

How to Pray for Zero

Did you know that more than 1 billion people still don't have the full Bible in their own language, and millions don't have a single verse? Together, we pray 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 video: [Sacrifice for Zero](#)

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 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:
Pray for Zero	Unceasing Prayer

Special Announcement

**Join 21 Days of Prayer for the Buddhist World January 21—
February 10, 2024**

During the next 21 days, we'll join our friends at International Prayer Connect and the 110 Cities movement to lift up the major cities of the Buddhist world. Let's pray for all 1 billion Buddhists to encounter the love of Jesus through his Word in their language!

Get Your Prayer Guide

For Adults	For Children
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Congo Basin

This week, we're praying for Bible translation in the Congo Basin. The Congo Basin includes the nations of Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, and Republic of Congo.

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

People	Languages
1,377,980	88

* According to ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. January 2024. 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 work with around 20 Bible translation partners in the Congo Basin, many of whom persevere amid daily internet outages and transportation delays.	This region has many experienced, committed local believers who faithfully continue to invest their resources and expertise so everyone can have Scripture in their language.	Roads can be hazardous and become impassable, often without warning. In two countries, rebel activity has displaced translators, and violence and corruption have led to protests and unrest.

Asterisks indicate where pseudonyms have been used and locations have been generalized due to security risks.

Regional Praise

After 6-Month Pause, Travel in Gabon and Democratic Republic of Congo Resumes

In the last 6 months, Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon have held presidential elections. Historically, election seasons have often been filled with violence and instability. Therefore, translation teams had to postpone workshops and consultant checking sessions because movement would be limited and dangerous.

PRAISE

- Remarkably, there has been little to no violence in either country. (an answered prayer from [October](#)!)
- Bible translation activities have resumed!

PRAY

- For peace, righteousness, and justice to reign in Gabon, where Bible translators have still been affected by the military coup even though it's been relatively peaceful.
- For translation progress to continue smoothly in the 73 languages we are currently working with in Democratic Republic of Congo, where many have questioned their election's validity. Despite the disputed results, we expect President Felix Tshisekedi to be sworn in for another 5-year term this month.
- For Mirelle, an oral Bible storyteller whose house was burned because she worked at the elections.

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 Masanze in Democratic Republic of Congo

Over a year ago, one of our Congolese partners expressed a desire to start Bible translation in Masanze. But Masanze wasn't officially recognized, even though Masanze people identify as a distinct people with their own language. Furthermore, researching and documenting a language can take years, but they don't want to wait that long to begin Bible translation.

PRAISE

For Roger Hanggi, a language resource coordinator who helped Seed Company's Congo Basin team figure out a way to begin Bible translation among the Masanze.

PRAY

For our Congo Basin team and local field partner as they research languages to help ensure that each has their Scripture needs met. For example, there is currently a recognized language called [Joba](#), but local partners have clarified that it is actually a language *family* that Masanze falls under.

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 Local Churches in Gabon

Gabon has a population of roughly 2.3 million people, about 76% of whom identify as Christian. While French is the official language, many Gabonese people still need Scripture in their [heart languages](#) for deep Bible study and spiritual growth.

In 2015, a man named Jean Marc Mouele encouraged three local churches to work together to complete Gabon's remaining Bible translation needs. It was exciting to see local churches take leadership in this way!

PRAISE

Today, Gabon has only 2 languages that still haven't begun Bible translation, according to [ProgressBible](#).

PRAY

For unity, wisdom, clear communication, and good coordination as this group goes through a leadership transition. The general director has just stepped down, and the board chair is temporarily taking over until a new director can be appointed later this year. In addition, they have just named a new treasurer and cashier.

Pray Now

For one of our partners who is working very hard to resolve a situation that has caused financial transfers to be paused for multiple projects. Please pray for a quick resolution, for wisdom for all involved, and for provision for the translators during this time.

Wednesday

Then Jesus shouted, ‘Lazarus, come out!’
—John 11:43 (NLT)

Manda Kæpa o’onæ asæ, Yisu pa dæ avvara adæke: “«Lazaro, wuta ga usbu!»”
—John 11:43 (Mono, a language spoken in Democratic Republic of Congo)

When he had spoken to them this way, Jesus said in a loud voice, «Lazarus, come out of there!»
—John 11:43 (translated back into English from Mono)

PRAY FOR MONO SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Most of the 65,000 people who speak the Mono language identify as Christian, but for many, an animistic worldview lies just below the surface. In the last few years, they’ve received the complete New Testament, “JESUS” film, and portions of the Old Testament to help them understand true biblical faith.

One man, Yakidji, used to rely on amulets and idols for protection and provision while hunting. After a pastor shared [Acts 9:1-19](#) with him in Mono, he renounced these practices and put his hope in the living God. Pray for local believers as they continue to use what they’ve received to lead others to a true, abiding faith in Christ!

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 Seed Company Intern Baudouin Yangbegita in Democratic Republic of Congo

Born into a Christian family, Baudouin felt called to ministry at a young age. After he completed his studies and took on a teaching position as an adult, the Mono Bible translation team (who we prayed for yesterday) found themselves in need of a skilled linguist and chose him for the role! God had fulfilled his heart's desire to be in ministry—just not in the way he'd expected.

With his wealth of experience, Baudouin took on the task of translating the New Testament into the Mono language. He also planned project activities, participated in seminars and trainings, and handled administrative tasks. Today, Baudouin continues to serve as Language Project Manager with one of our local partner organizations.

PRAY

For a stable internet connection so Baudouin can keep up with his correspondence and training.

Pray Now

For Shelly, the newest field project manager on Seed Company's Congo Basin team, as she learns the functions of her role, seeks to serve partners in the Congo Basin well, and continues to advance her French language skills.

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

Oral Bible Stories Bring Healing in Democratic Republic of Congo

In Democratic Republic of Congo, eight translation teams are working together to bring healing to their communities through oral Bible stories. For some of these languages, these Bible stories are the first Scripture they have received in any form. In an area that has suffered greatly from civil unrest, these storytellers want people to know that the God of the Bible still heals hearts today.

PRAISE

- Translation team members report that these Bible stories are changing attitudes, fostering empathy, breaking down barriers, and promoting justice.
- After hearing the story of Joseph in Genesis, one man who had been betrayed by family members chose to forgive and reconcile with them.
- Another man heard the story of the merciless servant from Matthew 18 and decided to stop mistreating those who were in debt to him.

Praise God

For an answered prayer from [October's Congo Basin prayer journal!](#) We prayed for Rachel, the daughter of translator Faustin in Democratic Republic of Congo, who had been in a coma for more than a month. Incredibly, she woke up and was also cured of her medical condition. She is enjoying being a mom to her 9-month-old baby.

This Just In

MORE RECENT PRAYER UPDATES

FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Praise God that 12 Eurasian languages are dedicating their New Testaments this week! Pray for safe travels for Seed Company staff and that churches in these communities will be greatly blessed and multiply as a result of receiving and using God's Word.

— **January 2024, from the Seed Company Eurasia team**

Pray for Samuel, the lead translator's son, as he continues to recover from his motorcycle accident and appendicitis complications. Also pray for his family as they restore their home after flooding that occurred several months ago.

— **January 2024, from the Mam team in Guatemala**

Pray for us as we go through the final round of checking and then begin typesetting Scripture.

— **January 2024, from the Kiche team in Guatemala**

Praise God that we now have two additional team members helping us translate Scripture. Also, people are reading translated Scripture on the radio!

— **January 2024, from the Ixil team in Guatemala**

Praise God for providing new laptops for the Lelepa translation project.

Pray for good health, as many of our translators are elderly, and some are struggling with medical conditions. Please also pray for three new translation projects to be able to get off the ground, and for smooth planning and budgeting for our National Translation Collaboration meeting in Port Vila. Pray for us as we distribute Scripture, that we will have wisdom in cultivating a love for God's Word so that the Bible continues to transform lives.

— **January 2024, from Pastor Daniel with the Bible Society of Vanuatu**