

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.

Join 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	Equipping the Saints	Impact Stories

[Pray With Others](#)

[Get More Resources](#)

Saturday

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray for the team to get a solar panel for a translator in a village where there is no electricity, and pray for the protection of translators and their families in an area where kidnappings for ransom are common. Please pray also that a translation consultant will be available soon to check the team's work.

— from the [Midi](#) team in Africa

We thank God for helping us make progress on Psalm 1–150 even though some team members relocated for safety. Please pray for the Melichi community to become more mature in Christ and for the team members to be safe and able to work well. Pray that we will be able to check Exodus in person together.

— from the [Melichi](#) team in Asia

Pray for grace and deliverance for a storyteller who has had a difficult time. Pray for people to come to Christ through Oral Bible Storytelling in this area that has been little reached by the gospel.

— from the [Gimnime](#) team in Cameroon

First, I am deeply grateful for everything God has done for me. Despite the chaos, my family back in my country are doing well. Please pray for God's wisdom in how to contribute to my community after completing my graduate program. Ask God's peace to be upon the youths in my country who are threatened by the conscription law.

— from intern [Bree](#) in Asia

Praise God that the workshop went well and that we had a Hebrew scholar to help. Please pray for provision. The broader distribution of the Psalms-based songs has been slowed down because the artists don't have reliable phones to send, receive, and broadcast their work.

— from the [Meetto](#) team in Mozambique

Pacific

The Pacific includes 27 countries spread across hundreds of islands. While churches are present almost everywhere, many people mix Christianity with other beliefs. This region also presents unique logistical challenges. Some areas have no roads or can only be reached by boat.

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We work with around 10 partner organizations and many church networks in the Pacific.	Local believers greatly value and desire Scripture. Hundreds of translations are in progress.	Many waiting language groups are very remote. Trained consultants are maxed out with existing work.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

People	Languages
496,316	306

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. June 2024.

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

Sunday

REGIONAL UPDATE

PRAISE: CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

That the Evangelical Church of Papua New Guinea is moving forward with creating a Bible translation ministry, an answer to our prayers from [last year!](#) They're currently learning about the status of translation work in areas where they have churches. Pray for them as they seek to complement what's already been done while casting vision for the future.

PRAISE: COMPLETE NEW TESTAMENTS

That the [Label](#) New Testament has been printed, and these books are on their way to the community for a dedication scheduled for late 2024! Pray that the New Testaments get through customs and make it safely. Also, we praise God that the Nalik New Testament is in the publication and printing process.

PRAY: NEW LEADERSHIP

For the recently appointed director of the [Papua New Guinea Bible Translation Association](#), Nelson Tapineng, as he sets direction and goals for their work. Pray also for [SIL Papua New Guinea](#), as they've transitioned to a new administration. May God grant these leaders wisdom as they provide leadership for 124 different teams and look for opportunities to start translation among the remaining 200+ languages without Scripture.

PRAY: AIR TRAVEL CHALLENGES

For resolution to [air travel challenges](#) in the Pacific, which deeply impact translation work. Papua New Guinea has a jet fuel shortage, and Air Vanuatu has gone bankrupt.

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)

Pamosu of Papua New Guinea

Pamosu speakers live in villages among jagged mountains. The only ways in and out of this area are by foot (a 10+ mile hike) or by helicopter. Very few people have the money to send more than their firstborn children to school.

Most Pamosu speakers spend their days working in gardens. They enjoy collecting diverse foods grown by other tribes and bringing them back to grow themselves. Celebrations are full of music. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, each family group composes and practices multiple songs and dances, which they perform for one another all night long on Christmas Eve.

While some Pamosu villages have fairly strong churches, very few people have received deep discipleship due to a lack of Scripture in their language.

PRAISE

That a Pamosu Bible translation project, beginning with Matthew, Mark, and Genesis, is kicking off this month!

PRAY

That the teachings of Christ will be clearer as people receive Pamosu Scripture.

Pray Now

For the Akei people of Vanuatu, who have requested Bible translation. According to [Joshua Project](#), they have Scripture portions, but they were done back in the early 1900s. Their language is strategic, since Akei Scripture could be adapted into other related languages.

In August, they will hold a 2-day “Taste of Translation” workshop in the Akei area so local churches can understand the commitment required and what their options are for moving forward (oral, written, or both, for example).

[Meet a Wycliffe couple who will be involved with this project.](#)

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)

Islands Bible Ministries of Solomon Islands

Islands Bible Ministries conducts classes and training that promote biblical literacy, writing and communication abilities, and computer skills. We are grateful for their partnership in spreading God’s Word and deepening biblical knowledge for believers across the Solomon Islands!

PRAY

- For a training event they are holding the first two weeks of August for Bible translation teams, centered on project management skills.
- For the 4 Starlink units they are planning to launch, so all translation teams in the country will have access to the internet and remote training. [Learn more about how Starlink is helping translation teams in the Solomon Islands.](#)

Answered Prayer

In the previous Pacific journal, [we prayed for a workshop](#) the [SHEFA Oral Bible Storytelling](#) team was holding. Praise God that participants successfully crafted and shared four stories with community members, leaders, and pastors, including the story of the Good Samaritan. People loved hearing the stories in their own languages, and one man even giggled with excitement. The next workshop is slated for September 30th–October 11th.

Philip Joses describes the benefits of Oral Bible Storytelling in [this video](#). He is training to be an OBS trainer and checker as a part of his internship with Seed Company.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: ENGA LANGUAGE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

And you are included among those Gentiles who have been called to belong to Jesus Christ.

— Romans 1:6 (NLT)

Nyakama Jisasa Kraianya kalyepale lao wii lao nyepae dokaita apata nyiamiaka.

— Roma 1:6 (Enga)

[Watch the Enga Bible translation team sing The Doxology](#)

About 90 years ago, Australian gold prospectors set up camp in a village in the Enga province. That evening, an Engan man named Pingita rushed toward them with a spear and was shot dead as he released it. This was Engan peoples' first encounter with foreigners.

But just last month, Pingita's grandson Timothy, chairman of the Enga Bible translation committee, stood with American translation advisor Adam at the very site where Pingita had been killed. These two men from different cultures are linking arms in ministry, spreading the news that the Enga people now have the New Testament in their language.

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Enga of Papua New Guinea

In the last Pacific prayer journal, we praised God that the [Enga New Testament had been launched](#). Not long after, a [landslide in the Enga area](#) claimed more than 600 lives and displaced many more. Around the same time, a bridge collapsed, preventing a truck carrying thousands of Enga New Testaments and audio players from reaching the area.

Translation advisor Adam writes, “As we get closer to the dedication of the Enga New Testament, we need to put on the full armor of God, because the enemy is actively seeking to discourage us and disrupt what God is doing. But we know that God will prevail, especially as you join with us in praying that nothing the enemy throws our way will succeed in preventing the distribution of the Enga New Testament.”

PRAISE

- That none of the Bible translators live near the landslide area.
- That the New Testaments and audio players have safely reached the Enga area, and dedication celebrations are still being held this month! [See photos on Facebook.](#)

PRAY

- For the Enga community as they continue to recover after the landslides.
- For God’s Word to bring comfort in tragedy and change to cultural practices that do not honor Him.

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

Workshop Planned for Deaf in Fiji

Currently, there are no active sign language translation projects in the Pacific. A workshop is being planned in the next few months to equip local Deaf Christians with the knowledge and skills necessary to begin Bible translation.

This workshop will be held in Fiji, which is the main hub for the Deaf community in the South Pacific region. As the Fiji Deaf community begins engaging in translation, we pray that we will see increased interest from other Deaf communities in the region.

PRAISE

- For the unity that this effort represents between multiple Bible translation organizations and the local Deaf community.
- That Bible Society of Australia is also starting a project in Australian Sign Language!

PRAY

- For logistics to go smoothly and for those God will call from the Deaf community to lead out in translation.

Pray Now

For Jeremy Serave and Toros Araboka, who are planning to begin [internships](#) in August. Their training will help SIL Papua New Guinea with the daily operations of their 124 current language projects, so they can more quickly reach the 200+ language groups still waiting. We are so grateful for these “behind-the-scenes” people who equip translators with what they need for success!

“I don’t get involved directly in Bible translation, but I support the Bible translation teams by providing IT support when they have any problems with computers, phones, printers, and other electronic devices.” — Toros

Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Remembering June Jacob: A Life of Impact in Indonesia

On May 1, June Jacob, director of the [Evangelical Church of West Timor's Language & Culture Unit](#), died unexpectedly from a fall at home. During her lifetime, June helped complete the Kupang Malay New Testament and a significant portion of the Old Testament.

A former university lecturer and Dean of Education, June had a reputation of being “tough but fair.” A few years ago, she stepped down from her university role to create Scripture-based education programs for children in their heart languages. Growing up, June had spoken Kupang Malay. She’d felt confused and belittled in primary school when teachers rejected the way she and her family spoke. It took her years to realize that the way she spoke wasn’t “wrong”; it was just a different language from Indonesian.

Her childhood experiences fueled her desire as an adult to promote the use of Kupang Malay and other local languages in churches and schools. She passed on her passion to many of her students—several of whom now work in the church’s Language & Culture Unit.

PRAISE

That June leaves a legacy of 30 church-initiated kindergarten and primary schools in 9 different language areas. Church leaders are excited to see 5-to-7-year-olds animatedly retelling Bible stories that have been read to them in the same language they speak at home and in their community.

PRAY

For comfort for all who are grieving June's passing. She leaves many holes in the Language & Culture Unit of the church; ask God to raise up the right people to fill them.