

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 Without Scripture	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.

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

Sahel

“Sahel” is an Arabic word meaning “coast.” In this case, it refers to the southern edge of the Sahara Desert, rather than the coast of a body of water. This African region includes 12 countries, many of which present security risks. [Go deeper in specific, strategic prayer for the Sahel with this 3-part article from the Lausanne Movement.](#)

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

People	Languages
4,769,719	106

** 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 around 17 partner organizations in the Sahel region, ranging from small local language associations to large, well-established organizations with vast resources and expertise.	We are grateful for the experience, commitment, passion, perseverance, and giftedness of our partners and local teams, many of whom use French for resources and training.	Political instability, violence from extremists, travel hazards, famine, drought, and poverty pose challenges for Bible translation progress in many parts of the Sahel.

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

Regional Praise

Bible Translation in the Sahel: A Fresh Wind

God is doing a special work in the Sahel; it is as if a fresh wind is blowing in this challenging part of the world. Seed Company, SIL, United Bible Societies, Wycliffe Global Partnerships, Faith Comes By Hearing, and national organizations have recently met in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, and Benin to discuss how they can improve their teamwork to reach all remaining Bibleless people in the Sahel. Similar meetings will soon be held in Cameroon and Chad!

PRAISE

- Personal agendas are being laid aside in the name of unity, repentance, humility, and seeking God's face.
- Local leaders in Bible translation and ministry are discovering how they can complement each other to fulfill the task of making God's Word available to everyone in their regions.
- God is highlighting local churches and the essential role they have to play in responding to the remaining needs.

PRAY

- For continued growth and unity as people take action in response to what is decided in these meetings.

Monday

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

—Mark 16:15 (NLT)

PRAY FOR BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUPS **Strategizing to Reach Those Who Remain**

In October, partners and church leaders from a remote, mountainous region of the Sahel gathered to share vision for translating the Bible into the region's many languages. While Progress.Bible lists at least 16 languages waiting to be engaged in Bible translation in this area, there may be even more. These people groups are primarily Muslim, with small churches.

This interdenominational gathering was an encouraging sign of unity in a country where division among Christians has been all too common. But perhaps even more encouraging was how church-led it was. At the end of the meeting, partners were asked to commit to helping with new Bible translation efforts. One by one, they raised their hands to volunteer for specific tasks. Church leaders celebrated with dancing!

PRAY

For every last Bibleless people group in this region to be discovered and engaged in local church-led Bible translation, through unity in the body of Christ.

Pray Now

For stamina and a learning spirit among trainers and trainees as they meet this week in a remote, mountainous region of the Sahel to equip church leaders in Bible translation, Scripture engagement, and trauma healing. Ask for wisdom as these churches engage their communities in holistic, transformative ministry, that all Bibleless people groups in this area may soon receive God's Word and God's love for them!

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

SIL West Africa

For many years, SIL's West Africa Group, known as SIL WAF, operated in four different countries, with one director overseeing all four of them. In the last few months, that has changed. Now there are four different directors for four different areas: SIL Burkina Faso, SIL Côte d'Ivoire, SIL Mali, and SIL Niger. This is a huge change and takes a lot of grace and patience as everyone adjusts.

PRAY

- For these new directors as they learn their roles.
- That God will protect and encourage the staff in these countries as they experience instability and unrest (there have been coup d'états in three of these countries in the past three years).
- That God will bring even greater acceleration in Bible translation as a result of these organizational changes.

Pray Now

For new translators being trained in the Swo, Eton, Mengisa and Téléki communities in Cameroon. They started with Oral Bible Storytelling, formed inter-church committees, and are now starting written translation with Mark's Gospel. Ask God to unify the churches and believers and provide for all the translators' needs as they train and begin this new task.

Wednesday

Whoever does what God wants is my brother, my sister, my mother.

—Mark 3:35

Anooan akaan mee wan Atiúha acamen mee, ho ammee atiom, áliinom, n'jaayom.

—Mark 3:35 (Gusilay, a language in Senegal)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Gusilay of Senegal

Most Gusilay follow Islam, but a Bible translation project is connecting their hearts with God's Word through translating evangelism materials and Scriptures about prophets they already know and respect.

After a dramatized version of the Easter story was shared over WhatsApp in Gusilay, a young man was deeply moved by the fact that Jesus asked God to forgive those who were mistreating him while he was on the cross: "I saw that when Jesus asked God to forgive his enemies, he had already accepted that he would be crucified in order to save others."

PRAY

For this young man to commit his life to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord!

PRAISE

For the faithful local believers on the ground who are leading out in this project, including a Catholic priest and a schoolteacher.

Watch the Creation Story in Gusilay

This video shares the Genesis creation story alongside eight songs that were composed at a songwriting workshop (one pre-creation and one for each of the seven days of creation).

[Creation Story in Gusilay](#)

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

Training Up Local Old Testament Experts

Cameroon is in the top 10 countries in the world with remaining Bibleless languages. It is currently estimated by Progress.Bible to have 42 languages still waiting to begin Bible translation, and many more that still need a full Bible.

Cameroon Association for Bible Translation and Literacy (CABTAL) recently started five Old Testament projects. Many more people are still waiting, but most of the local Old Testament translation consultants are nearing retirement. CABTAL and Seed Company are partnering to train four experienced New Testament consultants in Hebrew so they can work on the Old Testament as well.

PRAY

- For these consultants by name: David Ngole, Christian Alomofor, Samuel Ngeh, and Joseph Nkwelle.
- For peace in Israel so three of them can travel there to study in 2024.

Praise God

The book of Genesis in the [Ninkare](#) language of Burkina Faso is complete! People gathered to celebrate having access to this special love letter of God's truth about our beginnings and the foundation of the world. Pray that the book of Genesis in Ninkare will transform and ignite a fire within the entire community, leading many to a deeper relationship with God.

Watch video: [Ninkare People Celebrate Receiving Genesis](#)

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

The “JESUS” Film Impacts Karon of Senegal

When Amy Diatta has shared “JESUS” film clips in the [Jola-Karon](#) language on WhatsApp, people have made comments like, “If we have more resources like this, please let us have them!” When she watches the film with her children, they say, “Ah! Jesus was a Jola!”

One woman had been going to shrines and living in fear, but after receiving portions of God’s Word in her language, she is following Christ and walking in freedom. She’s been sharing with others in her village, and now they want their own copies!

PRAISE

- For the curiosity and interest God is igniting through his Word!

PRAY

- For more people in this language group, who are estimated by Joshua Project to be only 6% Christian, to come to Christ through these clips.

Pray Now

For Jay*, the project manager for the Shifa al-Ruwah [Cluster project](#) in a sensitive country of the Sahel. He provides crucial daily support for 4 language teams in a remote, mountainous region. Recently, he has been living in a neighboring country with his family, recovering from a serious head injury after a motorcycle accident in October. Praise God for his healing! Pray for his upcoming transition back to the remote area and for his family as he prepares to depart.

This Just In

MORE RECENT PRAYER NEEDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Praise God that the areas deeply affected by malaria have recovered. Pray for our evangelism in Kefa, which is a very difficult area for outreach.

– 11/21/23, from the **Konta team in Ethiopia**

Pray for our launch of the printed New Testament, “JESUS” film, and other Scripture portions. Pray for relief from high inflation and for political stability in our country, and ask God to provide a motorbike for transportation.

– 11/21/23, from the **Gayil and Baiso teams in Ethiopia**

Please pray for translator Felix and his family. Felix’s mom passed away today.

– 11/19/23, from the **Southern Pastaza team in Peru**

Please pray for peace in the Pebil Pam Jakalteko region, where there has been conflict between districts. Pray for all Christian groups in the area to be on board with Bible translation, regardless of denomination, and for the team’s emotional health.

– 11/17/2023, from the **Jakalteko team in Guatemala**

Pray for team members’ continuing health issues and for God to provide two more members of the community to help test translated Scripture for accuracy and clarity.

– 11/17/23, from the **Ixil team in Guatemala**

Pray for our planned trips to the Kasawa community to work on the translation of Nehemiah, for wisdom, and for community support of our work.

– 11/17/23, from the **Hixkaryana team in the Americas**