



Anglophone West Africa

"Anglophone" refers to the countries where English is accepted as a main language or language of commerce. This week, we're praying for the Anglophone West African nations of Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia.

PRAY WITH SCRIPTURE

"Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise." —Hebrews 10:23

Together, we hold tightly to the promise in [Revelation 7:9](#) that people from every tribe, people, and language in Nigeria will worship before God's throne.

PRAY FOR THE REGION

- For God's people to withstand persecution
- For infrastructure to improve
- For righteousness to replace corruption
- For the true gospel to replace false teaching
- For well-trained, committed people to work in Bible translation

PRAY FOR ZERO

Seed Company's Global Manager of Prayer Mobilization, Kanita Rutley, shares the Pray for Zero vision with West African church leaders at the African Regional Prayer Conference:

[Video: Pray for Zero Africa](#)



Regional Praise

Nigeria Drops from #3 to #4 Worldwide in Number of Bibleless People Groups

For a long time, Nigeria had the third-highest number of Bibleless people groups in the world. Now, they have dropped to #4, after Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and China. The Lord's faithfulness has been shown throughout Nigeria and all of West Africa. We have seen partner organizations grow in capacity and drive to see the Bibleless languages in the region reach Zero.

When the first [Anglophone West Africa Pray for Zero journal](#) was released in October 2022, Nigeria had approximately 169 remaining Bibleless people groups.* Today, that number has dropped down to 111! That means at least 58 people groups have begun translating God's life-giving Word in less than a year. Thank you for continuing to pray with us until 111 becomes Zero!

PRAY

For continued cooperation amongst the Bible translation organizations of West Africa.

PRAISE

One of our partners has been able to translate the entire New Testament in just three years!

**According to ProgressBible™.*

Monday

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP **Kwah People in Nigeria**

More than 7,000 Kwah speakers reside along the banks of the Benue River, where they fish and cultivate rice all year round. While most Kwah speakers identify as Christian, many also practice traditional animistic rituals. Their daily lives may be governed by fear and superstition rather than biblical faith. Hearing God's Word in their own language can help them walk in the true freedom of Christ.

PRAISE

The Kwah translation team is beginning Oral Bible Translation this month!

PRAY

For teams to be protected as they travel to this area, especially during the rainy season when cars can't access the road due to the river bursting its banks. Even during the dry season, dilapidated roads, potholes, and broken bridges still make travel difficult.



Pray Now

For God to guide government leaders and heal Nigeria's economy. Prices of everyday necessities have skyrocketed. Many people can no longer afford public transportation and must walk. Ask God to protect translation teams during this difficult time, as their expenses are increasing dramatically.

Tuesday

God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

— 1 Corinthians 1:9 (NLT)

PRAY FOR PARTNERS Rhema for the Nations Movement (RFNM)

[Rhema for the Nations](#) has historically worked mainly in India among unreached, unengaged people groups, but they've recently expanded their reach to Nigeria!

They say, "We consider ourselves part of the Great Commission and never limited to any region or ethnicity, strongly believing no person should be without access to God's Word in his own heart language. In the process of working toward fulfilling the Great Commission, we saw a clear need in Nigeria of oral and written Bible translation, and God led us to reach out and begin work there."

PRAY

- For God's leading as RFNM expands ministry and reach in Nigeria
- For safety and understanding for two new interns with RFNM as they pursue both school and work



Pray Now

For Seed Company's Anglophone West Africa team as they host 24 Nigerian partners to pray about the future impact of Oral Bible Translation with Transcription (OBT-T). OBT-T would provide audio translation for effective ministry in oral cultures while still fulfilling their desire for a written, published Bible.

Pray Now

Partners are preparing to dedicate 8 New Testaments and 1 complete Bible within the next year! Pray for efficiency in the final steps, elimination of any bottlenecks in publication and printing, and for these Scriptures to have a deep and lasting impact on communities as churches use them.

Wednesday

But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

—John 20:31 (English translation, taken from the English Standard Version ESV)

Ama a nywangel ba bibi bibo kumban yak ti'e mamin nga na Yeso yi na Kristi Bola Kool, a kap ban yak ti'e mamün kwad na wun kum bas ka a baal lu'i.

—Yohana 20:31 (Jar, a language in Nigeria)

But they write these for people to be able to have faith that Jesus is Christ the Son of God, it is through faith that you will get life in his name.

—John 20:31 (translated back into English from Jar)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Jarawa People of Nigeria

Amid mountains, hills, and rivers, many Jarawa people (who speak the Jar language) practice a major non-Christian religion or traditional religion. Local translators are laboring to give the Jarawa the Scriptures in their own language so they can know the one true God who brings peace, hope, and joy.

PRAY

- For the Gospel of John to show all Jarawa people that true life is only found in Jesus.
- For divine wisdom as the team drafts 1–2 Peter.



PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Lala People of Nigeria

Centuries ago, the Lala people migrated from East Africa, settling in the Mandara Mountains on the Cameroon-Nigeria border. When they were introduced to Christ, they embraced the gospel, leaving behind idols and polygamy. Though 85–90% identify as Christians today, some still blend their faith with African Traditional Religion. But deeper knowledge of God is growing as more Scripture is translated into Lala.

PRAISE

The chief has instituted an annual gathering that includes Scripture memorization, Bible storytelling, and spiritual song composition.

PRAY

The team recently completed a vital step in Bible translation: the [consultant check](#) of John 11–20. Pray for wisdom as the team incorporates these changes, that the result will be an accurate Gospel that speaks deeply to Lala speakers' hearts.



Thursday

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

—Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS **Pray for the Program Manager Cohort**

[Video: PM Cohort Abuja, Nigeria May 2023](#)

Who Are Program Managers?

Program managers help develop quality translation projects, steward them through proper budgeting, and see them through to successful completion. Seed Company is partnering with local Bible translation organizations in West Africa to train 13 local interns to be program managers.

In addition to receiving training in program management and technology, they'll spend time on biblical character development and take a [Perspectives](#) class to learn about the modern missions movement and how God is using people just like them to grow his kingdom.

PRAISE

For these men and women giving God their "yes!"

PRAY

For God to sustain all 13 interns through this 3-year program.

Pray Now



For the Akurmi people of Nigeria, whose lives are under constant threat. In July, the translation project coordinator was kidnapped, along with his son and two of his younger sisters. The coordinator miraculously escaped, but a heavy ransom had to be paid for the release of his family members.

Friday

Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts
— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Trauma Healing: Galadima's Story

When bandits invaded Galadima's village in Nigeria, his brother was killed, while his wife and 64 others were kidnapped. Galadima, who works with a local Bible translation organization, gave this interview while his wife was still in captivity:

[Video: Testimony | Galadima Bitrus](#)

PRAISE

After more than two months passed and ransom was paid twice, Galadima's wife was finally released. Galadima found comfort in [trauma healing workshops](#) and Scripture, specifically [Psalm 56](#).

PRAY

Seven women are still being held captive, and their captors are still demanding ransom.



PRAY FOR A FRESH START

Fula Oral Bible Storytelling in The Gambia

The Fula-Futa Jalong and Fula-Habobhe languages are spoken by around 3.8 million people, predominantly oral learners who follow another major world religion. Oral Bible stories, contextualized for their language and culture, can help overcome their resistance to the gospel.

A few years ago, Fula translation teams had completed 26 oral Bible stories when the project had to be paused due to COVID-19 and finally stopped due to internal conflict. But now, local partners want to begin this project again.

PRAY

- For clear understanding of various leaders' roles in the project and empowerment of everyone to serve in their assigned roles.
- For protection from spiritual attack and anything that would bring division or disunity among God's people working to bring Scripture to Fula speakers.