



Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our global network of Scripture Union teams is having an impact on young lives.

We hope this monthly update will inspire you to partner with us.

patience and hope in a refugee camp



Scripture Union South Sudan celebrated Easter with a special kids' event in a refugee settlement in Palorinya.

National Director of SU South Sudan, Manase Alfred, said he was so thankful for all the young people who had taken part in the camp and how many young lives had heard more about God's Big Story.

Aloro Peter, Program Coordinator for Scripture Union Refugee Ministry, (led by SU Uganda), said he has been encouraged by the testimony of some of the young people in the camp who took part.

He said, "One student from Luru Secondary school in Palorinya refugee Settlement shared an inspirational testimony. We are hoping to do many more such conferences in the refugee camps to reach students with the gospel."

The young student said, "I'm so grateful for this wonderful conference. I have learned so many things, especially about relationships. The first thing I understood is that I should be patient and have hope for the future God is giving to me."

Scripture Union teams continue to reach out in the refugee settlements, as they come alongside children and young people who have been displaced and endured years of turbulence and fear during the conflict.

about South Sudan

South Sudan is a landlocked country in East-Central Africa, bordered by Sudan to the north, Ethiopia to the east, Kenya, Uganda, and Democratic Republic of the Congo to the south and Central African Republic to the west.

After 50 years of intermittent civil war with the northern half of Sudan, South Sudan signed a cease fire in 2005. Then, after voting for independence, South Sudan became a nation in July 2011 and is the youngest country in the world. The country has experienced nothing but turbulence since independence. Despite being rich in



natural resources, the country is suffering from poverty and hunger. It is one of the world's poorest countries.

Most people in the country live in rural areas and survive on less than one US dollar a day. South Sudan has the highest illiteracy rate in the world. Only 16% of South Sudanese children ever go to school and only 1.9% complete primary school. A lot of people fled their homes due to the violence during the civil wars. As of 2019, more than seven million Sudanese needed humanitarian assistance. It is home to over 60 different ethnic groups, and most of its people follow traditional religions. Scripture Union is actively working with children and families in the country and has been supported by SU Uganda in their ministry with refugees.

new resources for Ukrainian families



New printed and digital resources have been launched within recent weeks, aiming to bring hope and to share God's message of love with children and families fleeing the war in Ukraine.

Scripture Union teams in Ukraine and Eastern Europe have been working together to care for vulnerable people with food and accommodation and the new resources will now be given to children in refugee facilities, at the borders and to children still in Ukraine. The colourful leaflets, designed and produced by a team of SUI staff plus volunteers from around the world, offer puzzles, stories, and activities for children in Ukrainian and point to further Ukrainian language resources online.

Scripture Union International's director, Monika Kuschmierz said, "We continue to pray for all those affected by the war and especially for the children. We're praying these resources will shed God's light and hope into their lives."

transformation and innovation in Bible engagement

Over 100 participants from 60 different countries took part in **Scripture Union International'**s Bible Engagement Consultation in March and April this year.

The three-week online event included around 2,220 hours on Zoom with 11 facilitators, seven Bible reflection leaders and a range of presenters and speakers. The conference had a low carbon footprint as it included no flights and no hotel stays!

The main streams looked at Bible engagement in the public space, in the digital arena, in churches, in families and with at risk children, were all discussed with the themes being focused on generations, transformation and innovation for the future.

Further outcomes and reflections on the consultation will be shared in the coming months.



cooking up new funding with faith in Fiji



<u>Scripture Union leader in Fiji,</u> Ane Tuiloma, has been teaching women new skills to help them bring in income, as well as helping them to discover the Bible.

She writes, "I went up to a particular place which is quite isolated from the other villages and about eight ladies came together for fellowship and encouragement in God's Word and then took part in a practical session afterwards.

"My aim was to teach the ladies how to make use of the things they have around them and then be able to sell them from the comfort of their own homes, to raise extra income. After the Bible Study session, I taught them two recipes using the very things they grow.

"I find that this can be one way of interacting with the parents and getting to know the children in a more personal way - not only is a bond formed but trust is developed as well. Then last night a young lady, of about 20, called and asked if she could join us when we next meet... she too wants to learn a few recipes to help contribute to their household."

Ane said she is praying for God's guidance on this new opening. "There's one thing for sure, when the opportunity arises, I will stand up and do it!"

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**:



Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives <u>scriptureunion.global</u>