



SMBC Prayer Diary November 2024

“Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.” 1 Peter 5:8-9

Friday 1 November

Please pray for Alan Thompson, SMBC Head of New Testament, as he travels to Western Asia to teach from Acts to workers in that region for a week. Pray for a time of rich fellowship and for God to use Alan’s teaching to build his Church.

Saturday 2 November

November is a busy time with final lectures, exams, end of year celebrations and our Graduation Service. Please pray for our students to ‘stay the course’ this month – to serve Jesus diligently in their studies and love their college community well. Pray too for care and wisdom and prayerfulness of staff in handing all these matters over to the Lord as we continue to walk closely with Him.

Sunday 3 November

Pray for alertness and sober mindfulness for all the SMBC community. Pray for the SMBC family of believers throughout the world, particularly those who are experiencing significant sufferings and hardship – pray for steadfastness in faith.

Monday 4 November

SMBC alumni in the Middle East ask us to pray for:

- protection of civilians in the current conflict, just restraint for combatants, and changes of heart for leaders.
- that somehow, even in this, His name would be glorified.
- their (and our) hearts and minds as they (and we) weep with those who weep and try to find words to temper anger with deep truths.

Tuesday 5 November

Pray for students and staff who may be feeling weary or burdened, stressed or anxious. Pray they may take their burdens to God and find his rest and peace.

Wednesday 6 November

The SMBC Associates (our special Wednesday morning program for people over 50) concludes today for Semester 2. Give thanks for the encouragement that so many have experienced in studying the book of Hebrews and 1 Peter together with our New Testament faculty.

Thursday 7 November

Pray for our SMBC and The Bridge prospective student Information mornings coming up this Saturday morning. Pray for people to be encouraged to join us to learn more about full or part-time study in 2025.

Friday 8 November

Pray for the work of partner organisation, Interserve, walking alongside disadvantaged and marginalised people in Asia, Australia and the Arab World where there is hurt, brokenness and need. Pray for their workers, including many SMBC alumni as they bring Christ's love that sees, heals and restores.

Saturday 9 November

We'd love you to pray for the SMBC and Bridge Information mornings for study in 2025 being held today. Pray for the Lord to prompt many to attend, pray for clear information that helps people to make good decisions regarding study at SMBC or The Bridge in the near future. Thank God for those alumni and other evangelical leaders who encourage people to train for mission and ministry service in Australian and overseas contexts.

Pray also for the SMBC Wives farewell afternoon tea this afternoon, giving thanks for them all.

Sunday 10 November

Pray today for "pastoral flocks" that "sheep" will grow in their love for one another and that pastoral "shepherds" will grow in their love for their "flock".

Monday 11 November

This week is Stuvac week at SMBC. Pray for effective study time in the lead up to the upcoming exams. Pray for knowledge learned to bear fruit in changed hearts and minds of all our students, full-time, part-time, and The Bridge program students.

Tuesday 12 November

This afternoon we have our Higher Degrees by Research Seminar. Please pray for helpful discussion amongst all participants (faculty and students) and for Dr Geoff Harper as he leads our post-graduate research.

Wednesday 13 November

Please pray today for the health and wellbeing of any staff, current students, and alumni who you know who have recently been ill or grapple with chronic illness. Pray that they will know God's protection and deep care for them, and God's strength and healing in his good time.

Thursday 14 November

Pray for spiritual revival in our post-modern country of Australia...that many more will be saved by the Lord Jesus Christ, and that the name of the Lord will be known and honoured in our cities and towns and communities.

Friday 15 November

Pray today for our partner in the gospel, Church Missionary Society. Give thanks for their faithful gospel service as an organisation in Australia and in global mission. Pray for their encouragement as they reach gospel-poor peoples for Christ, equip Christian leaders for church and society, and engage churches in cross-cultural mission.

Saturday 16 November

Pray for creative inspiration for those who are involved in puppetry, digital storytelling, stage productions, carol events, schools and camping ministries in the lead up to Christmas next month. Pray for their inspiration to convey the good news of the coming of the peace-giving Lord Jesus into the world to save sinners like you and me.

Sunday 17 November

Pray for all cross-cultural workers who are needing to raise further support given currency movements or because of other factors. Pray for provision of all their needs through new partners or via increased commitments from existing partners. Give thanks for partnership building and for training and coaching provided by organisations and agencies to their teams.

Monday 18 November

Please pray for all students doing exams this week. For calmness and peace of mind and clear expression of all they have learned throughout the semester in this week of assessment. Pray for our lecturers for energy, strength, and accuracy, as they mark papers, and our student services team as they process the results with such diligence.

Tuesday 19 November

Pray today for countries in which our graduates serve that are shortly facing government elections. Please pray that the lead-up and the elections themselves will proceed peacefully, without violence or loss of life.

Wednesday 20 November

Pray today for SMBC 100 for 100 Program graduate Jotham serving Jesus as a church pastor in Germany, a country with only about 2% evangelical Christians. Give thanks for faithful preaching of the good news of Jesus in his city. Please pray for more workers to be raised up through the 100 for 100 program.

Thursday 21 November

Pray for the unreached people groups of the world. Pray that our Lord will continue to raise up harvest workers to take the light of Christ to the least reached and often most dangerous parts of the world. Pray for His protection upon these workers.

Friday 22 November

Give thanks today for all those who pray for SMBC and shroud the College in reliance upon our Lord and King and not on our own designs and desires.

Please continue to pray too for the SMBC Appeal (details at smbc.edu.au/donate) as we trust the Lord together for provision of the financial needs of the College. Thank Him for his faithfulness across all generations.

Saturday 23 November

Give thanks today for the many SMBC graduates around the world past and present who have been involved in Bible translation. Pray for the raising up of additional workers who will also be custodians of God's Word.

Sunday 24 November

Please pray today for wisdom for pastors and ministry workers guiding and counselling those who have recently lost loved ones in their spheres of ministry. Pray for godly wisdom and know how in ministering to those they are caring for.

Monday 25 November

Graduation Week begins today. Pray especially for our graduands in this last week that they may have joyful and memorable celebrations culminating in the graduation ceremony this coming Saturday. Pray too for God's peace for our graduands who are still undecided or awaiting confirmation of their 2025 and beyond plans.

Tuesday 26 November

Give thanks today for the prayer supporters of SMBC and give thanks for their faithfulness. Pray for the growth of regular prayer support for the College.

Wednesday 27 November

Pray for The Bridge students as they enjoy their graduation retreat activities over the coming days. Give thanks for them as they reflect upon all that God has taught them and challenged them with over this year.

Thursday 28 November

Please pray for the Lord's hand of safety and protection over all the College and its events and activities.

Friday 29 November

As the academic year draws to a close with our Graduation Service tomorrow, please give thanks to the Lord for his sustaining hand upon the SMBC community, especially our students and staff. Pray for the student-led end of year dinner tonight – a time of great fun and celebration!

Saturday 30 November

Our Graduation Service is being held this afternoon in Western Sydney. Pray for the service to run smoothly, for Derek Brotherson, Principal, for the musicians and tech team and for Kirk Patson as he preaches from God's word.

Pray for a joyous time of celebration and for each graduating student as they head out bringing the light of Christ to a very dark and needy world.