



SMBC Prayer Diary September 2024

'May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.' 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Sunday 1 September

Pray for Geoff Harper, SMBC Old Testament lecturer, who is preaching Papakura Baptist Church in Auckland today (where the Pastor and SMBC graduate, Nathan Cutforth serves). Pray for the growth of the evangelical church in New Zealand. Give thanks for faithful, gospel ministers in New Zealand who are preaching and teaching God's Word and shepherding His flock.

Monday 2 September

Give grateful thanks for supporters from Nowra Baptist Church in NSW who held a fundraiser last weekend for SMBC's *100 for 100* Program. Pray for our current *100 for 100* overseas scholarship students from Austria, Japan, and Malaysia as they prepare at SMBC to share the light of Christ to a dark and needy world.

Tuesday 3 September

Pray today (and for the next two days) for Geoff Harper, SMBC Old Testament lecturer, who is speaking on Leviticus at the New Zealand Preachers Conference in Hastings. Pray too for the pastors attending – to learn well, enjoy warm fellowship with one another and use the teaching well for God's glory.

Please also continue to pray for The Bridge students as they near the end of their Cultural Study Tour in Southeast Asia. Pray for God to use this trip to develop a greater knowledge of God and a heart for His purposes around the world.

Wednesday 4 September

Pray today for the SMBC Board property sub-committee who have been master planning our property and facilities for the coming years. Pray for godly wisdom and insight in their deliberations and recommendations.

Thursday 5 September

Pray for all SMBC staff serving the Lord at SMBC. Pray for their health and strength each day, spiritually and physically, and for those who are dear to them.

Friday 6 September

The Bridge, SMBC's gap year program for 18 to 21s, Southeast Asian cultural study tour concludes today. Give thanks for the staff and students who have been part of this significant cultural awareness tour. Give thanks also for the insights the students have gained about how Jesus is working in this part of the world. Pray for growing commitment to serve and support the gospel reaching every tribe and nation.

Saturday 7 September

The Missions Interlink 'ReachOut' Conference is being held today in Sydney at Pacific Hills Christian School today. Praise God for the partnership SMBC enjoys with Missions Interlink for the cause of the gospel and pray that many will be challenged to serve Christ with their all as His Spirit brings conviction.

Sunday 8 September

Pray for the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators in Northern Australia, and SMBC graduate, Kathy Dadd, serving Indigenous Australians through bible translation. Pray for Kathy and the Plain English Bible team and their need for additional workers.

Monday 9 September

Pray for our lecturers today as they teach and encourage student learning communities that are Bible centred and ministry outcome focussed.

Tuesday 10 September

Give thanks today for SMBC Principal, Derek Brotherson, Anna Brotherson and their family. Pray for them as they run the race in service of Christ.

Wednesday 11 September

As we have done for over 108 years, pray we entrust the financial (and operational) needs of SMBC to our faithful Lord. Pray with us today for God's gracious provision of some our already identified 2024/2025 financial needs.

Thursday 12 September

Pray for people who are considering deeper study of the Bible and possible future ministry and mission work. Pray especially for those people who came to our recent information session. Pray God's prompting and leading as they consider how they can serve God in the future that they will be prayerful about their next steps.

Friday 13 September

Pray for the 'SMBC Wives' group who are holding their Parakaleo Retreat this weekend aimed at women who are in ministry and/or training for ministry. Pray for a rich time of fellowship and learning together.

Saturday 14 September

Give thanks for our SMBC graduates working amongst student populations on Australian university campuses and for opportunities to share Christ on these campuses. Pray too for graduates working in our schools via Gener8, Scripture Union, Cru, and other initiatives. Give thanks for faithful sharing of the gospel to the next generation. Praise God for the way in which He has been at work amongst our schools.

Sunday 15 September

Pray for graduates throughout Australia and overseas - for God to provide opportunities with people who are open to hear about Jesus. Pray too for God's merciful provision of his wisdom, strength and courage as graduates share the gospel thoughtfully and faithfully in their workplaces, homes and other ministries.

Monday 16 September

Pray for the safe arrival of some expected babies in the SMBC community. Rejoice in new life and pray for parents and carers, loving, guiding, protecting, and nurturing young lives, physically and spiritually.

Tuesday 17 September

Pray with thanks to God for our dedicated library team today as they seek to serve the student body so diligently.

Wednesday 18 September

Pray for our part-time students who join the lectures 'live online.' Pray for diligence in their study and for God to be developing in all our students, a deep love for one another and a passion for God's mission.

Thursday 19 September

Pray for our lecturers who are on study leave this semester – for Alan Thompson and Kit Barker. Pray for refreshment in God's word and as they continue in their ongoing study of the Scriptures. Pray too with thanks for the SMBC academic board members - pray for their wisdom as they plan the units, courses, evening, and intensive subjects into the future.

Friday 20 September

Pray today for SMBC *100 for 100* scholarship program graduate, Naldy, serving with SIM high in the Andes Mountains of Peru in children's ministry. The workers are few. Give thanks for Naldy's time of rest and restoration through home assignment and for more workers to be raised up for this strategic work.

Saturday 21 September

Pray for the growth of the evangelical church in New Zealand. Give thanks for faithful, gospel ministers in NZ who are preaching and teaching God's Word and shepherding His flock. Pray for current and graduate SMBC students who are ministering in NZ.

Sunday 22 September

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.

Monday 23 September

Give thanks to God for the SMBC Board and all leaders within the College. Pray for godly and wise, prayer fuelled leadership in all the activities of the College.

Pray too for the fulfilment of our College mission, to continue to create learning communities through which God prepares his people – theologically, spiritually, and practically – to serve Jesus in diverse contexts and cultures.

Tuesday 24 September

Give thanks for those who can be supported through the SMBC Australian Scholarship Foundation, because of the generosity of God's people. Pray that all these students will be encouraged in their studies and service of Christ.

Wednesday 25 September

Pray again today for those who have recently arrived on the mission field, wherever they are. Pray for their strength, setting good priorities, appropriate accommodation, and for any language learning required in their context.

Thursday 26 September

Pray for Kristen Young, SMBC's Director of Community and Student Care, and Karl Deenick, Acting Director of SMBC's Centre for Preaching and Pastoral Ministry – pray God's wisdom, enabling and discernment as they meet with students.

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 plans and desires.

Friday 27 September

Pray today for any suffering for the sake of the gospel wherever they are serving Christ. Pray for their protection, endurance and strength in God alone as they wait upon Him. "Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you" 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Saturday 28 September

Pray today for all those who are making final preparations to go out 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.

Sunday 29 September

Pray for the growth and Christian maturity of Bible-based churches around Australia and the world today.

Monday 30 September

Today we have two study 'Intensives' commencing for the week – Early New Testament Church, with Anthony Brammall and Matt Vander Heiden; and The Knowledge of God with Rob Smith and Ian Maddock. Pray for lecturers and students as they dig deeper into God's word, for a deeper knowledge and love of him and an enriching time together.