

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](#)

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This Just In

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

We praise God that the Hadza “JESUS” film has been published. The Hadza have been waiting a long time for this. Pray for us as we prepare for a dedication celebration of the Gospel of Luke and “JESUS” film July 6.

— from the Hadza team in Tanzania

Pray for the Amapari and Camopi teams as they process the recent death of their facilitator from a heart attack. Pray that those stepping in to oversee the work he started will be humble and patient as they work with the team through this hard time, and pray for the translators as they prepare for their final workshop in July.

— from Teresinha Santos, an intern in Brazil

Praise God that we made great progress on Esther and Mark! Unfortunately, translators were not able to attend a scheduled training course due to the national fuel crisis that’s been affecting all travel. Please pray that the course will be rescheduled and that the participants will be able to attend. Pray for us as we work on Acts.

— from the Ghayavi team in Papua New Guinea

Pray for the consultant checks of Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians; Philippians and Colossians have been assigned to consultants, but we are still waiting on a consultant to be available to check Ephesians.

— from the Samuk team in Asia

Praise God for good progress on checking and publishing, and pray for the growth of the Deaf church.

— from the Catalan Sign Language team

We request prayer as we translate Isaiah, Ezekiel & Lamentations—all difficult books.

— from the Zapotec Yalalag team in Mexico

Southern & Lusophone Africa

The Southern Africa region spans about 16 countries, including Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, several island nations, and all Portuguese-speaking countries on the African continent.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We work with 16 experienced ministry partners who collaborate well together.	Thanks to strong partnerships across the body of Christ, Southern Africa is approaching Zero!	Poor roads and political instability hinder translation. More workers are needed to train translators.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

People	Languages
736,860	16

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. March 2024.

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

Regional Praise

Interns in Southern Africa Learn How to Engage Communities with God's Word

Getting the Bible translated is one side of translation work, but another side is engaging the community so God's Word becomes embedded in the culture and language. A group of 9 interns in Southern Africa are in a 3-year training program that's equipping them with technology and media skills to ensure that Bible translation really does end in life transformation.

They're learning:

- Information technology
- Language technology
- Digital content creation
- Media distribution tools like [Walking with Jesus](#) series and [The Covenant movie](#)
- Gospel conversation techniques

PRAISE

For the technical skills and spiritual development, these interns are receiving to build up their local organizations, all aimed at impacting their communities with God's Word.

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

Four Languages in Angola

Seed Company and The Word For The World are partnering to begin translation in four Bibleless languages in Angola! These four languages will form the Alimi [Cluster project](#). Their names are Hungu, Mpinda, Ndombe, and Ngendelengo.

PRAY

- For training to go well and for the teams to get all the resources they need for New Testament translation.
- For safety when the teams travel to training sessions and back home again.

PRAISE

- For local churches in Angola who are supporting Scripture translation.
- For the fruitful partnership, Seed Company has with The Word For The World.

PRAY FOR MADAGASCAR ELECTIONS

Provided by Seed Company Southern Africa Regional Director

Today, we bring Madagascar before your throne, Lord, as the nation approaches the May 29th elections. We seek your guidance, trusting in your unfailing love and sovereignty.

Grant political stability, peace, and wisdom to leaders, fostering integrity and humility in governance. Protect the electoral process from fraud, ensuring transparency and fairness. Unite the people in love, bridging ethnic and regional divides with your grace.

Provider of all our needs, we lift up Madagascar's economic challenges to you, asking you to guide leaders to steward resources wisely and prioritize the vulnerable. Smooth out logistics during the elections, securing access to polling stations and impartial observers to uphold election process integrity. In uncertainty, we trust your faithfulness and pray your will be done, bringing peace to Madagascar.

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 Lutheran Bible Translators

Our friends at Lutheran Bible Translators long to see vibrant Christian communities, deeply rooted in God's Word, engaging fully in God's mission in this generation. They partner with local translators as they lead out in their projects, communities, and countries.

This year, they've already celebrated the completion of the full [Konso](#) Bible in Ethiopia and the [Shekgalagari](#) New Testament in Botswana!

PRAY

- For the Konso and Bakgalagari people, that God would use these newly translated Scriptures to bring life and light to the people, pastors, and churches that use them.
- That people will continue to be blessed by the audio recordings that have been produced alongside the Shekgalagari New Testament.

Pray Now

For the Southern Africa Bible Translation Summit on June 2–5 in Gaborone, Botswana, which most Bible translation organizations in southern Africa will attend. Please pray for unity of spirit and good collaboration.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: SONGO IN ANGOLA [SOHN' – GOH]

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

— Genesis 1:1 (NLT)

Humetekelo Suku walumbile kolu na hosi.

— Umetekelo 1:1 (Songo, a language spoken in Angola)

Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!"

— John 5:8 (NLT)

Amuni Yesu wakamuywela ati: "Katuka, nona sivanda save hi enda!"

— Nzwau 5:8 (Songo)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Songo in Angola

The Songo community received the complete New Testament in their language just a few years ago, and they're making great progress on the Old Testament. While most Songo people profess Christianity, church leaders hope Scripture in their own language will help release people from strongholds of polygamy, witchcraft, and drug addiction. May all Songo people trust the one true Creator and Healer as they receive his Word!

TESTIMONY & PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE SONGO TEAM

Pastor Esmael, a translator and project coordinator, shares:

“I became a Bible translator because of the need to have the Word of God in my own language. My people need the Bible to fulfill Jesus’ call to go and proclaim the Good News to the ends of the earth.

“The dream I have is to get the complete Bible and for the new generation to be able to continue the work until we have a study Bible in Songo and many other books teaching the Word.”

PRAY

- For stable internet and electricity, and safety as translators often travel on poor roads.
- For rest, sometimes the translators work many extra hours to meet their goals.
- For the upcoming audio recording of the New Testament this summer.

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

Pastor Prudence in South Africa

Pastor Prudence is one of the 12 interns we prayed for in [February](#) as they began master's programs in Bible translation and linguistics. She leads a church in South Africa and coordinates the Sepulana Bible translation project, which we prayed for [last year](#).

"I am called to serve in the nations. I see myself as the luckiest lady to have gotten approval to study at Bible Institute of South Africa." — Pastor Prudence

PRAISE

- The Sepulana team has grown from four to 16 team members!
- The team has finished translating Mark and is working on Matthew.

PRAY

- For three families in Prudence's church who recently lost loved ones while she was away studying.
- For the Sepulana team, translating the New Testament and building community relationships.
- For Prudence's church infrastructure project to be completed, so that they can plant other churches in rural areas.

Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Southern African Sign Languages

More than 1.2 million Deaf people in Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Eswatini, Namibia, and Botswana are awaiting God's Word. At a recent Bible training camp with our partner [Hands with Words](#), 105 people from these countries deepened their Deaf engagement and translation skills.

PRAISE

- That many sign language translation projects have already begun, and more workers are getting trained in July!
- That this past January, the first Deaf church was opened in Zimbabwe.
- For the strong partnership between the Deaf community and hearing churches; many hearing believers are learning sign languages.

PRAY

- For the sign language teams in Malawi, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia to secure funding for their projects within the next six months.
- For Hands with Words as they provide support, encouragement, and direction for these newer projects.
- For unity, clarity, and removal of obstacles for sign language staff in Eswatini.

PRAY FOR SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS

Provided by Seed Company Southern Africa Regional Director

As South Africa approaches the May 29, 2024, elections, we humbly seek your wisdom and protection, Lord. May your wisdom guide the leaders and your humility cloak the citizens. Amidst political polarization, grant unity, understanding, and love to the nation.

Shield them from electoral violence, instilling peace and reconciliation in every heart. Protect against intimidation and suppression, enabling all citizens to vote freely.

Illuminate truth amidst disinformation, anchoring voters in your Word. Grant wisdom to overcome logistical challenges and ensure a fair process. Guide election officials in shielding voters and volunteers from harm. Safeguard the cybersecurity of the elections, thwarting any attempts to disrupt or manipulate.

May your guidance and strength prevail as South Africa navigates these crucial days.