



END OF FINANCIAL YEAR APPEAL

Dear xxxxxxxxx

*Can you make a special financial gift to support our ministry?
Are you able to establish a pattern of regular giving?
Could you consider increasing your regular giving?*

Across 2024, Bible College SA is celebrating the fact that we have been training women and men in Bible, theology, and ministry for 100 years, both under our current name and formerly also as the Adelaide Bible Institute. Our graduates have served—and are still serving—in churches and other ministries around Adelaide, across Australia, and throughout the world. The training and equipping that we have been privileged to offer has underpinned generations of Kingdom work in countless places and we praise God greatly for including us this way in his amazing plans.

It is also the case that for 100 years Bible College SA has been dependent on the financial support of our generous donors. In God's way of working, this is what has enabled us to keep our doors open year after year, decade after decade. And we remain very much in need of your support today with donations accounting for well over one third of our regular income. Here are some things to know about our financial situation.

- **Tertiary education has always been an inescapably expensive business.** There are many, many costs involved in running an institution that must be compliant with all of the government's stringent requirements, including the need to be offering teaching at world standard.
- Despite the fact that non-university tertiary education providers regularly out-perform the universities by a considerable margin (and the Australian College of Theology, of which we are a part, is among the very best performing in the country), the **universities get billions of dollars from the government each year, while we get absolutely nothing at all.**
- **Our fixed costs are rising and cannot be cut.** Ongoing expenses like salaries, IT, utilities, and insurance have gone up significantly over the past 24 months, and we have also had some major one-off expenses too.
- This year, while we still have excellent students whom we are very excited about, our enrolments are a little down on average. This means that **our fee income—which we usually rely on for around 55-60% of our income—is also down.**
- **We do not have any endowments, investments or trusts** that provide us with income. Our ongoing viability is always heavily dependent on live giving.
- Inflation and rising costs mean that today **we really need \$1,500 to do what we did with \$1,000 just ten years ago.**

While this all might sound a little stark, it is not at all unusual for Christian organisations like ours, and it is even deeply biblical for strategic gospel enterprises to be largely upheld by the planned, dependable giving of God's people. Consider even the Lord Jesus himself. Although he had command of all the resources of the universe, as he went about his earthly ministry, his way was still to draw financial support for himself and his disciples from the faithful and committed generosity of the women who accompanied him (Luke 8:1-3). This is a pattern of working with the highest level of endorsement!

Given all of this, I would like to ask if you would take some extra time in this our centenary year to think about how you might financially support Bible College SA. Of course we understand that many of our friends are not in a position to give at the moment, and we always remain deeply thankful for your prayers and advocacy. But we also know that our economy is running at two speeds and there are many Australians who do have capacity to consider their generosity. If that is you, could we please ask two things.

- First, would you **please give a one-off gift before June 30** to help us end this financial year well, and to enable us to plan out next year with confidence?
- Second, could you **please pray about your regular giving?**

If you do not already **give a regular gift (eg. monthly)**, would you think about starting to do so as the predictability of regular giving is so helpful to us?

If you are already giving a regular donation, could we ask you to please **consider increasing** it in light of our increasing costs noted above?

If you have any questions about anything to do with our finances, please do not hesitate to be in touch as we are more than happy to discuss them with you. We welcome your engagement with the College at every level.

We are so appreciative that we have such a wonderful group of faithful supporters with whom we can share our financial needs. And doubly so because we know all of our partners are passionate about our core business of preparing gospel workers for Adelaide, South Australia, and beyond for many years to come—under God, perhaps even for another century!

With trust, and for the ever-greater glory of Jesus and the furtherance of his plans,



Sum Lock
Board Chair



Rev Dr Tim Patrick
Principal



Mandy Krueger
Partnerships & Events Officer

All gifts to Bible College SA are tax deductible and we will send you a receipt for your donations.