

# How to Pray for Zero

Did you know millions of people are still waiting for one Bible verse in their language, and over 1 billion are still waiting for the full Bible? We are a community united in prayer for those numbers to reach Zero. *In this generation*.

#### Start with This Prayer

Jesus, speed up and empower the Bible translation movement. Rescue the nations out of darkness with the light of your Word.

#### **Watch Pray for Zero Video**

#### Join the Day-By-Day Journey to Zero

Every week, travel to a different region of the world in prayer. Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for each step of Bible translation—from zero Scripture to lives being transformed forever!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pray for Those	Pray for	Pray for a	Pray for	Praise for
Without	Ministry	Translation	Teachers and	Impact
Scripture	Partners	Project	Trainers	

Thank you for joining us! Together, our prayers can add up to Zero.

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### Islands Asia

Islands Asia includes just three countries, but there is a great concentration of need within these islands. Some areas have strong, vibrant churches, while others have very few, if any, known believers.

#### Pray for Those Still Waiting for a Single Verse of Scripture\*

People	Languages
1,236,901	149

<sup>\*</sup> According to ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. October 2023. Estimates differ between organizations, and numbers shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We are grateful to partner with more than 17 ministries and organizations in Islands Asia, not including some consultants.	National Bible translation partners are growing in strength and leadership. Church and business leaders alike are seeing the importance of Bible translation in reaching the lost.	One country in this region has the largest number of remaining Bibleless languages in the world. Yet in some areas, it is illegal to share the gospel. Pastors have been kidnapped, put in prison, or even killed.

\*Asterisks throughout this prayer journal indicate where pseudonyms have been used and locations have been generalized due to security risks.



# Regional Praise

# Ketning\* People of Islands Asia Receive Complete Bible

At the end of September, the Ketning people of Islands Asia celebrated the full Bible in their language! They were proud to call it their "100% Bible." Some covered their bodies with ashes to symbolize the darkness they used to live in, while others covered only half their bodies to represent the light of God's Word driving out the darkness.

The Seed Company field project manager writes, "Their situation is the reverse of Psalm 74, in which Asaph complains that the Babylonians have burned down every place where God is worshiped in the land. For the Ketning, every trace of spirit worship has been *destroyed* in their land! They have gone from sending war parties against their neighbors to sending missionaries carrying the gospel of peace. God has worked very powerfully indeed!"

Watch the shouts of joy!



## 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 First Scripture for the Tiow\* of Islands Asia

Christians are a minority among the Tiow\* people, who work as traders in urban areas. But Mr. Aryadi\*, a local church leader, has a passion to reach the Tiow through Oral Bible Translation. Seed Company is partnering with a regional organization and two local church networks to support this project.

#### **PRAISE**

• Tiow people are showing interest in Scripture! When people have distributed Scripture recordings in the neighboring Kahak\* language, Tiow people have asked for their own.

- Evangelism has been a struggle in the past. But the process of testing translated Scripture within the community has already opened new doors! More, Lord!
- For grace and wisdom for Janel and Nathan, the lead consultant and translation advisor who work closely with the Tiow\* translation team.



For safety, stamina, and anointing for the <u>Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga team in the Philippines</u> as they hike and cross mountains to do evangelism, conduct medical outreach, and distribute invitations to the celebration of their complete New Testament in January 2024.



## 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**

#### Partner in Islands Asia and S\* Translation Project

After significant delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, one partner organization in Islands Asia is on a mission to discover all the remaining translation needs of their country's languages. In the coming weeks, they'll visit five language communities. This partner has also been instrumental in bringing Scripture to the S\* and R\* people.

#### **PRAISE**

• The S New Testament was successfully completed in mid-2023! Currently, the team is recording it on audio.

- For this partner's language survey staff as they journey to remote parts of the country.
- For smooth printing and delivery of the S New Testaments into the country, especially through customs.
- For audio recording of the S New Testament to go smoothly and for the narrators' voices to stay healthy.
- For the revision of the R\* New Testament, which is approaching the finish line.



For the Mando\* translation team in Islands Asia as they look for potential new team members. They have met two promising individuals through testing Scripture in the community.



## Wednesday

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

#### —1 Corinthians 13:1 (NLT)

Mesuat ne mekepekabitu neng miglekelayn-layn nek pikebitan se ngag getew bu se ngag ganghil, piru bu dairuni gugmawu sek samatewu, suwa u lak seg begula ne gagung bu sek piyangpiyang ne mikteginting.

—1 Corinto 13:1 (Sulu Sea\*, a language in Islands Asia)



# PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Sulu Sea\* of Islands Asia

The Sulu Sea people have historically believed in many gods and spirits that must be appeared through worship and sacrifice. Some Sulu Sea elders see Christ's teachings as a threat to their traditional culture. Many have difficulty understanding that the Bible is meant for them.

#### **PRAISE**

 Recently, the team was able to enter a new community to check translated Scripture, thanks to a partnership with a local pastor. After the Sulu Sea people heard the translated Scripture, the pastor challenged them to follow Christ. Many of them answered the call!

- For hearts to be transformed as local pastors continue visiting homes to share translated Scriptures.
- For the translation team, as one of the local translators must soon leave. Ask for a smooth transition and for the work to continue without interruption.



## 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 November Vision Meetings in Indonesia

<u>Seed Company Growth Partners consultants</u> request prayer for upcoming meetings that will define the path forward in the country with the largest remaining Bible translation needs on earth.

On November 7–8, local leaders from churches and Bible translation organizations will meet to strategize about starting new translation projects in 2024. They will review maps showing possible remaining language needs to determine if current numbers are accurate or need to be increased, and then they will form an action plan for beginning translation, increasing outreach, and raising more support from local churches and communities.

- For unity in the Spirit around a common vision and mission
- That God will guide and bless these relationships so everyone in Indonesia may receive God's Word in the language they understand best.



For Risma Wicaksono in Indonesia as she receives training to become a <u>translation consultant</u>. She praises God that she was able to attend a Translation Consultant Development Workshop this year. We are in the process of developing her <u>internship</u> with Seed Company.



## Friday

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

#### **IMPACT STORY**

#### **Kosarek\* People Receive New Testament**

Living high in a remote mountain range, nearly all Kosarek people profess Christian faith. But without Scripture in their own language, superstition and fear of ancestral spirits have remained common. Recently, they finally received the full New Testament in their language!

People of all ages gave speeches, songs, and drama presentations. But what struck one attendee most was this Kosarek man's comment: "Finally, we can know for ourselves what God's Word says without having to listen to someone else." Praise God that access to the truth found in Scripture has been unlocked for the Kosarek!

#### **PRAISE**

• Heavy rains stopped just in time for the celebration to go on as planned.

- That God's Word will take root and bear fruit among the Kosarek.
- For continued growth and multiplication of the Kosarek church.



For five translation teams in the <u>LoTaWa Cluster project</u> who have the opportunity to speed up their work by adapting their translations from existing translations in other languages, instead of working from scratch. Pray for God to provide the training and technical support to make this happen.



# This Just In

## MORE RECENT PRAYER NEEDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Praise God that the Mayeri\*, Mawarao\*, Wanadi Nacomo\* & Neengatu\* teams each have boats now! Pray for the teams as they travel to do checking and to gather together for several weeks starting at the beginning of November to start translating Philippians.

#### - 10/22/23, from four translation teams in the Americas

Please pray that we will be able to finish and publish 2 Timothy and Titus soon. Please pray for health, strength and wisdom for the entire Mexican Sign Language team, and that each of us will be salt and light to our families, the church, and the community.

#### - 10/19/23, from the Mexican Sign Language team

We thank God for helping us finish Luke, Acts, and 1 John. We thank Jehovah Rapha for giving a speedy recovery to advisor Samuel, who fell ill during the checking session, and for bringing translator Kossigan Kodjo home safely from his training.

#### - 10/19/23, from the Houdou team in Togo, Africa

Holy Spirit, please help the translators finalize the oral translations of Luke, Acts, and 1 John.

#### - 10/19/23, from the Dangbe team in Togo, Africa

Pray for Avelino Yaxón Bocel and his family, who have gone through difficult times due to the illness of his wife and niece. Also please pray for translator Pedro Lebon Pocop, who has been ill for many months.

#### - 10/18/23, from the Western Kagchikel team in Guatemala