras:** Please ask the Lord to raise up workers, to be appointed to assist with Camps Ministry and Ministry with Youth.
- **Korea:** Please pray that the seeds scattered during the winter ministries (Leadership Training Course, Teachers' Conference and camps) will bear fruit.
- **Austria:** Please pray for the *Bibel Mobil* team as they travel during celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation - that many will be encouraged to read the Bible regularly. Please also pray for our camps ministry, for: preparation of staff and volunteers; sufficient participants; and God's protection and blessing.
- **Hong Kong:** Praise God for invitations to hold 16 evangelistic programs for more than 3,000 children in different schools and churches this Easter. Please pray for enough volunteers and the provision of finances to run these programs.
- **Guinea: (11-17)** Please pray for the leadership training being conducted by **Emmanuel Todjo**, Field Development Director – for equipping and inspiration for those attending.

16 – 22 APRIL

- **Peninsular Malaysia:** (21-23) Please pray for the SU team visiting Melaka for REACH, where they will minister to youth groups and churches, conduct two Bible Engagement seminars and share in two church deputations. Please pray that God will open more doors to school CFs, churches and people to further establish SU's work in Melaka.
- **Serbia:** (21–23) Please pray for the Teens Conference with 150 participants. Please also pray for new camp leaders who will lead summer holiday clubs and camps. Pray that God will open the hearts of players of the digital game *Guardians of Ancora* to His Word.
- **Korea:** Please pray for follow-up measures and outcomes of the General Assembly, held earlier this year where the attendees were challenged on fundraising.
- **Namibia:** Please pray that the Lord will send the right person to fill the position of National Director for SU Namibia.
- **South Australia:**(20-23) Please pray for the 2nd camp specifically for children from refugee backgrounds– 'Camp Harmony'. Pray for openness to the Christian faith and that the children feel supported.
- **Norway:** Please pray for the new Board and for our staff. Please pray for our Bible Inspirers and the many seminars in churches and schools during this quarter.
- **Global Team:** (19-20) Please pray for the SU Family Conference in Kosova. Pray for Driton (Director) and his team as they shape this event and for **Terry Williams** (SU Global Team) as he provides input and facilitates the process. Pray for an ongoing commitment from a smaller group present to continue meeting and serving local families.
- **FSR:** We thank God for the FSR Community Group Meeting which gave a fresh perspective for the ministry in some movements and for the whole group.
- **Scotland:** (22) Please pray for **Terry Williams** as he leads a day of children's ministry training in Aberdeen.
- **Northern Ireland:** (22) Over 1,000 volunteers will be serving through Scripture Union Northern Ireland's Camps and Missions this summer. Pray for them as they meet, and for all those preparing summer programs over the coming months.

23 – 29 APRIL

- **Croatia:** Please pray for Camps on Wheels serving local churches and for the fundraiser, *Together 2 the Top*, which makes camps possible for those with financial needs. Please pray for Leadership Lab International – that God will raise up and prepare 10 young leaders to serve on multicultural ministry teams around the world.
- **Global Team:** (25–27) Praise God for the inaugural gathering of the Global Family Alliance. Please pray for key representatives from 20+ organisations, denominations and networks as they explore how best to serve the families of the world together. The three days will be facilitated by **Terry Williams**.
- **England & Wales:** In SU's 150th year, SUEW will focus on the Jubilee Campaign - Reaching the 95%. The 95% mission field is children and young people who have no meaningful relationship with the church. Please pray for the ability to rise to this challenge.
- **Canada (Français):** (28–5) Please pray for representatives from some of the French-speaking movements in Europe, Africa and Canada as they meet in Montreal. French language Bible reading guide editors will also meet. Please pray for the sharing of expertise and the development of cooperative projects.
- **Kenya:** (28) Please pray for a successful fundraising event and the AGM on 13 May.
- **SU Taiwan:** Please pray for the recruitment of new volunteers to assist particularly in the areas of events and coordination, publicity and promotion.
- **India:** Praise God that He meets our needs and that He will continue to do so.
- **Czech Republic:** (28–1) Please pray for vision and opportunities for Family Ministry, and for the planned workshops for parents. Please also pray for regular events: Evangelistic English Clubs for high-schoolers, Junior Leaders Training Weekends and the Bible e-learning project.
- **Global Team:** (29–30) Please pray for **Terry Williams** as he facilitates the Family Conversation in Prague. Pray for an ongoing commitment from a smaller group present to continue meeting and serving local families. Terry will be preaching on the Sunday morning.
- **South Africa:** Praise God for the partnership between KZN Bible Society and SU Durban to distribute 4,000 Bibles to Grade 7 students. **India:** Please pray for Vacation Bible Schools that will be held for schools and educational institutions during the April and May holidays. About 1,500,000 children, in 10 languages in about 350 places will be reached.

30 APRIL – 6 MAY

- **Global Team:** (1-4) Pray for the Global Children's Forum Facilitation Team as they meet in Switzerland to shape the next global forum 'GCF 6.0'. **Wendy Strachan & Terry Williams** will be attending.
- **Estonia:** (1) Praise God for 25 years of ministry. Please also pray that those who have joined Bible Challenge will encounter God in a transforming way and that others will join. Please also pray for the camp season: training & preparation, camps and Bible Festival.
- **Singapore:** Please pray for at least two new Council Members to join the SU Leadership Team by June.
- **Latvia:** Please pray for summer camp volunteer team training being held and that the campsite will be ready for the summer activities.
- **Global Team:** (5–9) Key staff of Movements who have been serving children and young people with disabilities are meeting to share models, learnings and healthy practices at Rimlishof, France. Please pray that this will help inspire and kickstart the work in SU movements around the world. Pray for **Wendy Strachan** and **Becky Swamickan** as they facilitate this consultation.
- **Honduras:** Please pray for an increase in sales of *Encounter with God* and books in general in the Bookstore - The Encounter.
- **Uganda:** (5 onwards) Please pray for the 13 Student Holiday Camps that have been organised across the country. Pray for the impact on lives through the various activities.
- **Hanoi, Vietnam:** Please pray that SU's work in coordination with local churches will be more effective.
- **Haiti:** Praise God for the positive response to the practical teaching about the Word of God. Please pray that God will continue to bless and use those all those who attended.
- **Germany:** (6–7) Please pray for Bible Action Days – that the 400 children who attend each day will see that God speaks through the Bible today! Please also pray for the preparation of the new head office, and the provision of finances.
- **Kenya:** Praise God for a successful celebration of 30 years of Children's Ministry in Kenya which culminated in a breakfast event at the end of 2016 where Rev. David Gichung'wa was farewelled after 31 years of service with SU.

7 – 13 MAY

- **Lithuania:** Please pray for the preparations for summer camps and for the empowerment of camp leaders.
- **India:** Please pray that God's Word will be preached effectively at the various camps and training programs planned.
- **South Africa:** Please pray for Garland Sam, the National Training Coordinator, as he spearheads the online training portal.
- **Scotland:** SU's 150th anniversary is being celebrated in lots of creative ways. One of these is sharing stories of how SU has impacted individual lives. Give thanks for the encouraging stories already received and pray for many more to be shared. Pray too for preparations for the Big Celebration being planned for August.
- **Korea:** Please pray for God's grace and wisdom as goals and teamwork are developed after the Leaders, Staff and District Coordinators' meeting held earlier this year.
- **Vanuatu:** (5-17) Please pray for the first of 7 work parties coming from other Movements, which will continue rebuilding the SU Vanuatu campsite after Cyclone Pam in 2015. Please pray for safety on site, plus opportunities for ministry during the reconstruction
- **Northern Ireland:** Please pray for staff, volunteers and church teams who will spend much of this term delivering 'It's Your Move' lessons to Primary 7 pupils in schools across Northern Ireland - helping them to think about their move into Post-Primary School in Biblical and practical ways.
- **Europe:** (11-14) Pray for the SU Europe Council as it meets for the last time as a regional structure and celebrates God's goodness over the years.
- **South Africa:** Pray for Alison Coleman, SUIS Regional Director, (Scripture Union Independent Schools) and Sarah Lynn Williams as they provide leadership to this vital ministry in private schools in South Africa.
- **Togo:** Praise God for the roadmap adopted by the SU Committee for the development of the ministry in Togo.

14 - 20 MAY

- **Taiwan:** Please pray for the editor and writers of our Daily Bible Reading Guides as they work as a team under the leadership and power of the Holy Spirit - that they may be endowed with fresh revelations and anointing from above.
- **Denmark:** Please pray for wisdom in managing the financial situation. Please pray that E100 will help more people engage with the Bible and for preparation of a new resource to help children and families engage with the Bible.
- **WA, Australia:** Please pray for God's favour as SU Western Australia undergoes significant staff changes, and prepares and introduces a new Strategic Plan. Pray that these changes would translate to an increase in young people and families being introduced to Jesus.
- **India:** Please praise God for His blessings in Camps and Retreats, and Missions in schools, churches and hostels - many opened their hearts to the Lord.
- **Cameroun:** Please pray for Lifeskills training being given to Student Bible Fellowship leaders to assist in their secondary school program. Praise God for this partnership. Please also praise God for the renovation of the SU Centre in Yaounde to accommodate more children and youth for training and camping ministry.
- **Singapore:** Please pray for those organising the June Holiday Children's Camps which SU will run for at least 17 churches. Please pray for the provision of enough volunteers to assist in the camps.
- **Global Team:** Praise God for the Online Graduation Service for the GCF Leadership Experience (LE) which took place earlier this year. It was a time of celebration and thanksgiving as each participant and many of the facilitators shared stories of how the year had made a difference to their lives and ministries. Five of the 19 graduates were from SU national movements. Please pray for **Wendy Strachan** as she facilitates a team refining the LE Curriculum and works with the Leadership team of GCF to make regionalisation of LE a reality.
- **East West Asia:** (16-20) – pray for the Transition Leadership Team as they meet in Ho Chi Minh City to look at the next steps in developing Movements in East and West Asia to build their capacity and sustainability.
- **International Council:** (20) The Council meets electronically today to consider the proposal from the International Director Interview Group in relation to their recommendation for the next International Director. Pray for God's choice and direction to be apparent in this meeting.
- **Global Team:** pray for Rachel Farmer as she continues to develop a future Communications strategy for SU globally.

21 – 27 MAY

- **Hong Kong:** (26) Please pray for the gathering celebrating SU's 150th anniversary -with the theme 'Light Up My Life'. The Revd Rennie Tsang, former GS and Council member will speak. Please also pray that those attending are encouraged to read the Bible daily, and share in the vision and work of SU.
- **Switzerland (German-Speaking):** Please pray for the new media strategy, and that the new apps will be sourced by many users. Please also pray for enough volunteers to conduct the camps and develop the programs to be held during April to June.
- **Poland:** Please pray for God's presence in a Kids Club' project - *Power Plant*. Please also pray for summer camp preparations – that the programs will bring kids closer to God.
- **Global Team:** (21–25) Please pray for the Global Assembly Planning team as they meet in Kuala Lumpur to continue planning the event to be held in November 2017.
- **Madagascar:** Please pray for the development of collaborations and partnerships with various Christian churches in the country.
- **Greece:** Praise God for certification as a social care provision body with non-profit character so we can serve refugees. Please pray for preparation of graded instruction for Sunday Schools and camps, and for more volunteers and resources.
- **Bulgaria:** (27-28) Please pray for our second *Kids Games* event in a public school, that God will open the hearts of every child and adult teacher there.
- **Tchad:** Please pray that God will provide much needed finances for this ministry.

28 MAY – 3 JUNE

- **Peninsular Malaysia:** (28) Please pray that God will move the hearts of guests at the Fundraising Dinner, Ipoh – that they will give generously to SU ministries. Please also pray that this will be an opportunity to share the many wonderful things God has been doing through SU in the lives of children and young people.
- **Singapore:** Please pray for the preparation of the 2nd National Youth Explicit Conference to be held in June and for the collaboration with the churches in Singapore.
- **Switzerland (Français):** As part of 150th anniversary celebrations about 50 churches will welcome SU to their worship services. Praise God for the positive responses that have been received – may it be a great opportunity for the churches to discover, or rediscover, SU's ministry.
- **Peninsular Malaysia:** (30–2) Please pray for the WORDAlive Camp being held at the SUFES Campsite in Tapah, Perak - that God will give energy and wisdom to the team organising and teaching at this camp, and that they will help participants to engage well with God's Word. Please pray that God's Word will come alive and transform the hearts of the young people attending.
- **Korea :**(1)Please pray for Ms Kim (Ju-Ryun) who has commenced as National Director of SU Korea. Please pray that God will give her grace, wisdom and the power of the Spirit.
- **New South Wales, Australia:** (3) Please pray for the Schools Ministry Fundraising event - that this event will be informative and encouraging to all who attend.
- **Finland:** Please pray for wise organisation, the translation of the Bible App for Kids, the new Bible note readers and volunteer writers, and the planning of new Bible reading material and events, especially for youth.

GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER
2 JUNE 2017
SU's 150th Anniversary



On 2 June 1867 Josiah Spiers held his first meeting for children in Essex Street, Islington, London. The global SU family are joining together today, in prayer, as we celebrate all that God has done through the ministry of SU over the last 150 years.

Please join us in prayer on this day – thanking him for the many lives changed over to the year and for the many dedicated volunteers and staff who have ministered through SU ministry.

Pray for the many prayer events being held today around the world, including the Walk of Prayer and Praise in London, being led by Janet Morgan, which will be streamed worldwide.

4 – 10 JUNE

- **Canada (English):** To celebrate the SU Jubilee, SU Canada is publishing *Bible Engagement Basics*, with 40 pithy chapters on how to engage children, youth and adults with God's Word. Please pray that *Bible Engagement Basics* will be an effective tool for helping people read, reflect, remember and respond to God's Word.
- **Nigeria:** (8–11) Please pray for the speakers and those who attend the SU Tertiary Student Conference. Please also pray for the new National Chairperson.
- **Spain:** Please pray for those using the daily Bible reading plan; the performances of the musical *Libéranos* by our kids' ministry team in some Spanish cities; and a project involving street Gospel and Bible teaching for kids.
- **Madagascar:** Please pray that the Lord will lead the distribution of a new tool, *Woman of Value*, throughout Madagascar.
- **Kenya:** Praise God that His provision last year enabled us to minister to thousands of children and young people. Please pray for peace and unity in Kenya during the campaigns and elections to be held later in the year.
- **Canada (Français):** During June, we give presentations at partnering food banks, inviting kids from families struggling financially to participate in a summer camp. Please pray that many kids will come and be ready to receive the Gospel. Please also pray for generous donors to sponsor kids attending summer camp.
- **Sweden:** We praise God that many people are using the app *Bible Time* and other SU resources. Please pray that others will begin to use them too. Please also pray for good fundraising ideas, and for strength, wisdom and spiritual growth for the Board and staff.
- **Namibia:** Please pray for a positive response from donors who have been approached to assist in the upgrading of our campsite, Shalom Centre. Please pray for God's favour on this matter.
- **Global Team:** pray for those who support the Global Team in very practical and necessary ways – **Christie McKenzie**, our accountant and **Sue Stott** and **Ruth McIntosh** who provided important administrative support. We are most grateful for their ongoing support and encouragement,

11 – 17 JUNE

- **Belarus:** (16–18) Please pray for the training of camp volunteers at the SU campsite in Belarus.
- **Peninsula Malaysia:** (17) Please pray for the Chinese Schools' CF Seminar being held to share the vision of the school as a mission field, to present practical ideas and help in starting Christian Fellowships, especially in primary schools. Please pray that those who attend will be inspired and that teachers, parents and church leaders will be challenged to work together to reach out to Chinese-speaking students.
- **Zimbabwe:** Please pray for the planning and preparations for the National High School and Advisers' Conference being held in August.
- **Japan:** Please pray for preparation of the CSK summer camps to be held later in the year. CSK is a ministry for junior and senior high school students in the local churches.
- **Ukraine:** As part of our 150th celebrations, a special campaign has been planned to raise funds to enable the initiation and development of new ministries in Ukraine. There will be a special focus on developing school and Bible clubs ministry, and reaching children who need the Good News of Jesus through camps and holiday presentations.
- **Canada (English):** Please pray for the children's and sports ministry internship for young adults which begin in June. A number of internationals will be joining Canadians for this year's training and directing of summer sports camps. Please pray that God will use the instructors and interns to connect thousands of children with Jesus and His Story.
- **France:** Please pray for a special campaign to promote Bible notes with free notes being given to adults in churches & children at camps. Please pray for the Rimlishof Centre: for staff; financial support; adapting to the needs of the disabled; the recruitment and training of volunteers; and the new chaplain, Daniel Reutenauer, who works with about 40 asylum seekers living there.
- **Global Team:** Pray for **Davi Kruklis** as he gets to know and understand the needs of the Movements in Latin America and seeks way to best support them. Pray also for other Field Development staff including **Oksana Khimich** (FSR), **Sam Emery** (Pacific Islands) and **Emmanuel Todjo** (Francophone Africa)

18 – 24 JUNE

- **ACT, Australia:** Please pray as SU ACT work to grow new ways of connecting with young people, both at school and through sport. Please also pray for creativity in sharing God's love with young people who don't know Him.
- **Kosova:** Please pray for peace and stability in Kosova. Please also pray for adequate funding for the ministry, which remains a serious issue.
- **Hong Kong:** Praise God that nine churches are joining the Bible reading campaign this year. Please thank God for providing these opportunities, and may He encourage the participants to love and read His Word every day.
- **Uganda:** (18–30) Please pray for the two week Evangelistic Gospel Mission in Primary and Secondary schools in the Northern Region. The aim is to reach more than 150,000 students in over 140 schools in 10 districts. Please also pray for the provision of resources, and that many students will respond to the Gospel.
- **Vietnam (Hanoi):** Please pray that the work and ministry of the SU Committee through volunteers and collaborators will be more effective.
- **Romania:** Please pray for the many camps and vacation clubs being held over summer – that God will bring many children and teenagers closer to Himself. Please also pray that God will provide passionate volunteers, material resources and His protection!
- **Russia:** Please pray for a new school camp for 70 children from dysfunctional families in the Altai Region, Siberia, Russia being held in June.
- **NT, Australia:** (23–30) Please pray for **Glenn Coombs** as he leads the SUPA Serve Teen Leadership Mission running KidsGames in partnership with SU Northern Territory. Please also pray that many young people will come to know the love of Jesus.

25 JUNE – 1 JULY

- **Switzerland (Français):** Please pray for a safe and secure training environment for camp leaders. Please also pray for our work with several associations where quality youth and sports training courses are offered (legally recognised courses in Switzerland)- it is a challenge to motivate volunteers to take these courses.
- **Kenya:** It is 50 years since SUK was registered. Please pray for God's presence in all the planning and preparations for the celebrations later in the year.
- **Taiwan:** Praise God for His faithfulness as all celebrate the 150th Anniversary of SU ministry. Please also pray for speakers, plans and implementation of the Anniversary events.
- **England & Wales:** Part of Jubilee is reflection and self-examination. Please pray that a series of high profile lectures asking difficult questions about fulfilling SU mission and ministry might arouse response.
- **WA, Australia:** Please pray for SUWA volunteers and ask that He would bless their ministry and empower them mightily by His Spirit - that He would give them wisdom to know how best to serve.
- **Slovakia:** Please pray for training and preparations for the summer season, and that all camp positions will be filled.
- **Hungary:** Please pray for holiday club preparations. Please also pray that with the production of quarterly Bible reading notes for women ending at the end of 2017, another way can be found to support them in Bible study.
- **Global Team:** Please pray for the preparation of the Africa Notes Writers' Workshops to be held from 3-13 July giving training to trainers who will, in turn, train writers of English Bible notes for children, youth and adults in Africa. Please pray for **Becky Swamickan** and **Emmanuel Todjo** as they facilitate this training. Please also ask God to help writers ensure that Bible Guides reflect faithfulness to Scripture, a deep understanding of contexts and creative writing.
- **Tchad:** Please pray for the preparations for the Bible Youth Camp (which will take place in July 2017) in Moundou. Please also pray for Tchad as it is experiencing a social crisis affecting the whole country with striking officials, closed schools and clinics.