

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 the Bibleless	Pray for Ministry Partners	Pray for a Translation Project	Pray for Teachers and Trainers	Praise for Impact

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

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Southern Africa

The Southern Africa region spans about 20 countries, including Angola, Malawi, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and several island nations.

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

People	Languages
758,680	17

** According to ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. November 2023. Estimates differ between organizations, and numbers shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.*

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We work with roughly 12 experienced ministry partners in the region who have developed strong relationships and collaborate well together in Bible translation.	Thanks to strong partnerships across the body of Christ, the Southern Africa region is rapidly approaching the day when Zero of its people are without a single verse of Scripture!	Some Bibleless people are in remote areas with poor roads, while others live in areas with political instability. More workers are needed to provide training for translators.

[Check out this map from Wycliffe Bible Translators that shows remaining translation needs around the world.](#) Many countries in Southern Africa have just 1-5 languages left without a single verse of Scripture!

Regional Praise

LuminAfrica: Praising God in the Pruning

Pruning seasons can be challenging, but they are necessary for God's next season of growth. Bible translation leaders with [LuminAfrica](#), a group of translation agencies in the Southern Africa region, request prayer for a pruning season right now as they go through an organizational transition.

At a recent gathering, they reflected on John 15 and the Greek verb καθαρός, which can mean “prune” or “be clean.” During this season, they believe the Holy Spirit is laying new support structures to help them bear more fruit in the future and achieve their purpose of bringing Scripture to all languages in Southern Africa.

PRAY

- For LuminAfrica's light to shine through the unity of all partners involved.
- For deeper trust and clarified vision going forward.
- For support and guidance as they seek to establish effective governance and structures.
- For a growth mindset as they meet challenges.

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 Angolar of São Tomé and Príncipe

[Angolar people](#) number fewer than 8,000 and live in the poorest area of the second smallest country in Africa: São Tomé and Príncipe, an island nation. Angolar people live in the southern part of this country, preserving their culture and *n'golá*, their unique creole language. They have a rich oral tradition, but their language is not written, which means no access to any Scripture or Christian resources in their language.

Many Angolar identify as Christian; others practice African Traditional Religion. Evangelists haven't been able to reach certain parts of the island due to poor infrastructure. But time and time again, all over the world, oral Bible stories travel quickly from person to person where outside evangelists can't.

PRAY

- For God's protection over São Tomé, especially the Angolar community. Ask for better living conditions, improved education, and for an oral translation project to begin soon among these people.

Pray Now

Prayer provided by Bernie van der Walt, Seed Company Southern Africa Regional Director

In our prayers, we acknowledge the challenges facing Bible translation in South Africa. We seek wisdom for translators navigating linguistic diversity and cultural sensitivities. May resources and skilled experts be provided, enabling translations to bridge oral traditions and varying literacy levels. Grant strength to overcome theological complexities and societal tensions. We pray for harmonious collaboration, deep understanding, and sustained efforts. Let technology be a tool for accessibility, reaching even the most remote communities. Bless these endeavors with endurance, ensuring that Your word resonates authentically across all cultures and languages in South Africa.

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

Hands with Words: Meeting Growing Sign Language Needs in Southern Africa

Sign language Bible translation needs are growing in Southern African countries. At the heart of it is [Hands with Words](#). To date, they've released two sets of South African Sign Language Bible passages, as well as a theological dictionary, songs, and an evangelistic tool for the Deaf.

Now, neighboring countries are looking to Hands with Words to assist with training, Scripture engagement, and church planting activities.

PRAISE

- The South African Sign Language team will soon complete the full Chronological Bible Translation, which consists of key Bible stories from Genesis to Revelation. Then they'll translate the rest of the Bible!

PRAY

- For wisdom, resources, and the right people to come alongside Hands with Words as they build capacity to meet the growing needs in their region. They want to steward their own organization well while also supporting others.

PRAY FOR PARTNERS

Faith Comes By Hearing

[Faith Comes By Hearing](#) and Seed Company are currently in the process of starting 33 Oral Bible Translation projects! Praise God that Faith Comes By Hearing plans to initiate an additional 60 Oral Bible Translations in the coming year.

Faith Comes By Hearing is renowned for making the Bible accessible to diverse communities. They host workshops to introduce the oral translation process to interested national partners. These partners, inspired by the mission, unite to form translation teams. The success of these teams greatly depends on their own passion and commitment and also the prayers of God's people.

PRAY

- That Seed Company's partnership with Faith Comes By Hearing would produce quality Scripture that transforms lives.
- That these workshop will challenge national translation teams to take up the mantle and finish the task of providing God's Word for people in their countries with no access to Scripture.

Wednesday

How lovely is your dwelling place,

O Lord of Heaven's Armies.

—Psalm 84:1 (NLT)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Cokwe in Angola

[Watch a Cokwe song based on Psalm 84, along with readings of verses 1–2 and 10–11.](#)

The Cokwe people (pronounced CHO-kwe) have a Portuguese colonial heritage, and all adult Angolans have personal memories of the long civil war that finally ended in 2002. The [Psalms That Sing](#) project works with local poets and musicians to bring the Psalms to life in languages that were marginalized under colonialism.

PRAY

- For more women to join upcoming workshops and be able to contribute fully and freely.

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Wantu* in Malawi

The Wantu people are a large, mainly Muslim people group in an area still struggling to recover from Hurricane Freddy. Psalms that Sing is working with a partner mission to translate Psalms into Wantu and bring them to life through performance.

A local Wantu minister says: "This is a culture that likes singing. In these workshops, we are taking traditional music and putting words to it from the Psalms, so when people listen, it will be like their own songs. They will be singing them everywhere; when they go to the mountain to fetch firewood, when they fetch water, go to the mill.... It is putting the word of God in their hearts. That is what I want for my community."

[See part of Psalm 103 performed in Wantu!](#)

PRAY

- For the artists and musicians attending the workshops, half of whom follow Islam, to encounter the Lord through Psalms.
- For God to open up avenues for distribution, especially over local radio.

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 Napo Mosito of Bible Society of Lesotho

Lesotho (pronounced luh-SOO-too) is a landlocked country encircled by South Africa, separated by tall mountain ranges and narrow valleys. As General Secretary of Bible Society of Lesotho, Napo oversees translation projects, but he also helps with accounting, general management, funding, and promotion of Bible translation work. He is married to Makabelo and blessed with three boys (Kabelo, 11; Kateleho, 3; and Kamohelo, 2).

PRAISE

- Napo has been provisionally accepted to a postgraduate program in business administration at South African university to further his project management skills.

PRAY

- For God to make a way for him to study in South Africa, since the South African government has yet to recognize his Lesotho qualifications. He's been waiting more than 6 months for approval.

Pray Now

Seven Southern African language projects are in the process of transitioning from Seed Company to be managed and funded by our partner The Word For the World. Pray for a smooth transition, minimal interruptions, and for God to guide The Word For The World leadership as they manage the transition and provide the majority of funding.

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

Mansonka People of Guinea-Bissau Learn Jesus Is for Them

Mansonka means “refused” because the Mansonka historically refused to be ruled by the Muslim Mandinga people. Nevertheless, currently, about 89% of them profess Islam. There are few Christ followers among them, but many see Bible translation as an opportunity to change the course of history in their community.

A woman named Banna Djatá stood up at an event, saying, “Previously, according to the teachings of our ancestors, we Mansonkas thought that Satan is the creator and owner of everything around us. We've heard about God and Jesus, but we thought it was only for Europeans and Americans. Finally, this translation brings light into our community, and everything that was hidden has been revealed in this Book.”

PRAY

- For hearts to be inspired by Banna’s words and for the translation team as they continue to bring light to this community.

Pray Now

For our friends at the [Jerusalem Center for Bible Translators](#); they have served many of our translators and consultants over the years, including many from Southern Africa. Please pray for protection for them and peace in Israel.

This Just In

MORE RECENT PRAYER NEEDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray for provision of motorcycles to help us meet more easily in areas where there are not many transportation options. Pray also for relief from political unrest as we prepare for district and municipality elections next month.

– 11/8/23, from the **Tawara team in Zimbabwe**

We thank God for Seed Company and its partners, for their spiritual, physical, and financial support to Wycliffe Togo. The Houdou community finally has a portion of the Holy Scriptures in the language we understand best.

– 11/8/23, from the **Houdou team in Togo**

Pray for Pastor Calixto, the project's language advisor, who was taken to the hospital recently. He is stable now, but he still struggles with disorientation, dizziness, and walking. Doctors have ruled out a stroke.

– 11/8/23, from the **Gajup Dios team in Mexico**

Thank God for the provision throughout my studies. I have lacked nothing. Pray for more strength, wisdom, and godly love in my duties as a consultant, pastor, and father of my family. Pray for financial provision to receive medical treatment for my back.

– 11/8/23, from **Raymond Sekabigwa, a consultant-in-training in Tanzania**

We praise God for the grace he has granted the Dangbe community to hear the Word of God in their own language through the support of Seed Company and its partners. We celebrate Jesus for ensuring the safety of the team. Indeed, he sent his angels to camp around his servants and take care of their belongings.

– 11/8/23, from the **Dangbe team in Togo**

Praise God for a successful launch of the Zabana New Testament! Also praise God for the new Starlink technology, and pray that all components would work extremely well for the team long term.

– 11/7/23, from the Zabana team in the Solomon Islands