

PRAISE & PRAYER



**BUILDING
TOGETHER**

▲ Bible study in small groups is foundational to IFES ministry

THE POWER OF FELLOWSHIP

No man or woman – and no IFES national movement – is an island. The IFES Fellowship across more than 180 countries and territories is a rich resource. Our recent IFES Supporter Survey highlighted how encouraging you find hearing about how movements are working together. Cooperation is building strong evangelism and discipleship, and seeing more students growing in and sharing their faith and equipped to serve in local groups and after graduation.

UCCF Great Britain's **Uncover** Mark, Luke and John's Gospels for seeking students have been printed by 34 other IFES movements and teams and translated from English into 29 languages. We have seen students reading God's Word for the first time in languages from Arabic to Welsh, and in countries from Brazil to Ukraine. UCCF ask us to pray for the launch of a new Uncover Luke at their Forum Conference in August for 900+ student leaders. *"Praise God for guiding us through the process of writing and designing Uncover for the current generation of students. We are excited for new students to encounter Jesus through this gospel. Pray for the practicalities of it being printed and distributed smoothly. Also pray that the*

Lord gives Christian Union members the courage to invite friends to read it."

Bible and Life is a discipleship development tool – a series of four student retreats or conferences - the Lordship of Christ, Manuscript Bible Study, Discipleship, and Old Testament Overview. Developed by InterVarsity/USA, it has been used extensively across the IFES family, with materials adapted for local contexts and needs. An IFES Eurasia consultation in March gathered movement staff to continue the process of refreshing the program, part of their students' experience for many years, but in need of update due to changes in student culture and national contexts. For example, a session on how to share your testimony is now tailored for students in either majority Christian or Muslim contexts. They are currently compiling updated materials into an easy to use format for young staff. *"We hope and pray that this will contribute to growth in discipleship – both for the participants themselves and for all our student movements. May Bible and Life continue to serve students effectively*

▼ Uncover in Latin America



▼ Past Bible and Life conference in Georgia



– laying a foundation in their lives for following Christ through evangelism and discipleship."

A core activity of any IFES linked student group is **Bible study** – and over the years, an incredible variety of materials have been developed to support this, from Bible study guides by pioneering staff like Ada Lum, which are still used today, to the IFES MENA Bible Study Conference, where participants write new materials for use across the region. One of the resources available on the IFES Scripture Engagement website is 'Bible Study Bookmarks for Different Genres of Scripture'. *"Our approach to biblical texts needs to take different kinds of literary writings into account – e.g. poetic texts cannot be read in the same way as Old Testament law. SMD Germany developed Bible study bookmarks for seven different genres of Scripture: narratives, epistles, prophetic passages, poetic texts, Old Testament law, wisdom literature and apocalyptic literature."* The bookmarks are now being used all over the world.





IFES

PRAISE & PRAYER

Jul – Sep 2025

▲ (TOP LEFT) Soon a new edition will join the Uncover family ▲ (TOP RIGHT) Eurasia Formación participants 2021 – the upcoming event will be supported by IFES Global Giving Day funds ▲ (LEFT) IFES Europe Young Staff Network meeting, May 2025 – also supported by IFES Global Giving Day funds

THE WORK OF HIS HANDS

Praise God with us for the generosity of students, staff, supporters and movements from 104 countries, who donated to support leadership development projects around the world for Global Giving Day. Our full match of \$110,000 was met and exceeded, with over \$230,000 raised and donations still coming in! This will help fund programs shaping leaders around the world, including:

- Equipping graduates in East Asia, MENA and South Asia and developing resources for use around the world,
- Mentoring young General Secretaries in the EPSA region
- Investing in young staff in Europe
- Training student leaders in Eurasia and Latin America
- Sponsoring students to attend regional training conferences in Europe, Francophone Africa and the South Pacific

Thank you so, so much for your generosity! Please hold these programs in your prayers this year.

THE POWER OF FELLOWSHIP CONTINUED

Mission and camp teams sent by one movement to support another have huge benefits for sending and host movements. Often these are arranged through regional events, or with help from current or former staff now living in other countries. Seveda, an InterVarsity Canada staff member, is heading to IFES Eurasia Formación student leader training conference with a Canadian student and others from InterVarsity/USA to volunteer. Before it starts, they will visit her home country and movement. *"We'll engage with university students, learn about their challenges, and support their faith journeys through cultural exchange and meaningful conversations."*

IFES movements often hold national **conferences**, and open these up to participants from smaller movements. Each year, AFES Australia's *National Training Event* in early December hosts students and staff from across the South Pacific, giving smaller movements access to fellowship, training and resources, and building long-term collaborations. SIUCF Solomon Islands staff Edward shared: *"Not only we attend the training event but our students and staff also get the opportunity to join students from Australia for mission. It is a*

▼ Past Bible and Life conference in the Cayman Islands



whole new experience to do mission in Australia, but this experience helps our students to see and learn as well."

A simple way for movements to help each other out is for larger, more experienced movements to **help train staff from other movements**. In the Caribbean, the regional team have arranged for IS/IVCF Guyana to host staff from ISCCF Antigua and ISCCF St Vincent & Grenadines, giving them on the job training as they shadow staff, learn new student ministry skills and see how groups function in a different context.

Thank God with us for the generosity of our movements as they support each other, and release staff to volunteer with IFES regional and global ministries.

REJOICE A NEW MOVEMENT

A new IFES movement - GBU São Tomé and Príncipe - was formally launched on 26 April. Patient work spearheaded by IFES English- and Portuguese-Speaking Africa (EPSA) staff Lawrence from The Gambia and Fredrico from GBECA Angola has given birth to a new student movement. After six years of hard work, launching student Bible studies, connecting with church leaders, and forming a board, the fledgling movement received official registration from the government.

Zelalem Abebe, Regional Secretary for EPSA, is delighted: "We are thankful for your support and prayers over the years, and we deeply appreciate our partners in this effort. Praise be to the Lord, and please celebrate with us!"

▼ GBU São Tomé and Príncipe launch event



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