

Stories and updates from Scripture Union around the world

Global News aims to keep you in touch with how our network of Scripture Union teams is having an impact on young lives each month.

Joy overflows at Zimbabwe summer camp

Stepping out in faith was the theme of a Scripture Union camp attended by more than 100 young people in Zimbabwe in June.

The camp held at St Mary's Mission High School in Chitungwiza, with campers drawn from 17 high schools across Harare province.

Each camp day started with early morning workouts and devotion through which bible reading, quiet time and prayer for the camp were done with the help of the 2024 <u>SU Zimbabwe</u> bible reading card. The speaker for morning and evening sessions was a pastor who came to faith through Scripture Union, and who helped the young people focus on stepping out in faith.

Scripture Union Zimbabwe's National Director, Samuel Kalizi, said: "Sessions in the camp covered a wide range of topics from life skills to mental health and drugs. All the learning was interspersed with activities including a treasure hunt, colour run and ball games. Campers said they appreciated the low-cost camp, practical bible exposition and conversations which were relevant to their real life circumstances."



Their joy at taking part is very evident in the video here:

Watch the video

about **Zimbabwe**

Zimbabwe is a landlocked country in southern Africa filled with dramatic landscape and diverse wildlife, and includes the famous Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. The country was dominated by President Robert Mugabe, for almost four decades after independence and today is still struggling with high inflation and unemployment. It once exported food, and then was no longer able to feed its own people, even with international aid.

Hyperinflation was so bad that Zimbabwe's own currency was rendered worthless, and people only used money from other nations. Millions left the country to seek a better life elsewhere, including many leaders in education, business, healthcare, and the church. Poverty grips millions who remain. The education system, once the envy of the continent, has been gutted by brain drain and poverty – a quarter of parents cannot

Zambia Lusaka Mozambique Zambezi River _ Lake Mana Pools Kariba Kariba Nat. Park Namibia Chinhoyi Victoria Falls *Harare Munyati Binga River Chitungwiza Hwange CHIZARIRA Mt. Nyangani HILLS Kadoma □ Hwange WorldAtlas.com Nat. Park Mutare **Zimbabwe** Matobo Masvingo Save MAFUNGABUSA PLATEAU Bulawayo Nat. Park Great Zimbabwe Nat. Monument MATOPO Runde River Botswana 125 mi Beitbridge Gonarezhou Nat. Park 125 km Limpopo Kruger Nat. Park River ZIMBABWE South Africa LOW / HILLS / MOUNTAINS

afford to send their children to school. Pray for God to restore this once-prosperous land and to use His people to bring relief to the decades of suffering.

Pray for the swift and safe return and reconciliation of the people who have left the country to help rebuild it. Pray for strength of community among the Zimbabwean Church and for unity.

Pray for the ministry of Scripture Union Zimbabwe as they work with marginalised young people and run camps which bring hope and draw them into a loving community.

Food for life in Papua New Guinea



The greatest joy for Scripture Union volunteer, Beverley, is seeing the happiness on the faces of the children who benefit from their school feeding program, where the hungry and the hopeless are fed.

Beverley, who is married to the national director of <u>Scripture Union PNG</u>, Jacob Vavine, and volunteers on the school feeding program, said: "As volunteers we go and help set up the place at 6am at the school and the lines of children begin very early. The really good thing is that as soon as food is on offer, kids who don't normally go to school will come and it is the greatest joy to see the happiness on their faces after they've eaten."

Scripture Union in PNG saw the need for children to be fed and the SU volunteers provide and cook the food, as they rotate around different schools. Jacob explained that many children miss school to make money for their families and buy food, selling things on the streets.

The feeding program is their way of showing God's love in practical action and while the children eat, there is also a chance for the team to talk to them about God's Big Story and his love for each of them.

Watch the video

A journey of beauty and transformation

The impact of <u>Scripture Union in Kenya</u> supporting children and young people with their mental health struggles has led to many young lives being transformed.

Mary Kadii, from Kilifi County, explained how she has benefitted from the ministry of Scripture Union Kenya.

"In 2021, I joined Scripture Union Kenya, driven by a deep desire to make a meaningful impact and grow in my faith. Little did I know that this decision would lead me to one of the most transformative experiences of my life.

"Though the path hasn't always been easy, I am endlessly grateful to God for the strength to persevere. The greatest gift I've received through Scripture Union is the profound sense of community and belonging. The people I've met along this journey have become like family, offering unwavering support and encouragement as we navigate life's ups and downs together.

"Through engaging programs like Vocation Bible School, camps, Bible clubs, and

youth seminars, I've deepened my faith and forged genuine connections within my community. Each moment spent in fellowship, worship, and learning has solidified my relationship with God and laid a strong foundation for all aspects of my life.



"Scripture Union has not only nurtured my spiritual growth but has also equipped me with vital mental resilience. Through mental health training, I now have the tools to support others facing their own struggles, which is incredibly fulfilling.

"My journey with Scripture Union is one of beauty and transformation. I am continuously inspired by the love and hope that surrounds me, and I look forward to what God has in store for the future."

You can partner with us

If you would like to know more about how to partner with us or find out about Scripture Union in a particular country or area, you can discover more **HERE**:



Scripture Union: God's Big Story Transforming Young Lives <u>scriptureunion.global</u>