



## Globalnews



stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

**Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams around the world is having an impact on young lives. We hope this monthly update will inspire you to partner with us.**

## Advent blessing from around the world



This month **Scripture Union International's** ministry team launched an online advent calendar, offering a series of video greetings in the run up to Christmas based around Isaiah 9:6. The 'Child is Born' advent readings are being shared in as many different languages as possible, reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas with a global flavour. Each of the videos will be available on the Global Family Facebook Group and on the Scripture Union International YouTube channel.

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called, Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

# Continuing to care - as SU Côte d'Ivoire marks its 60<sup>th</sup> year



The Scripture Union team and their partners in **Cote D'Ivoire** are celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scripture Union in the country. In December they marked the milestone with a big event at their headquarters – giving thanks for the hundreds of lives that have been transformed through their ministry. The year has been full of activity and the Scripture Union team has continued to reach out to those in need during the pandemic. They are pictured with essential food and healthcare packages ready to be distributed to an orphanage in Grand Bassam in the southeast area 15 km from Abidjan.

## about Côte d'Ivoire



This West African country, formerly known as the Ivory Coast, was a French Colony until 1960. After it gained independence, it fell into civil war in 2002. Known for its chocolate, the country produces more cocoa than any other place in the world. The population is approximately 24 million and the official language is French. Life expectancy is 57 years old. Christians make up more than a third of the population and more than 42 per cent are under 15 years old. Scripture Union has been active in reaching out to children through schools, camps, and Bible ministries for many years.

## You can partner with us

If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more [HERE](#):

# anniversary celebrations for Slovakia



**Scripture Union in Slovakia** is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

They have been marking the year by sharing videos and information about their many activities - from clubs for parents of young children, to camps, to training and resources for leaders. National Director, Natália Luptáková, said, "Our desire for the whole 30 years was to bring the light of God's word among people. And we long for this light to continue to shine with your help."

For more information and testimonies from young people see their Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/scriptureunionslovakia>



## A message of joy from Scripture Union children



This month we are sharing a special Christmas music video recorded by 43 children from 12 different Scripture Union movements, who will sing 'Joy to the World' – each in their own language. We would love it to be shared as widely as possible on social media or via email. We hope to spread the joy of Christmas and God's message of hope and love, while also showcasing the breadth and variety of Scripture Union ministry around the globe. The video will be available to view and download from Youtube [here](#).

# Daily Bread notes offer **new hope to prisoners in India**

Scripture Union 'Daily Bread' notes have been playing a crucial role in helping to offer hope and new life to prisoners in India. Redemptive Life Prison Ministry was able to distribute 100 Daily Bread notes to prisons across the state of Andhra Pradesh.

Prison chaplain, the Revd Sanjay Joshua Suryapalli said, *"We are thankful to Scripture Union for their willingness to support this ministry through literature. This year, many inmates were able to read God's word each day during these unprecedented Covid times. Many have testified to the blessing and the impact these books have made on their lives and how they infused the sense of God's purposes as an agent of change."*

Ex-inmate Thatla Srinivas, said, *"This book has been like a ray of hope amid the current pandemic scenario filled with fear, hopelessness, uncertainty, anxiety, loss of jobs, salary cuts, sudden loss of loved ones and negative thoughts. The Daily Bread book not only comforted me, but strengthened me with the daily stories, testimonies and short prayers, it also gave me the hope to continue trusting God."*

Another ex-prisoner, Krishna Reddy, explained that while in prison his fellow inmates told him to pray and gave him a small Bible. *"It did not make any sense to me because I had never read the Bible"* he said. *"But then one day I was moved to another cell where I noticed the Daily Bread book was being read by one of the inmates. So, after little discussion I decided to read it each day. After a week the book helped me to understand God's word and His plan for my life. The illustrations in the book gave relevance to my life and purpose. Each day's scriptures lessons made me learn new things from the Bible. Now I love the Bible"*



A promotional banner for Scripture Union. On the left, there is a teal background with the Scripture Union logo (a stylized flame) and the text "Scripture Union" and "God's Big Story | Transforming young lives". Below this, the text "Help us share hope with more children and young people" is written in white. On the right, there is a photograph of a group of children outdoors. A young girl in the foreground is smiling broadly, wearing an orange tank top with "Girls" written on it. Other children are visible in the background, some holding hands.