

# How to Pray for Zero

Over **1 billion** people are still waiting for the full Bible in their language.

**Millions** are still waiting for just one verse.

But your prayers can bring these numbers to **Zero**.

## 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.*

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

Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for each step of Bible translation in a different region of the world every week:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
The Bibleless	Partners in Ministry	Translation Projects	Teachers & Trainers	Impact Stories

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

[Pray With Others](#)

[Get More Resources](#)

# This Just In

## PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Praise God for getting the Seqa team safely home after checking their translations for accuracy and clarity. Please pray for the Seqa team’s plans for a translation headquarters and for comfort for a team member named Kennedy, whose wife passed away recently.  
— from the Seqa team in the Solomon Islands ([answered prayer from February](#))

Please pray for translation consultant Caro Suarez, who has been quite ill since mid-February with a strange, severe headache. She has seen a neurologist and an alternative doctor and is taking medications and undergoing treatments.  
— from Foundation for the Development of Marginalized Peoples in Colombia

Praise God for our main translator, Manoel, who has started working with the project again after a very difficult season. Pray that the community will be blessed by the new Scripture portions, and pray for strength as Manoel juggles his day job and translation work. (Answered prayers from [January 2024](#) and [August 2023](#)).  
— from the Xerente team in Brazil

Pray for the main person who’s been following up online with those expressing interest in translated Scripture for about 5-6 years now in a very sensitive part of Eurasia. He has disappeared, and no one knows where he is. There is often a “race” in this area to disciple new believers enough that when persecution inevitably comes, they understand that God hasn’t left them. We are hoping and praying that we have won this race.  
— from the Seed Company Eurasia team

Tut Kony, Director of unfoldingWord’s Sudanese Bible translation partner, Greater Reach Alliance, has witnessed a hopeful phenomenon. The more violent jihadists wage war against fellow citizens, the more Sudanese hearts open to the gospel. Tut leads a team making the Scriptures available to 133 groups totaling more than 44 million people. We bless his life and ministry work.  
— from [unfoldingWord](#)

# 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.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We partner with 17+ ministries and organizations in this region, plus many consultants.	Leaders in translation organizations, churches, and businesses alike are seeing Bible translation's importance in ministry.	Persecution is common in one country. Pastors have been kidnapped, imprisoned, or even killed.

*Pseudonyms are used for names and locations in regions hostile to Christians.*

## Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

People	Languages
1,734,225	255

*Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. March 2024.*

*Numbers may shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.*

# Regional Praise

## Youth Saved and Discipled After Receiving Translated Scripture in Islands Asia

For centuries, Timber people have been in bondage to animistic beliefs, and Christianity has often been seen as an “outsider” religion. [Last March](#), we prayed for Timber people to be saved as they received Scripture in their language. Toward the end of the year, a Timber church hosted a youth camp, and youth from many surrounding villages got to hear the gospel!

### **PRAISE**

That by the end of the camp, 19 Timber youth gave their lives to Christ and were baptized in the river! They received copies of Timber Scripture to take home. They will now be discipled with these same Scriptures.

### **PRAY**

For these new believers as they grow in their faith, and for Timber churches as they disciple them.

# 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

### Iha of Islands Asia

Iha (EE – HA) is an indigenous language spoken by 5,500 people in an area of Islands Asia where two major religions coexist unusually well. Local church leaders believe having Scripture in their own language will help Iha believers grow deeper in their faith.

### PRAISE

That after completing a language survey and “Taste of Translation”\* workshop, the community has chosen to begin translation with the Gospel of Luke, alongside 4 other nearby languages!

### PRAY

For wisdom, support, and unity between our partner organization and local churches.

### \*WHAT IS TASTE OF TRANSLATION?

Taste of Translation measures both language vitality and community interest in Bible translation in just 2 days. Native language speakers work through all the translation steps for a few Bible verses, usually “Jesus Calms the Storm” in Luke 8:22–25. Afterward, if they decide they want to launch a Bible translation project, national partners promise to help them start within a year!

## Pray Now

For the Tiow translation team members, who have identified two more translators who could potentially join so that they'd have a team of four. We prayed for the Tiow as a Bibleless people group [last October](#). Praise God that this project is underway, and the team successfully completed a training on translation principles and technology last month!

# 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

### Pioneers International

[Pioneers International](#) sends workers from all over the world to serve those with the least opportunity to hear about Jesus. Through [Discovery Bible Studies](#), they introduce unreached people to key Bible stories that point to the Savior and our need for him. By the end of these studies, many choose to follow Jesus!

### PRAISE

- For what God has done through Seed Company's partnership with Pioneers among the Eswe people, a group of 500,000 in Islands Asia with fewer than 50 believers. Many have come to faith through Discovery Bible Studies using Eswe Scripture! House fellowships are using translated Scripture in weekly meetings.

### PRAY

- That Eswe believers will be faithful in learning from the Word and inviting their loved ones to learn with them, birthing a movement of Eswe people following Jesus!
- That more Pioneers teams across Islands Asia will have access to heart language Scripture for the unreached people they serve.
- For thousands more Discovery Bible Studies to be started across Islands Asia in the languages people know best!

## Pray Now

For the Sulu Sea team in Islands Asia as they pursue opportunities to connect with local churches and government officials. Praise God for opening doors for meetings that have been difficult to get in the past! Pray that more people would encounter God's Word through these meetings.

[Learn more about the Sulu Sea project](#)



# Wednesday

## TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: PITSUHA [PIT – SOO' – HAH] LANGUAGE

*When this offering is given to the Lord to purify your lives, making you right with him, the rich must not give more than the specified amount, and the poor must not give less.*

— Exodus 30:15 (NLT)

*Ngowa'a remaenanga 'adi pula'a pai'i syikal ma jule yodu'u, re ngowa'a ma dinga'unu ua, ananga gena-ge 'adi pula'a kuranga syikal ma jule yodu'u waktu ananga 'adi pula'a pipisi gena-ge sa'olo manga jou-jou ra Ma JOU di'a singi-ngiranga manga dosa.*

— Exodus 30:15 (Pitsuha)

*The person rich (more than needed) gives more than half shekel must not, and the person poor (doesn't have enough) gives less than half shekel must not, when they give this money as an offering to the Lord/Yahweh for the removal/forgiveness of their sins.*

— Exodus 30:15 (translated back into English from Pitsuha)

## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

### LoTaWa Cluster Project in Islands Asia

Today's translated Scripture in Pitsuha, one of 8 languages in the LoTaWa [Cluster project](#), reminds us that everyone has equal worth in the eyes of God—an important concept for smaller language groups (Pitsuha has about 7,500 speakers). These local translators are working on New Testament books in an area where many who profess Christianity also consult shamans, and about 75% of people practice Islam.

### ANSWERED PRAYERS

- [Last year](#), we asked God to provide the training and technical support to help these teams translate faster by adapting from translations in other languages. They found the Adapt-It software easy to learn and use! One team adapted Philippians in a single day, which would have taken 2 or 3 days otherwise.
- Recently, the team and Bible society were in urgent need of a translation consultant because the one who has been working with the project is going on furlough for a year. God has brought the Bible society not one but *two* consultants to help the LoTaWa teams!

# 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

### Thiadora in Islands Asia

[Last May](#), we prayed for the Bokngobo as a Bibleless people group. Today, we get to pray for the person who coordinates their Bible translation project! She's getting hands-on training with the translation team as she works toward becoming a certified translation consultant.

### PRAISE

That just 2 weeks ago, Thiadora visited the Bokngobo team and helped with their translation workshop, and that she's had many other opportunities to hone her skills over the last few months.

### PRAY

For good time management. Through May 1, Thiadora is helping another Bibleless people group work through a few Bible verses to decide if they want to begin a full translation project. Beginning May 6th, she will work with her mentor to check Revelation with another team.

## Praise God

That over 67 people are being trained to lead Bible translation projects through partnership between a large church network and a large Bible translation organization in Islands Asia! These candidates will visit translation teams across the country for hands-on training. May God guide and strengthen them. Praise God for this local and national ownership!

# Friday

*Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts.*

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

## IMPACT STORY

### He Uses Everyone: A Testimony from the Kalbar Cluster Project in Islands Asia

The daughter of an alcoholic father, Vera used to wonder why God chose her to be a Bible translator. Translating Scripture has helped her learn her identity in Christ. She shares:

"Through discussion and learning of our recently translated passages, I am convinced that God not only uses people of high status, but also people who are considered lowly or unworthy in the eyes of man. God still chooses me regardless of my background."

## PRAISE

That God's truth is at work within the hearts of the translators. They are the first fruits of the translated Scripture!

## PRAY

For all translators to be catalysts of transformation for their families and communities! As Scripture changes their hearts, may it spread to those around them.

## Pray Now

For the hearts of Kanang people (one of the language groups in the Kalbar Cluster), as their current cultural and religious practices are confronted with the truth of the gospel. Pray that the chains of ancient ancestral and mystical practices will be broken, that they may walk in the freedom of Christ.