



## SMBC Prayer Diary August 2024

**'In everything give thanks for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.' 1 Thess 5:18**

### **Thursday 1 August**

Give thanks today for The Bridge gap year program. Pray for the students and their continuing growth in Christ during this formative year. Pray too for the leadership team and for preparations for their approaching overseas cultural study tour to Southeast Asia.

### **Friday 2 August**

The 2024 SMBC Global Missions Conference draws to a close today. Pray for all who have attended, including many of our students, to have a deeper desire to follow and serve the Lord Jesus and make the gospel known to the ends of the earth.

Pray also for the *SMBC Wives* group, many of whom are enjoying a lunch get together today.

### **Saturday 3 August**

A group of SMBC alumni are gathering at College today to celebrate a five-year reunion. Pray for a time of encouragement and praise to God for His strength and enabling through all the challenges and joys of ministry and sharing of the good news of Jesus.

### **Sunday 4 August**

Pray for SMBC graduates and Christians serving in Paris and throughout France. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel during these Olympic Games and for the European Christian Mission (ECM) organisation during this time.

### **Monday 5 August**

Pray for all our students and staff engaged in the SMBC Spiritual Retreat morning today.

### **Tuesday 6 August**

As we have done for over 108 years, pray we humbly and faithfully entrust the financial needs of SMBC to our Lord. Pray for his provision to meet the College's 2024 needs.

### **Wednesday 7 August**

Pray for Principal's Hour, the weekly main College chapel service on today.

Pray too for SMBC alumni who are currently reading the Bible with people who do not yet know Christ. Pray that God's hand will be upon these meetings and in ensuing conversations.

### **Thursday 8 August**

Give thanks to God today for his sovereignty. Pray for His strength and peace to sustain students and staff who are experiencing poor health or difficult circumstances.

**Friday 9 August**

Pray today for all those who are making final preparations to go overseas to share the light of Christ. Pray for them, their families, and their partner agencies and supporters, that together they may experience God's amazing grace as their journey together unfolds.

**Saturday 10 August**

Pray with thanks for James Lane, SMBC Board Chair and the members of the Board, meeting today, who serve the College so diligently and faithfully. Pray Spirit-led decisions and robust discussions about all aspects of the College including strategy, staffing and property as they seek, to the glory of God, to see thousands of living skilled graduates taking the gospel to a dark and needy world.

**Sunday 11 August**

Pray for staff, students and faculty who participate in children's ministry. Pray for clear communication of the good news of Jesus and for children to know and love Jesus more and more each day as a child of God. Pray for children everywhere to hear the good news of Jesus.

**Monday 12 August**

Pray for The Bridge gap year program's online Information Session being held tonight. Pray for an encouraging online attendance and for each participant to prayerfully consider taking a gap year to grow in their faith in Jesus.

**Tuesday 13 August**

Pray for mission organisation Overseas Missionary Fellowship. Give thanks for the deep connection that OMF and SMBC have enjoyed since the College began over 108 years ago, with returned China Inland Missionary, Benson Barnett as its Principal. Pray for SMBC alumni who are serving in the strategic work of OMF in East Asia.

**Wednesday 14 August**

Pray too for our Associate (over 50s) students this semester as they gather in person and online to go deeper in the book of Hebrews and 1 Peter with lecturers Anthony Brammall, Alan Mugridge and Matt VanderHeiden.

**Thursday 15 August**

Please pray for students who may be struggling with mental health issues. May they know God's closeness and have access to the appropriate support network and advice.

**Friday 16 August**

Pray for The Bridge students and staff on their three-week cultural study tour in southeast Asia. Pray for safety as they travel and stay in villages and develop a growing depth of appreciation of God's work in the world and a deeper trust and love of Him.

**Saturday 17 August**

Pray for our global brothers and sisters in Christ as they gather this weekend in church services – pray for rich fellowship wherever they are, and especially for people in the 10/40 window.

**Sunday 18 August**

Pray today for students on The Bridge cultural study tour in south-east Asia. Give thanks for their exposure to front-line workers in cross-cultural mission – seeing workers who are using their God given talents and skills to support front-line cross-cultural mission initiatives. Pray for mutual encouragement.

**Monday 19 August**

Pray today for all those working amongst youth to engage teenagers and young adults with a long-term vision and commitment to global mission. Pray too for many more local churches to have a global vision for God's mission and to send people to be trained further for gospel service.

**Tuesday 20 August**

Pray today for Christine Platt (CEO) of Global Recordings Australia, and other SMBC graduates working in this strategic ministry. Give thanks for their partnership in the gospel. Pray too for God to be nudging people thinking about vocational or non-vocational deeper study of God's word to working in people.

**Wednesday 21 August**

Please pray today for those current students who are part of the SMBC Foundation *100 for 100* scholarship program. Please pray for these students to have a deepening relationship with God and trust in Him. Pray too for their time at SMBC in preparing them well for return to ministry in their cultural context. Pray with thanks for the donors who make this study opportunity a reality.

**Thursday 22 August**

Please pray today for wisdom for all our graduates in finding godly rest, right priorities and boundaries with their ministry service alongside family and other care responsibilities. Pray too for many prospective students to investigate SMBC at the next SMBC Information Session on Saturday 31 August.

**Friday 23 August**

Give thanks today for those people who sowed the gospel into our lives and through God's Spirit brought us to faith and trust in the Lord Jesus. Pray for work of SMBC, under God, to be preparing students to become effective preachers and teachers of God's word enabling them to equip others to be sowing the good news into the lives of people each day.

**Saturday 24 August**

Pray for the growth of the evangelical church in New Zealand. Give thanks for faithful, gospel ministers in New Zealand (including SMBC graduates and students) preaching and teaching God's word and shepherding His flock.

**Sunday 25 August**

Pray again for all of those we know who are currently involved in language learning. Pray for encouragement in their progress and that in the coming months and year ahead they will be able to converse with more people and communicate spiritual truths.

**Monday 26 August**

This week is a Research Week at SMBC. Pray for students to use their time wisely and grow in their understanding and love of God as they work on assessments and assignments this week.

**Tuesday 27 August**

Please pray for the Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) seminar being held today. Pray that it will be a time of fruitful insight and discussion that will bring glory to the Kingdom of God through developing skills in learning and leadership that educate God's people throughout the world.

**Wednesday 28 August**

Pray today for our Evangelistic Preaching intensive being held this week with Dr Sam Chan, speaker and former SMBC lecturer. Pray for Sam and all those studying in this unit, that as a result, many more people may come to faith in Christ.

**Thursday 29 August**

During this Research Week give thanks for the vast resources of the Kerr Library provided by the generosity of SMBC supporters. Pray for the wonderful and supportive Library team under the leadership of Janet Kirk.

**Friday 30 August**

Pray today for God to raise up more harvest workers for unreached people groups.

**Saturday 31 August**

Pray for our prospective student SMBC Info Morning on today. Give thanks for all those who God is laying on their hearts a desire to study His Word more deeply, and to minister and serve others for the sake of the gospel. Pray too for good BBQ weather, an encouraging attendance and for staff, graduates and current students presenting.