

# How to Pray for Zero

Over **1 billion** people don't have the full Bible in their language.

**Millions** don't have a single verse.

Together, we're praying these numbers down 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.*

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

Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for Bible translation each day of the week, beginning with the Sabbath:

SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
Around the World	Regional Update	The Bibleless	Ministry Partners	Translation Projects	Teachers & Trainers	Impact Stories

[Pray With Others](#)

[Get More Resources](#)

# Saturday

## PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

A huge famine in Zambia is affecting our translators and their families. Pray for this situation, as there are two New Testament dedications scheduled for August ([Kwamashi](#) and [Kunda](#)).

— Zambia translation teams

We are grateful that now we have access to electricity in the evening. Pray for wisdom and the ability of all team members to carry out their responsibilities. Pray with us that our families and children will not fall into any crimes related to illegal drugs, which are one of the main issues in our community. Pray that the children in the community will have the opportunity for higher education and spiritual growth.

— the Kuada team, part of the Sumselri Cluster in Islands Asia

Our two sons were born with a rare genetic disease, but recently our eldest son was forced into the army. His diseases are not on their list of diseases that count as reasons for deferment from the army. Our son needs daily medical supervision; he was prohibited from sports and hard work, and now it's even harder for him in the army.

— Frank, director of a partner organization in Eurasia

Please pray for God's Shalom peace in the nation of Burkina Faso, where there is word of another attempted military coup d'état. For the moment, markets and borders are still open, but civil unrest has potential to greatly disrupt translation and ministry work.

— from partners in Africa

Pray for the lives of believers who are threatened by kidnappings in the Mimji area. These kidnappers often target rich believers. Praise be to God for the police force that is fighting back. The police recently went to locate the kidnappers' stronghold in the mountain.

— from the Mimji team in Africa

# Anglophone West Africa

“Anglophone” refers to countries where English is used as a trade language. This week, we’re praying for the Anglophone West African nations of Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We partner with ~15 Bible translation organizations and 10+ church networks in this region.	God has provided incredible unity and local leadership among ministries with diverse strengths.	Socioeconomic instability, persecution, corruption, lack of training, and false teaching hinder progress.

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

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

People	Languages
268,961	21

*Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. June 2024.  
Numbers may shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.*

# Sunday

## REGIONAL UPDATE

### Acceleration in Completed Nigerian Bibles

Praise God for the following milestones in Nigerian Bible translation, impacting many thousands of people:

- The [Etulo](#) New Testament has been dedicated!
- The Ehugbo New Testament is slated for an August 24 dedication.
- Eight other New Testaments are set to be completed by the end of summer, with delivery expected by October.
- The Nigerian Pidgin Bible could be completed by late October. This translation has already become one of the most downloaded versions on the YouVersion app.

## PRAISE

That many more New Testaments are being completed in the coming 1–2 years, partially thanks to the many people both in and outside Nigeria who are helping with typesetting.

## PRAY

For strong connections between printing agencies and typesetting teams so that turnaround times continue to diminish.

# Monday

## PRAY FOR BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUPS

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

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

## Gumbasi Cluster in Nigeria

We first prayed for the people of the Gumbasi Cluster—Mburku, Gus, Siri, and Kariya—[last November](#). The oral Bible stories these teams produced are the first Scripture of any kind in these four languages, spoken by more than 17,000 people total. These teams are now preparing to translate the full New Testament in oral form, and they've added a fifth Bibleless language, Jimbin, to the project.

### PRAISE

That God is answering our prayers to open doors for the gospel among these people groups, which are only 2–4% Christian. In the Kariya community, 21 people have accepted Christ so far through oral Bible stories!

### PRAY

For the teams as they prepare for this new project, and for many more lives to be transformed in these communities as they receive the New Testament.

## Pray Now

For the five language teams of the Biase Cluster, which represent about 170,000 Bibleless people living in southern Nigeria. They are bringing God's Word to their people through Oral Bible Storytelling in an area where about 60% of people identify as Christian, yet traditional practices are still common. Praise God that this project has begun, which people had been waiting for a long time. Pray for the community to rally around these translators and for many lives to be transformed!

# 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)

## Bible Society of Sierra Leone

In 1946, an unassuming Bible reading club began in Freetown, the country's capital, that would later become the [Bible Society of Sierra Leone](#). Today, the Bible Society tries to make Scripture available in all of the country's languages. They especially focus on people in remote or underserved areas.

## PRAISE

- For the Sierra Leone Sign Language project—a partnership between Deaf schools and churches, the Bible Society, and Seed Company—that just began last month and is providing the first-ever Scripture in Sierra Leone Sign Language.
- That the Bible Society has completed 3 full Bibles and 5 New Testaments!

## PRAY

- For the sign language translators as they go through six months of training.

[Watch this video of the Sierra Leone Sign Language Team celebrating.](#)

## Pray Now

For God to bring great fruit from a recent Bible translation agency meeting in Liberia, which took place June 27–28. Ask God to strengthen partnerships amongst the various Bible translation organizations in this country, and pray for new partnerships to result from the conference!



# Wednesday

*And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?*

— Mark 8:36 (NLT)

*Li ali oyabɔ inggise ka tu kini a kye ese duu nun, kpaa oshishe mgban nyanya?*

— Mark 8:36 (Etulo, a Nigerian language that now has the whole New Testament)

*What benefit will a man get if they give him the whole world, but his life is a waste?*

— Mark 8:36 (translated back into English from Etulo)

[View Etulo Translation Project Profile](#)

## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

### Sierra Leone Sign Language

There are about 17,000 Deaf people in Sierra Leone. Like other Deaf people around the world, they have faced much discrimination and marginalization in the past. Bible translation in sign languages demonstrates Deaf people's value to God and opens new opportunities for the future.

The Deaf community in Sierra Leone is excited to begin their sign language translation project. They believe God's Word in sign language will help the church truly reach the Deaf—for whom the written word is like a second language.

### PRAISE

- For the four translators who have been recruited to work on the project by [DOOR International](#).

### PRAY

- For the training these translators are currently undertaking, which began in June and runs through September.
- For a sense of God's peace and presence while they are away from home, as the training is taking place in Kenya.

# 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

### Luke Initiative for Scripture Translation (LIST) in Nigeria

[LIST](#) has helped translate Scripture into many minority languages across Nigeria over the years. Since partnering with [Growth Partners](#), a team that focuses on equipping local Bible translation groups across the globe, they have made incredible strides in operations and hiring practices.

Growing a healthy organization isn't easy anywhere, but places like Nigeria, which struggle with religious violence and economic difficulties, pose special challenges. Our brothers and sisters at LIST are really stepping into their calling, independently of foreign assistance, and making their mark in Nigeria.

## PRAISE

For LIST's new Resource Mobilization Director that they recently hired.

## PRAY

For LIST to continue to implement other strategies they've worked on with Growth Partners, as the Lord leads, and that God will bless and multiply their efforts.

## Pray Now

For the pastors, mission leaders, prayer leaders, and Bible translation ministries who will attend the [Pray for Zero Africa Summit](#) in Abuja, Nigeria, on July 28-30th. May everyone leave refreshed and equipped to advance Bible translation projects all across the continent!

*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge  
of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.  
— Habakkuk 2:14*

[Watch this video of Nigerian Program Management Interns for Pray for Zero!](#)

# Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

## IMPACT STORY

### Etulo New Testament Dedication in Nigeria

Around 1,000 Etulo believers gathered in a large circle to sing, dance, listen to speakers, and celebrate a task that took over 14 years to come to fruition: the New Testament in their language.

Though there were many stops and starts in the process, the translators shared what kept them going through all the difficulties. In Mark 8:36 (NLT), Jesus asks, “And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?”

Keeping this eternal perspective for their Etulo brothers and sisters helped them not only complete the New Testament—but now they are working on the Old Testament!

[Watch a video about the Etulo here.](#)

## PRAY

[Pray through this profile from Joshua Project.](#)

## Pray Now

For higher wages and inflation relief in Nigeria. A recent strike led to widespread power outages and cessation of many important services like airport operations. The strike has now ended, and negotiations between the government and unions are underway. Pray for these negotiations to have a positive outcome for the people.