Scripture Union International



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.

Golf and the Gospel



Combining golf with the Gospel is how <u>Scripture Union in Trinidad and Tobago</u> has been reaching out to young people recently.

Christian golf coach Gregory King led a 'Starting New At Golf' (SNAG) Program which helps young people to learn about golf and make connections with following Jesus.

Child Evangelism Director for Scripture Union Trinidad and Tobago, Ingrid Hanson, said: "Coach Gregory King connected aspects of the game with following Jesus Christ. The pilot, which included three two-hour sessions, was held at a 'Home for Children' where Scripture Union ran a homework club for many years.

"Eleven children took part and listened attentively as the rules were integrated into following Jesus. They all wanted SNAG to continue during the new school year. The final session was a competition and there was no bickering. A strong spirit of camaraderie was displayed as each team member battled to hit the target. This positive impact on the children was noted by the Programme Coordinator at the Children's Home."

about Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago is an island country in the Caribbean, with Trinidad lying just seven miles off the coast of Venezuela in South America. The country gained independence in 1962 and its economy has thrived on the discovery of huge oil and gas deposits since 1998.

Christianity is professed by nearly twothirds of the population, but true disciples faithful to God's Word are not so common. Many Christians are nominal; many others are polluted by witchcraft, Afro-Spiritist beliefs and Hinduisminfluenced worldviews.

The country is facing many social challenges, with increasing crime and gang violence associated with the illicit drug trade, which are worsened by endemic weaknesses in the policing and justice system. Alcoholism, kidnapping, armed robbery and theft are dangerously common and a high percentage of children are born to unmarried teenage mothers. There is a need for Christian



leaders to demonstrate discipleship and be a model for how to follow Christ in practical ways. Pray that righteous and effective solutions might be found through both the public and faith sectors.

Despite the divisions in the churches, our prayer is for revival to enliven and empower the Church. Scripture Union is working with children and young people to help them explore the Bible and discover what's God's word is saying to them. They run a number of activities reaching out to children through sport and activity clubs.

School program changes lives



In South Sudan a life skills program run in schools is having a profound effect on the students.

National Director of <u>Scripture Union South Sudan</u>, Manase Woja Alfred, said that Scripture Union volunteers go into schools to share about life values from a biblical perspective.

Manase said there was one boy who was quite aggressive, detached and always sitting at the back of the class, totally uninterested and disengaged. He also always referred to his own mother as, "that woman".

Over the course of the six-week program, this boy started to listen. Week by week he moved further up the classroom, until finally he was sitting in the front row. When the course was completed, his behaviour had totally changed. He had become agreeable, polite, respectful and was volunteering to do jobs around the house without being asked.

Manase said: "The mother was so shocked by the radical improvement in her son's behaviour that she made an appointment with the school principal and asked what he had done to make the huge turn around in her son's behaviour. The principal explained it was not the school but the SU program."

"The mother said she wanted to meet this SU volunteer and when she did, she fell at the volunteer's feet and said, 'thank you, thank you, thank you'. The SU volunteer said, 'Please stand up, it was not me, it was the Lord's doing, all the Glory belongs to him'."

new space for spiritual resources in Quebec



A new place to share spiritual resources and engage with the Bible has been launched in Quebec by <u>Scripture Union in French-speaking Canada</u>.

The new premises, which includes the headquarters for Scripture Union, was officially opened in August and offers a space that is accessible to the entire Christian community in the Quebec region. According to the SU team, the new HQ is worth visiting, whether you're looking for

According to the SU team, the new HQ is worth visiting, whether you're looking for answers to life's existential questions, or if you just want to enjoy a coffee in good company. The new centre is designed to be a place of meeting and sharing where everyone can deepen their faith and grow spiritually. A range of activities and services are available including, Biblical interaction groups, small conferences and training sessions, a Christian bookstore, specialty coffee and a children's area.



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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 scriptureunion.global