

# 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<br>Bibleless | Pray for<br>Ministry<br>Partners | Pray for a<br>Translation<br>Project | Pray for<br>Teachers and<br>Trainers | Praise for<br>Impact |

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

| Get More Resources: | Join Global Prayer Room: |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| [P4Z QR code]       | [UP QR code]             |



### Eurasia

We may read devastating news headlines about the region of Eurasia\* (Europe and the Middle East), but faithful Bible translators are working behind the scenes to bring the light and peace of Christ. Trusting partnerships, cooperative teamwork, and faithful intercession are crucial in this challenging region.

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

| People    | Languages |
|-----------|-----------|
| 3,155,139 | 79        |

<sup>\*</sup> 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 14 strong managing partner organizations in Eurasia, including churches, church planters, and other mission organizations. | Many ministries use translated Scripture not only within their own borders but also in nearby countries through broadcast, diaspora, and refugee outreach. | Security concerns,<br>geographically<br>difficult-to-reach areas,<br>and oppressive political<br>and religious situations<br>all pose challenges to<br>Bible translation. |

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



## Regional Update

### An Especially Challenging Year for Eurasia

An update from the Seed Company Eurasia field team

The Eurasia region is one that often experiences difficult situations; however, the past year has been particularly challenging. Floods, earthquakes, ethnic cleansing, crippling inflation, economic collapse, war, and opposition from religious majorities and governments are struggles that multiple countries in the region have faced. These circumstances are not only discouraging and difficult for the people living in the affected areas, but also hindrances to translation teams and those ministering in the areas.

One particular Middle Eastern country is experiencing severe economic trouble. An organization in this country provides vital support for a translation project in another, very sensitive Middle Eastern country. The economic situation makes travel, communication, withdrawing funds to pass on to the team, and other support extremely difficult.

- For wisdom and creativity for those supporting the translation work.
- For the translation team to not lose heart and continue their history-making work despite very difficult circumstances.



## 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 Watad\* Cluster Update

In the <u>last Eurasia prayer journal</u>, we shared the excitement of starting Bible translation in three languages. Since then, civil unrest has escalated as different groups have fought for control in the area, and an unexpected flood has cost many lives. Therefore, the project manager was specifically asked by locals not to take the risk of traveling to the country right now. As a result, this translation project that was supposed to start October 1 has been delayed indefinitely until local translators can be selected.

- For the project manager and local partner as they continue to attempt to connect with potential translators via social media and other means.
- That these language groups, comprising almost 200,000 people, may know Jesus as Savior and Lord through his precious Word. This project may be delayed, but the people are not forgotten!



### Pray Now

For God's grace and protection for the Arach\* translation team and partnering churches (who we prayed for in June), as they have been testing translated Bible stories among the majority-Muslim Arach people and found them happy to help! But as they spread God's Word, they face daily hindrances to their work due to war in their region, including the threat of military conscription.



### 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 DOOR International and Deaf Bible Translation

In Eurasia, Seed Company and <u>DOOR International</u> partner together in three sign language translation projects and in training one future translation consultant for the Deaf. Two of these projects are being impacted by war.

#### **PRAISE**

 For the perseverance of these teams in such incredibly difficult conditions.

- For the Kha\* Sign Language team as they live and work in a country facing severe sanctions by much of the world, causing great economic hardship and difficulty finding daily staples. Plus, there's the emotional toll of living under such pressure.
- For the Gali\* Sign Language team as they continue translating while their country is at war. Their team leader asks for prayer for safety, quick resolution of the conflict, and for peace in the country.



### Pray Now

The good news: New Testaments in 10 languages of a Central Asian country have recently been completed! The bad news: Their community dedication celebrations were scheduled for January 2024, but security threats from the government have raised concerns for the translation teams. Please pray for encouragement and wisdom for the translation teams as they face security concerns and uncertainty regarding travel.



## Wednesday

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

-Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT)

Dava tumen nevo jilo a thovava andre tumende nevo duchos; lava avri oda baruno jilo andral tumaro telos a dava tumen jilo masestar.

-O Ezechiel 36:26 (East Slovak Romani)

# PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Bible Complete in East Slovak Romani

Praise God that the East Slovak Romani team, who completed their Bible in September 2022, is finally having their community celebration and dedication on December 11th in Slovakia! Multiple Seed Company staff will be attending to rejoice with our brothers and sisters at this milestone.

#### **PRAISE**

For the many ways East Slovak Romani, who have varying literacy levels, will be able to engage with God's Word. The Old Testament is currently being audio recorded with <a href="Davar Audio Bibles">Davar Audio Bibles</a>, while <a href="Eastern European Mission">Eastern European Mission</a> has graciously offered to publish the Bible in print.



## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Ukrainian Roma Cluster

The <u>Ukrainian Roma Cluster</u> teams are translating the Bible into four different Roma dialects: Servi, Lovari, Crimean, and Vlakh. While these translators have dealt with many hardships, they continue to persevere. Some teams have been forced to flee, but the Vlakh team remains in Ukraine.

#### **PRAISE**

• A church in the Servi Roma area is overflowing with newcomers! Servi Roma have displayed a fresh openness to God during the war.

- For Lovari translators, who have had difficulty testing Scripture for clarity and accuracy among their people because they had to flee to Bulgaria. Most Lovari people lived in eastern Ukraine, where the active fighting is taking place, so most are scattered and living as refugees.
- For one team member, Serhi, who has been separated from his family due to the war. Ask God to make a way for him to visit his family in Germany.



## 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**Bible Translation Consultant Azad\* in West Asia

Azad, who manages the North Warmi\* project (which we prayed for in <u>April</u> and <u>September</u>), cites John 3:16 as a guiding influence on his life:

"This verse impressed in me that God loves the whole world—not just a single person, culture, or language community—and that God gave his Son so that all peoples in the world could be saved. This changed my thinking from focusing only on my own community, and I felt a sense of calling to serve other language communities also in Bible translation. I began to think that a believer should stretch out his arms to others like Jesus did when his arms were outstretched on the cross."

#### **PRAISE**

That Azad knows six languages, making him an incredible asset to the Bible translation movement. He is also skilled in translation software and recently learned how to typeset a Bible!

#### PRAY

That Azad will continue learning, growing, and being a positive influence as he continues seminary work and takes a 9-month intensive course in Biblical Hebrew.



# Watch Part of the North Warmi New Testament Dedication

North Warmi New Testament Dedication video



## Friday

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

## IMPACT STORY Chazira\* of Eurasia

Nearly all Chazira people identify as Muslim. But Bible translation is revealing fresh truths about the prophets they already revere, sparking curiosity about the rest of Scripture.

When Exodus 3 was tested for clarity in a Bible discovery group, participants were astonished that God appeared to Moses and showed him a miracle all because he was concerned about his people's suffering. They wondered if God would send people nowadays to relieve the pain of those who suffer.

#### **PRAISE**

All of them were excited to share the story with others, including one person who planned to share with a group of children. Afterward, the group spent an entire day listening to all the translated Bible stories on the Chazira YouTube channel. One of them even commented that these stories should be taught in school!

#### **PRAY**

For all Chazira people to know Jesus as Lord, the One God sent to bear the suffering of the whole world.



### Pray Now

For two Sign Language Bible translation teams working in the Balkans of Eastern Europe. Though Deaf missionaries began working in many countries after the fall of the Iron Curtain, most Deaf people throughout Eastern Europe still lack Scripture. This project is bringing the first Bible portions to these two Deaf communities. The teams need wisdom on how to proceed and how to train others to help accelerate Deaf Bible translation.



# This Just In

#### MORE RECENT PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The local missionary shared a testimony with us about the testing of the Taipa Bible. Suddenly someone shouted from the kitchen, "Wow, Jesus speaks like us!" This was a sign that the Bible was understood and accessible, not distant.

#### - 11/16/23, from Amanda, an intern in Brazil

Thank the Lord, he has blessed us with a newer and much stronger truck to continue serving in the village. Pray for God's wisdom and direction in my life as a spiritual and community leader in the village and for the young people.

#### - 11/16/23, from Edson, an intern in Brazil

Pray for the health of my mother with Alzheimer's. May the Lord continue to give her life and health. Also pray for more workers, because the demands of the ministry are growing very quickly. Pray for the dedication of Ruth in the villages.

#### - 11/16/23, from Cleonice, an intern in Brazil

We thank and praise God for not experiencing much violence during the elections. Pray for peace in our country as results are being disputed.

#### – 11/10/23, from the Kalanga team in Zimbabwe

We are celebrating an answered prayer from the most recent Congo Basin Pray for Zero Journal. Miraculously, Rachel, a local translator's daughter, has woken up after being in a coma since September 20th! She has been cured of her medical condition and can now take care of her 9-month-old baby. Glory be to God!

#### – 11/6/23, from Marie, a member of the Seed Company Congo Basin team

Pray for all Bible translators and their families to be spared from the cholera outbreak that is devastating the whole nation. Pray that farmers will have



adequate rains. Praise God that we have consultant checked four books of the New Testament and checked six books in the community!

– 11/10/23, from the Korekore team in Zimbabwe