

PRAISE & PRAYER

**WORLD
STUDENT
DAY 2026**

*Lift up
your
eyes*

**THURSDAY
8 OCT**

[IFESWORLD.ORG/WSO](https://ifesworld.org/wsd)

Do you want to be part of what God is doing among students worldwide?

Each year, tens of thousands across the globe unite in 48 hours of prayer. Students, staff, and supporters intercede for students and campuses and celebrate how God is at work through local IFES ministry. IFES World Student Day – Lift Up Your Eyes – is on **Thursday 8 October**.

We'll "lift up our eyes" to focus on a Sovereign Lord who gives strength to the weary and restores the downhearted (Isaiah 40). We'll "lift up our eyes and look around" to notice how he is already at work among the nations (Isaiah 49, 60).

Using requests from around the globe, let's celebrate what God is doing. And let's pray for the anxious to behold Christ's compassion and the spiritually seeking to see his saving power. Pray using the requests below, and many many more at ifesworld.org/wsd

Caribbean: Earlier this year, a team from across the region helped restart university fellowships in Antigua. Pray for more such teams.

East Asia: Kellie from KGK Japan asks us to pray for good connections with international students, and that they would grow in relationship with Jesus while studying in Kansai.

EPSA: SLEFES Sierra Leone's new General Secretary was so encouraged by an IFES regional mentorship program that he used it to develop a new discipleship program. Pray that students disciplined would similarly seek to bless others.

Eurasia: Ask God to use challenging circumstances to display his power to open doors and call students to a life of faithful and active service to God.

Europe: Early in a new academic year, pray for Christian first year students to catch the vision of evangelism on their campuses.

Francophone Africa: Pray that all UGBM Madagascar's graduates will bring Christ's influence to churches, local communities, and the nation.

Latin America: Katy from CEC Panama asks us to pray for more students willing to serve in West Panama, and for open doors at the university to share the gospel of Jesus and see more students follow him.

MENA: In a challenging context, praise God for Christian students building friendships with students from other backgrounds, witnessing daily to what it looks like to follow Jesus.



▲ WSD25 prayer meeting, UGBM Madagascar

North America: Praise God for InterVarsity/USA students involved in summer projects with other IFES movements. Pray that their experiences would strengthen student groups across the country.

South Asia: Praise God for new NBCBS Nepal student groups in Dulegauda and Hemja.

South Pacific: Pray for Joel Atwood, former leader of GNYF Vanuatu, who moved to New Caledonia this year to rebuild ministry there. Ask God for enthusiastic students and supportive churches.

Wherever you are, however you feel, on 8 October, let's lift up our eyes.



▲ Praise God for some recent events in IFES regions and movements: Creative interaction with the Bible – IFES Europe Mark Camp, July; Worship at IFES Eurasia Institute 2026, June; The AGEUP Peru delegation at ABUB Brazil's Missão 26 Conference in June

IMPACTING THE CARIBBEAN

"We were privileged to have met so many passionate students, staff and leaders who challenged us to make an impact in our own context." – Samantha, ISCCF St Vincent and Grenadines

The Caribbean regional missions conference, IMPACT26, took place in St Lucia in August. More than 140 participants from 14 Caribbean movements, along with guests from Canada, the USA and further afield attended the first missions conference in the region in 9 years.

For many, this was the first time away from their home context. Travel within the Caribbean is expensive and complicated. Delegates worked hard raising funds, making big sacrifices to be there. For many it was also their first time in a multi-lingual environment, as the conference was in English and French, with a significant Dutch-speaking delegation from Suriname.

The region is known for exuberant and creative expressions of faith and worship, and this characterised the event. Speakers including movement staff, a Jamaican student, and former Regional Secretary Desmond Rogers, who led participants in study of Romans 1-8. The team wanted to build confidence in reaching out, and arranged practical evangelistic opportunities. Groups supported two local organisations working with young people, and a local church in street outreach. Some students so enjoyed speaking to mission agency



representatives in one session that they missed lunch. In a context with much cultural (but often nominal) Christianity, and many challenges, the fellowship was a huge encouragement:

"I realised through this conference that I was not alone. Having very little youth in my country seriously serving God, I felt alone. Through this conference I realised that people all across the region love God just as much as I do and would serve him alongside me. This really has strengthen my faith." – Chrisshonna, IS/IVCF Barbados

Conference organisers included theological reflection on local cultural movements and global topics impacting young Christians, equipping participants to examine the culture around them through the lens of the Bible:

"I really enjoyed the speakers as well as the topics of their presentations; the explanations of the biblical passages were, of course, excellent, but I was particularly drawn to the topical issues, which aren't necessarily covered elsewhere. So the topics of gender theory and artificial intelligence really struck a chord with me." – Lucas, CIG French Guiana

A source of special joy was to see a new generation of leaders. College and university ministry was hard hit during the

pandemic, but is well established again. Thank you to all who have prayed for Impact26. Please lift up those who heard the call to mission, ask that God would equip and use them in student groups now and direct their paths for the future.

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CONTACT DETAILS

ifesworld.org

IFES International Services (UK)
5 Blue Boar Street
Oxford OX1 4EE
United Kingdom

+44 (0)1865 263 777



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