

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	Bibleless or First Scripture	Ministry Partners	Active Projects	Equipping the Saints	Impact Stories

[Pray With Others](#)

[Get More Resources](#)

Saturday

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: A KINGDOM MILESTONE

For the first time in church history, fewer than 1,000 language groups worldwide are waiting to be engaged in Bible translation!* Just a few years ago, that number was estimated at more than 2,000.

The unspoken story of the intercessors has a critical role in this milestone. Whether you've only recently begun praying for Bible translation or have been praying for decades, *thank you* for the part you've played in this significant moment. Your faithfulness in the secret place echoes throughout eternity.

In just a few years, 2,000 became 1,000.

In the next few years, could 1,000 become Zero?

Until that day ... Let. Us. *Pray.*

**Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. September 2024.*

Islands Asia

Islands Asia includes just three countries, but there is a great concentration of need within these islands. Some areas have strong, vibrant churches, while others have very few, if any, known believers. Praise God that leaders in translation organizations, churches, and businesses alike are seeing Bible translation's importance in ministry. In addition to the logistical challenges of reaching certain remote islands, persecution is common in one country. Pastors have been kidnapped, imprisoned, or even killed.

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
1,515,855	175

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. September 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

Remote Bible Translation Projects Receive Satellite Access Throughout Islands Asia

Many language communities in Islands Asia live in remote areas with sparse infrastructure. Roads, electricity, schools, and health care are limited, if they're available at all. And don't even think about internet connections...until now!

Starlink's satellite network is now active throughout Islands Asia, and Bible translation projects are beginning to use it. This innovation has been called a "[game-changer](#)" for Bible translation, and we've also celebrated as it got up and running in [West Africa](#), the [Pacific](#), and the [Americas](#).

A Seed Company Islands Asia field project manager reflects:

"In places where sending a simple email used to be problematic, Starlink makes video phone calls easy and reliable. It's also lightweight and easily portable. Holding a workshop? Move it to the venue. Workshop's over? Put it back where it was. It's powerful enough to sustain multiple devices at once. I'm even using it to write this update on the cloud! Helping Bible translators wasn't part of Starlink's business plan, but they've certainly done it."

Monday

PRAY FOR A [FIRST SCRIPTURE](#) PROJECT

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

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

Bemal of Islands Asia

The Bemal language is spoken by about 1,600 people on a remote island. It takes more than 52 gallons of gasoline to travel there by speedboat from (relatively) nearby islands. In the 1930s, missionaries received permission from a Muslim community leader to share the gospel in the area. Today, about 70-80% of Bemal speakers are Christian.

PRAISE

- That nearly 100 years after the gospel reached the Bemal, they are finally in the process of translating Scripture. After “Taste of Translation” workshops were held last year, this language community, along with four others on remote islands, all desired Bible translation. This June, they all began a [cluster project](#) together.

PRAY

- For the team as they translate Luke’s Gospel. They’re currently working on [chapter 3](#).
- For good health, preparation, and consultant availability as the teams prepare for a workshop at the end of September.

Mudanot [MOO – DAH’ – NOHT] of Islands Asia

While many people like the Mudanot of the [Robeno Cluster](#) now have some translated Scripture, they may still be effectively “Bibleless” because of a lack of teachers. A translation consultant informs us on how to pray for them:

“Each of the more than 60 Mudanot villages has a simple wooden church building. However, only 25 of these villages have a pastor. Many Mudanot people remain caught up in animistic beliefs and ancestor worship.

“Last year, I traveled with the Mudanot team nine hours by car and two days by boat to bring the translated Gospel of Luke and [“JESUS” film](#) to several villages. Some accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior! Since then, the Mudanot team has made trips to other villages, with similar responses.

“Yet this is just one-time ministry with little or no follow-up. Most villages are still lacking pastors, and this void is filled by returning to their old beliefs.”

PRAY

For recent conversations with a key church and seminary leader in the area to yield fruit. We discussed training more Mudanot believers as pastors, equipping them to preach the Word in their own language. Ask God to provide the right people and resources through the area’s church and seminary so that more Mudanot people can be trained in ministry using Mudanot Scripture.

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)

Papua Discipleship, Evangelism, & Mission Foundation

Over half of the remaining translation needs in Indonesia are in Papua province. For 22 years, Papua Discipleship, Evangelism, & Mission Foundation has blessed Papua with literacy work, community development, and visa sponsorship for mission workers. In the last 5 years, they've gotten directly involved in Bible translation work as part of their ministry.

PRAISE

- For this foundation's partnership with the [Ripple Effect program](#) to expand their work in Bible translation. At the end of this month, they're completing their first translation project in 5 languages! They're also managing the First Scripture project we prayed for yesterday.
- For the Evangelical Church in West Papua, which works closely with this foundation.

PRAY

- For God's direction and guidance as this foundation seeks to minister to the many people groups in Papua, that He would guide them as they seek to increase their impact in Bible translation.

Pray Now

For the teams of the [LoTaWa Cluster](#) as they're wrapping up a workshop September 27 that's been going on since September 9. They've been consultant checking Leviticus 11–20, Philippians, Matthew, and John. Pray that these Scriptures will speak to all the team members as they work!

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: AYTA AMBALA [EYE'–TA AM–BA'–LA] OF THE PHILIPPINES

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

— Colossians 3:17 (NLT)

Buy nu hitamana' ginagawa yu, ha nunghung man u ha gawa, gaw'ên yuy laata' ati bilang parangal ha lagyun Panginuun Jesus buy magpasalamat kawu kan Apu Diyus ha paméméetan na.

— Colosas 3:17 (Ayta Ambala)

And whatever you are doing, in word or deed, you do all of this as honoring the name of the Lord Jesus and you give thanks to God through him.

— Colossians 3:17 (translated back into English from Ayta Ambala)

[Read the full Ayta Ambala prayer profile.](#)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Ayta Ambala of the Philippines

From a project facilitator and translation consultant

While working through Galatians, we reached Galatians 3:10, which states, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” The surprised reactions from the translators indicated this detail was unfamiliar to them.

They asked, “Are you saying anyone who sins even once is cursed?” This laid the groundwork perfectly for understanding Galatians 3:13: “Jesus Christ redeemed us from this curse because He was cursed as our replacement” (translated back into English from Ayta Ambala).

There was a moment of silence as everyone absorbed the profound impact of Jesus’ sacrifice. It felt as though a deep understanding of the gospel was dawning on them. One person even asked, “Why haven’t our pastors shared these truths with us before?”

PRAY

- For Ayta Ambala translators who have recently dealt with health issues.
- For the translators to work well together on the more difficult epistles that remain.
- For all 2,200 Ayta Ambala speakers to fully understand these vital truths from Galatians.

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

Darmaputra Podengge, Training as a Bible Translation Consultant

Darmaputra has been involved in Bible translation since 2018 and works in one of the top 3 countries in the world with remaining Bibleless people groups. The worldwide shortage of translation consultants is felt especially acutely in this country. His training will directly impact teams we've prayed for like the [Robeno Cluster](#) and the [Kalbar Cluster](#).

People who know him well are excited for Darmaputra to take this next step, calling him “a servant leader” who is dedicated to using the gifts God has given him in Bible translation.

PRAISE

That Darmaputra has passed a translation consultant training, and senior consultants have agreed to mentor him.

PRAY

For the Lord's guidance and wisdom as Darmaputra continues to coordinate a [cluster project](#) while completing his training.

Pray Now

For more laborers, like Darmaputra, in the fields of Islands Asia. Many people groups are waiting for and wanting Scripture, but the lack of available translation consultants has put a pause on moving forward. Currently, many major organizations in this region have had to limit new translation work due to the lack of consultants.

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 New Home, A New Calling: Ema's Story

Ema is a translator for the Gaijo [GAH-EE'-JOH] language of the [Robeno Cluster](#) in Islands Asia.

"In 2022, I was a seminary student. However, I faced many struggles with myself, God, and family. I felt an absence of God's presence and started questioning where He was. This led to many unhealthy thoughts. In early January 2023, I made a decision to stop my studies and run from God's calling, seeking the world for my peace. I began to seek random work to make an income and isolated myself from others. I found work, but not peace.

"In the middle of my despair, I began to cry out to God for answers and returned to church. I opened my heart to God again and began experiencing true peace. At the new year, I quit my job and returned home to my village. Shortly after, I began to hear about the translation work happening in my community. I reached out to the team to learn about the ministry. I felt called to this work and knew I did not want to run again. I decided to join as a full-time translator.

"My home life is not great, as my parents often engage in witchcraft and my siblings have intermarried with other religions; however, being a part of the translation team feels like a second home. We don't just share translation ideas, but we share our lives with one another."

PRAISE

That through translation work, Ema has found purpose in her life and a “home” that is safe to share and thrive in.

PRAY

For Ema’s family. Her parents are believers, but the generational ties of ancestral worship and witchcraft have kept them from fully trusting in Jesus for all things. Pray that translated Scripture would help all in their village understand the authority of Jesus!