

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

Please ask God to appoint suitable translators to continue with New Testament translation.

— **the Maya Naha team in Mexico**

Praise God that four people have learned Bible stories and returned home to the Madi area to share them. Pray for plans to build a translation and ministry center. May any issues that might arise be resolved quickly. Pray for the official agreement to be signed and funding to be secured, according to God's will. Pray also for unity and healthy conflict resolution within the translation team, that the work might not be hindered.

— **the Madi team in Papua New Guinea**

Praise God for successful completion of the courses in Israel. Despite the security challenges in Israel, God kept us safe and focused until the end of our program. Pray for me as I share what I learned with my team members. Pray for our safety as we work with teams in northwest Cameroon, where there are also security challenges.

— **Christian Alomofor, training to be an Old Testament translation consultant in Cameroon**

Pray for translator Selmira, who is on dialysis due to kidney health. Pray for other team members who are experiencing travel complications related to river and boat issues.

— **the Napo team in Peru**

I am grateful to the Lord for his grace that allows me to embrace all my activities: church, family, work, projects, master's degree, meetings with partners, field training, online meetings, new projects, and others. I ask for God's inspiration in choosing the theme of my master's thesis. May God enable me to make an innovation in the field.

— **Parfait Aziakor, training to be a language programs manager consultant in Togo**

Anglophone East Africa

"Anglophone" refers to countries where English is widely used. In Anglophone East Africa, which includes 14 countries, English is frequently used to train and coordinate Bible translation teams. Common obstacles to translation include drought, political conflict, and virus outbreaks.

We praise God that, as local leaders take greater ownership and leadership in Bible translation, this region is getting closer and closer to Zero!

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
248,710	12

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. August 2024.

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

Pseudonyms may be used for names and locations in areas hostile to Christians.

Sunday

REGIONAL UPDATE

Celebrating the Full Bible in the Guji Language of Ethiopia

More than 3 million people speak Guji. While many follow Islam or African Traditional Religion, large numbers recently turned out to celebrate receiving the entire Bible in their language!

[Watch a video from the celebration.](#)

But in the middle of their joy came an unexpected tragedy. Three young men who joined the celebration were killed when a passing truck plowed into their motorbike. One of their fathers later shared, “There is sadness at the gate of my home, but I am filled with joy because we now have the Bible in our own language.” He said he felt like Simeon after he’d seen baby Jesus in Luke 2—that now he can die in peace, whenever the Lord is ready for him.

This grieving, yet rejoicing, father then commissioned Guji believers: “I would like to give you this assignment: Take the gospel to the ends of the world. Spread this gospel that is in our own language.”

PRAY

That the Guji community will be transformed by the Holy Spirit through God’s Word, being freed from false gods, HIV/AIDS, polygamy, traditional practices like Female Genital Mutilation, alcohol, and drugs.

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)

Dana-Dawaat Awai of East Africa

The Dana-Dawaat Awai people, numbering in the tens of thousands, speak a cross-border language between South Sudan and Ethiopia. Dana people are refugees in Ethiopia, while Dawaat Awai people live in South Sudan. They are mainly animistic, with a few Christians and Muslims. In recent months, Bible translation has been requested from *both* sides of the border!

PRAISE

- For the strong desire of the Dana-Dawaat Awai people to have God's Word in their language.

PRAY

- For wisdom as the translation organization, linguistic experts, and church partners discern how to best work together to provide people on both sides of the border with Scripture.
- That God will begin preparing the right people to be translators, reviewers, project managers, and fill all other needed roles for the project.

Pray Now

For cholera outbreaks in eastern Africa that are affecting Bible translation teams there, especially the Kutu and [Vidunda](#) teams, as well as resolution of power and internet issues for Rewe (RAY'–WAY) translators.

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)

SIL Uganda Becomes a Localized Organization

For several years, [SIL Uganda](#) has worked to become a fully localized organization with its own Ugandan governance and board. This goal was achieved in July 2024!

Director Martin Alibu will be accountable to a local Ugandan Board of Directors. They can now raise local support while still remaining connected to [SIL International](#).

PRAISE

- Uganda has achieved [Vision 2025](#), which means that all 40+ languages in Uganda have been engaged in Bible translation! May God bless them as they continue the work of ensuring that translated Scripture has transformational impact across the nation.
- Local church leaders have answered the call to join the Board of Directors!

PRAY

- For SIL Uganda to raise all the funds needed to support their staff and fund Scripture impact activities, and for Him to provide an office and training facility.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: BANYALA LANGUAGE OF KENYA

Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.

— Galatians 2:16 (NLT)

Nichasi khumanyire mbo omunju siakholwangwa omulungi okhuvichira muvikhole viamalako tawe, nichasi okhuvichira musuvira mu Yesu Kristo. Ata efwe khwasuvira mu Kristo Yesu, khokhwava avalungi okhuvichira musuvira mu Kristo, sikali okhuvichira muvikhole via amalako ta, esikira awumao ochia okhulungiswa okhuvichira muvikhole viamalako.

— Galatians 2:16 (Banyala)

About the Banyala

Though most Banyala people profess Christianity, many turn to traditional rites and sorcery for a sense of security. But some translated Scripture is already being broadcast on the radio and used in churches, and translators are working on the last 3 books needed to complete the New Testament!

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Dinka Rek of South Sudan

Many Dinka Rek speakers practice traditional religion, which permits addressing God and spirits of ancestors either directly or through a medium. An estimated 65% adhere to these beliefs. Even where people claim to be Christians, their knowledge of the gospel may be quite low. But more and more Dinka Rek speakers are learning the true gospel, and the church's influence is stable and growing.

PRAY

- For the translation team as they're working on 10 books of the Old Testament, including Exodus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and Proverbs.
- For more people to be impacted by Dinka Rek Scripture at a deep level, [like the bishop we prayed for last year](#).

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

Samuel Oluka, Intern with SIL Uganda

Sam Oluka will soon complete his second internship with Seed Company. While earning top marks in his Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Management at Uganda Christian University, he simultaneously manages most of the Bible translation projects overseen by SIL Uganda.

What Does Managing Bible Translation Projects Look Like?

Sam visits every language project regularly to ensure they have all the equipment they need and an appropriate working environment, ensures they are on track with their translation goals, and prays with them in difficult times. He tirelessly drives for hours on very rough dirt roads to visit these projects, most of which are extremely remote and some in volatile and insecure areas where cattle raids and gunfire are common.

A Respected Advocate & Trusted Leader

Even while suffering from chronic back pain, Sam faithfully brings encouragement laced with his keen sense of humor and generous smile. Sam never fails to honestly advocate on behalf of the translation teams if there is a pressing need. He has earned the respect and trust of the teams, his peers at SIL Uganda, and Seed Company staff. He has become a leader and a resource in Bible translation in Uganda and does so with a completely humble and gentle presence. Christ shines so brightly through Samuel Oluka, and we want to celebrate his accomplishments as he finishes his internship in Spring 2025.

PRAY

For Sam to finish well in these last few months of completing his thesis, and for healing from chronic back pain so that he can enjoy his time in work, ministry, and with his family free from pain.

Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Kenyan Sign Language: Pauline's Story

A young woman named Pauline came to [DOOR International](#)'s recent community test of the Kenyan Sign Language Bible. Feel free to read along as you [watch the video of her signing](#).

"I came here yesterday curious to learn about the Bible because I've never been to church. I was surprised. I learned so much, even several new signs. I wasn't able to get everything, so I'm definitely going to continue learning about this. I used to be a person of the world, but from now on I'm going to be a Christian!"

We praise God for how He is moving through His Word and impacting the Kenyan Deaf community for Jesus!

[Learn more about how to pray for the Kenya Sign Language team.](#)

Pray Now

For the upcoming dedications of Ruth, Jonah, and Nehemiah, and Bible study materials for Ruth in the Rendille language! Praise God for translator Joshua's newborn baby girl.

[Learn more about the Rendille project.](#)