

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

[Pray With Others](#)

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This Just In

MORE RECENT PRAYER UPDATES FROM THE AMERICAS

Pray for Domingo to get the treatments he needs to regain his strength after recovering from tuberculosis so he can continue in Bible translation.

— from the **Cloudlands team in the Americas**

Answered prayer for intern Militsa from [last week](#): She had an appointment April 3 in Lima, Peru, as a step toward getting a religious visa! May God help her obtain the visa, allowing her to spend more time with the Kakataibo people and make further translation progress.

— from the **Seed Company Americas team**

Pray for protection and fruitfulness as my wife and I travel through the state of Acre, Brazil, through April 12th, to help some coworkers as they learn the indigenous language and culture of three different ethnic groups. Ask God to help them learn these languages so they can possibly facilitate Bible translation in the future.

— from **Márcio Pimentel, a Seed Company intern in Brazil**

Please pray for the translation teams, as malaria and dengue fever are spreading rapidly in their area of the country. One team member has been infected with malaria twice; three others were hospitalized, and two others have been freshly infected.

— from the **Guayana Cluster team in Guayana**

Pray for team members Timoteo and Jessica, who had to move to seek physical therapy for their child who still cannot walk. Jessica is pregnant with another child, due in June.

— from the **Cloudlands team in the Americas**

Pray for linguists Arturo and Monica as they navigate caring for aging parents while trying to meet their translation goals. Monica is often on the phone for comforting her mom.

— from the **Cloudlands team in the Americas**

Americas

The Americas region spans an astonishing 56 countries, including North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We work with ~30 Bible translation organizations and ~200 ministries across the Americas.	Many teams have community support, strong partnerships, trained theologians, and reliable internet and technology.	We need more language surveys, especially for oral and sign languages, to determine their needs.

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

Pray for Those Still Waiting for a Single Verse of Scripture

People	Languages
918,020	97

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. March 2024.

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

Regional Praise

Remote Bible Translators Get Reliable Internet Access

Many groups waiting for Scripture are very remote. In the past, translators in these areas have been slowed down by a lack of reliable, affordable internet access. Starlink internet satellite technology is solving this problem! Just like in [Nigeria](#), [Solomon Islands](#), and [Papua New Guinea](#), translators across the Americas are also being equipped with this technology.

Benefits of Starlink

- Zoom meetings between translators, consultants, and field partners can save time and money.
- Translators get instant access to training and resources otherwise unavailable.
- Teams can send timelier, more detailed praises, prayer requests, and stories of how God is working.

PRAISE

- At least 15 Starlink satellite connections have already been installed in the Americas, and we're installing at least 44 more this year!

Monday

PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP

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

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

The May People of Brazil

Living in the Amazon rainforest, the May used to be one of the most isolated groups in the world until contact was made about 10 years ago. Due to their small number (estimated at just a few hundred), one disease outbreak could wipe out the entire population. Today, they are classified as a "[Frontier People Group](#)" by Joshua Project.

There are currently no Christian resources available in the May language, and until recently, it was thought that there might be no believers in the people group.

PRAISE

For one brave young May man who stood up at a recent [YWAM](#) event and declared, "I left my village a couple years ago and got saved. Now I'm here to find help to get the Word of God to my people. Please help me!" Then he led the group in "God Is So Good" in both his own language and Portuguese. Today, he is training to be a Bible translator.

[Watch Video: "God is So Good" in May and Portuguese](#)

Pray Now

For the roughly 10% of [Deni people in Brazil](#) who profess Christ to engage with and truly understand the biblical content they are learning, so a Bible translation project really can get off the ground and a local church can grow. Ask for wisdom, discipline, focus, and health for the local ministers who have been doing outreach among the Deni.

Tuesday

PRAY FOR PARTNERS

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)

YWAM in Brazil

In March, YWAM in Brazil held a gathering that included 200 people from 33 different backgrounds and countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Malaysia, Peru, and the United States. About 22 different Bible translation teams working with 16 different organizations had the chance to exchange expertise and ideas.

PRAISE

- For the unity among everyone attending, especially the young people representing the next generation of Bible translators.

PRAY

- For God to continue to bring fruit from the connections that were made, like the new Bible translation effort among the May people that we prayed for yesterday.
- For YWAM as they continue to look for strategic ways to connect Bible translation organizations and ministries, and for Seed Company as we continue to seek ways to support and equip them.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: NGIGUA OF MEXICO

*“The time is surely coming,” says the Sovereign Lord,
“when I will send a famine on the land—
not a famine of bread or water
but of hearing the words of the Lord.”*
— Amos 8:11 (NLT)

*Jehová ndachro:
tsii ncha ' on are rurrua ' an ra jintha;
aro je ' a jintha ixin rundachro sinthe ra nio
o rundachro si ' i ra jinda,
jintha ixin sinao ra tsin ' i ra juajnee Jehová.*
— Amos 8:11 (Ngigua)

About the Ngigua

Amos 8:11 foretells a famine of hearing the words of the Lord—the long dry spell in between the Old Testament prophets and John the Baptist.

In 2016, the Ngigua New Testament was dedicated, bringing relief from spiritual famine to many Ngigua people in the Puebla state of Mexico. Since then, local translators have continued to work on the Old Testament. As they receive more Scripture in their language, Ngigua people are turning from empty religious traditions and substance abuse to the hope and freedom found only in Jesus.

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Saramaccan in Suriname

When we prayed for the Americas [last October](#), we celebrated the progress on the full Bible that has been made in the Saramaccan language, spoken by about 58,000 people of West African descent in Suriname and 25,000 people in French Guiana.

PRAY

For a fresh wind for the translation team and protection from spiritual attacks. Though they are so close to the finish line, they have grown weary from many years of work. The main translator recently had a second stroke and will be out until late May. (It is not uncommon for teams to encounter many sudden obstacles right as they're nearing the finish line). Right now, it doesn't look like the team will be able to finish by their originally planned end date.

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

Victoriano Santiago Cayetano

Even as a child growing up in a mountainous area of Mexico, Victoriano saw the need for God's Word in his own language, Mixe del Istmo (MEE'–HAY DEHL EEST'–MOH). When Spanish-speaking missionaries would visit, he would interpret for them. Then, when he grew older and began to serve as a pastor, he noticed that the local church was stagnating and declining. It was difficult to disciple people without Scripture in Mixe.

PRAISE

Today, Victoriano is helping to meet the needs he's seen since childhood. He is training to be a translation consultant through the Seed Company [internship program](#) while translating the New Testament into Mixe. As more Scripture is translated, he's seeing the church grow in both spiritual depth and numbers.

PRAY

That God will continue to provide for all of Victoriano's educational and financial needs.

Praise God

For the great work he is bringing to completion in Guatemala! The Achi team recently dedicated the full Bible in their language, and the Tz'utujil team is also getting ready to dedicate their Bible. The Awakateko and Mam Bibles are typeset and ready to print! We first prayed for these teams in September 2022.

[Watch Video: “How Great Thou Art” in Spanish at Achi Dedication](#)

Pray Now

For the Nueva Vida translation team in Paraguay. Recently, one translator quit after 3 years, increasing the workload for team members who remain. Ask God to provide more workers and encourage the current translators—they are just a few months away from completing the Gospels, the first-ever Scripture in their language!

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

A Window into Community Testing in Mexico

What does it actually look like when a translator takes the fruit of their labor out into the community to test? Jeremías, a Mixtec (MEEKS-TEK) translator in Mexico, gives us a glimpse. Here's an account of a conversation she had when a girl arrived to visit while she was playing the audio recording of [Matthew 16:21-28](#) for her dad at his house:

Visitor: "What are you doing?"

Jeremías: "We are translating God's Word for the people of our town who do not understand Spanish."

Visitor: "Do you do this all day?"

Jeremías: "Yes, every time we translate a passage, we always take it to the people so they can listen to it and give us their opinions. Then we make the necessary changes to improve it."

As they continued their conversation, this "random" visitor learned all the steps of Bible translation, listened to the story herself, and recounted it back to Jeremías to confirm that she understood it clearly. She had grown up going to church, but this was the first time she'd ever heard this Scripture passage in her community's language.

PRAISE

- For the doors God opens for ministry not only once a book or Testament is completed, but all throughout the process of Bible translation.

PRAY

- For many more years of good health for Jeremías' grandmother Paula, who went blind four years ago but is one of the main people who helps her grandson with testing the audio recordings.
- For more workers to join the ministry of Bible translation, especially those who are native speakers of indigenous languages like Mixtec.

“Through the translated stories, God is beginning to work in the lives of people in my community and my family. The better a story is, the more we can win souls for Christ.” — Translator Jeremías