

# January 2018

**FRUITFUL & OVERFLOWING:**  
Use this month to think about our sub-theme:  
**PREPARE THE SOIL**

## REFLECTION

**From Vivienne Aitchison (International President)**

I am sure we all know the parable of the sower. In this story the hard-working farmer wanted a harvest so he planted his seeds. The seeds, all fell in different places – in the good soil, on the path, in rocky ground and amongst the weeds. Now it is true that not all the seeds brought forth fruit but that did not deter the farmer. You and I, as workers in Girls' Brigade, have a prime task 'to help girls to become followers of the Lord Jesus Christ.' In order to do this we, like the farmer, have to faithfully plant the seeds.

**The soils we are working with are the hearts and minds of our girls and young women.** These young people, our soil, will all be different. They may be confident and self-assured or reserved and low in self-esteem. They will be affected by many influences from a materialistic and often troubled world. They will be influenced, for good or ill, by peer pressure and family traditions. They will be surrounded by secular demands and media manipulation. But when they come to GB, we can 'be different' we can surround them with love, care, support, a different perspective of life, sound values and a secure environment.

Each one of them will receive the message differently. Some will respond to the gospel seeds with enthusiasm; some will reject the message without a second thought; some may go away and reflect on what they have heard; others may challenge and question. Sowing gospel seeds on so many 'soils', may be frustrating but the farmer didn't give up on any part of his field.

Let's pray for our 'soil' the girls and young women that God has given us to work with and let's see what God will do within their lives!



## PREPARE THE SOIL

### LET US PRAY FOR SPECIFIC EVENTS & NEEDS

#### WEEK 1

Pray for GB Malaysia's Dedication Service of their new GBM HQ Building (Jan 2018). Pray for the preparation of the service and for the fundraising for the building.

Pray for GB Australia's National Fonomorae (2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> January) to be held in Perth Western Australia.

#### WEEK 2

Pray for GB companies around the world as they give thanks for 125 years of faithful ministry

Pray for GB Zambia and the Planning Committee for ICGB 2018. May they realise that as they plan they are preparing the soil so that when we meet God may produce fruit in our lives.

#### WEEK 3

Pray for the New Zealand Fonomorae 15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> January

#### WEEK 4

Pray for Pacific's IVP (Renelle Neale) as she visits Vanuatu to re-establish GB work there

### PRAY FOR GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN ROUND THE WORLD

Lord, helps to reflect on the concerns of girls who say that because I'm a girl, I'm more likely to be unable to read and write. 65 million girls are missing from school rooms across the globe. Thank God for how GB is an informal learning space for many girls and pray for barriers to be removed so that girls can be all that God created them to be.



### PRAY THIS MONTH FOR GB INTERNATIONAL

As we step into a new year pray for the work of GB International. We ask that the IVPs and International President who are leading Girls' Brigade may proclaim the vision to be fruitful and overflowing We pray that they may have boldness to bear fruit both within their lives and in planting seeds for Christ through the work of GB.