

# 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

## PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

When the translation team tried to install an electric meter at the translation office, the person they'd paid to install the meter disappeared along with the deposit. The village chief helped them find a new installation person. Please pray that the installation will be completed quickly and without any problems so the office can finally have electricity for the first time.

— the Mondou team of Islands Asia

We are still trusting God for provision for our nation since we had poor rainfall the previous season. Pray for a committed translator, as the leadership is looking to recruit others. Pray for wisdom and understanding of the Scriptures as we do the work of translation.

— the Totela team in Zambia

Roldan from the Pastaza Sur team has asked for prayer for his wife who has lost her sight due to cataracts. She needs surgery. In addition, Pastor Fernando has continuing headaches and vision problems. Pastor Dionicio from the Pastaza Norte team has an infection that won't heal, while Isabel, the wife of another translator, is suffering from poor eyesight. Finally, they are having trouble visiting a church because the river is too low, and their canoe does not travel well in such low water.

— the Pastaza Quechua Cluster in Peru

Praise God that the translation team continues to improve and progress in their translation performance. Praise God that the New Testament is being used by the community. Pray for the translators as they travel to and from the capital city Honiara to attend training.

— the Zabana team in the Solomon Islands

# 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, where God has provided incredible unity and local leadership among ministries with diverse strengths. Challenges include social and economic instability, persecution, corruption, lack of training, and false teaching. Due to rapid acceleration the last few years, many projects are brand new and need fervent prayer to bring their good work to completion.

## Pray for the Bibleless in Anglophone West Africa

People	Languages
357,970	24

*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

### **Bwaatiye [BWAH – TEE’ – YEH] People of Nigeria Receive New Testament**

Praise God that the Bwaatiye people, about 90% of whom identify as Christian, recently celebrated receiving the full New Testament in their language! Their festivities included a symbolic march and dance to the river, retracing the steps of the people who first brought the gospel to their community. The two Bwaatiye kings expressed their enthusiasm and support for the translation work. The translation team is currently working on the Old Testament and eagerly anticipates the day when the full Bible is complete.

## **PRAY**

- That as Bwaatiye people dive deeply into God’s Word, they will turn from traditional rituals to trusting Christ alone.
- That the minority who follow Islam will discover through the New Testament that Jesus is more than a prophet.

# 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)

## Pray for the Remaining Languages in Nigeria Still Waiting for Scripture

Nigeria remains one of the top countries in the world with significant Bible translation needs. While many languages have been recently engaged, they are in early steps such as conducting surveys or recruiting team members—a long way off from actually getting Scripture into people's hands. In addition, there are still 22\* languages waiting to be engaged in Bible translation.

### PRAISE

That just a few months ago, over 2 million people in Nigeria were waiting for their languages to be engaged in Bible translation. Today, that number is less than half a million!

### PRAY

For God to call laborers to the remaining language groups that still need Scripture, which often means willingness to work in challenging and unstable conditions. Pray for the local churches and partners, like [Nigeria Evangelical Missions Association](#), as they strive to end Bible poverty in Nigeria.

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

# Special Praise Report

## 2024 Pray for Zero Africa Summit

*For as the waters fill the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the Lord.*

— Habakkuk 2:14 (NLT)

Did you know that, according to [SIL Nigeria](#), 411 of Nigeria's 530 languages have active Bible translation projects? Those on the front lines need fervent prayer and support from churches in Nigeria and around the world.

At the end of July, [Nigeria Evangelical Missions Association](#) partnered with Seed Company to hold the [2024 Pray for Zero Africa Summit](#). Pastors and ministry leaders learned about important prayer needs like increasing community ownership, sourcing local funding, finding qualified workers, and the challenges of using AI with African languages. Their hearts caught fire for the vision of Scripture access for all, not only in Nigeria but across Africa.

### **PRAISE**

For the 145 leaders, representing 86 organizations, who attended, and for the 42 churches that signed up to pray for Bible translation!

### **PRAY**

For the Pray for Zero Africa WhatsApp community that's being birthed out of this event; may it be a hub for intercession, encouragement, and connection.

[WATCH VIDEO: Pray for Zero Africa Summit 2024 + Pastors' Responses](#)

# 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)

## Luke Initiative for Scripture Translation (LIST)

[LIST](#) is a growing Bible translation organization in Nigeria that's celebrating its 10-year anniversary this October. Reverend Benjamin Gimba will be stepping in to lead the organization after the previous director graciously served several years into retirement age. LIST has diligently been working with [Growth Partners](#) the last few years and will continue this journey. Reverend Gimba is excited to implement fresh ideas that he hopes will help them have an even greater impact in Bible translation.

## PRAISE

That LIST has persevered through many trials and tribulations the last 10 years to make a lasting impact in local communities.

## PRAY

For LIST to continue to grow sustainably for many more years as they expand in God's work for the kingdom. During this transition period, may they remain focused, strong, and dedicated to their mission and vision.

## Pray Now

For God to have mercy on the country of Nigeria. Recently, insecurity in the nation has become so severe that it is even affecting people in “safer regions.” Many people are fleeing the country. Many of our partners, including LIST, are heavily feeling the effects of this insecurity.



# Wednesday

## TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: LIBERIAN PIDGIN

*And why worry about clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?*

— Matthew 6:28-30 (NLT)

*Waa your worrein aboh kolo dem? Yor Loka Le flawe dem, enn how dey gro, dey naa abol do noo werk Orr tomak deir own kolo. Bor leh me teh yor, evin kin Solomon, wae all he rich, rich tin dem, hey kolo war naa fine moo den one nor dis flawor dem. So, wen God can po kolo on dis flower dem, den he will naa be abol to po kolo on your? Was your geh small belee so?*

— Mafew 6:28-30 (Liberian Pidgin)

About 70% of the 113,000 people who speak Liberian Pidgin still don't know the God who watches over the lilies of the field. Many think they must pray to ancestors and practice traditional rituals to earn favor and avoid pain. But for many of the 30% who identify as Christian, their faith has transformed their whole outlook on life. As they continue to receive more of God's Word, may all Liberian Pidgin speakers know the God who cares for them.

## **PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT**

### **Huba of Nigeria**

About 200,000 people speak the Huba language. In 2018, they received the complete New Testament! Today, they are continuing with Old Testament translation.

Bible reading competitions have been held for youth, adults, and elderly alike. At a recent competition, youth recited anywhere from 30 to 58 verses from memory—from the book of Leviticus, no less!

### **PRAISE**

That the translation work continues to be enthusiastically received and used by the Huba community, about 82% of whom are Christian.

### **PRAY**

For the Huba to stand firm in their faith and identity as they face intense pressure to adopt the religion and culture of neighboring groups. They live in the northeastern part of the country, which is about 50% Muslim and has been impacted by Boko Haram in past years.

# 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

### Theophilus Dodo in Nigeria

For more than a decade, Theophilus has been a well-respected translator for his heart language of Rigwe. He has helped the team persevere despite tremendous regional violence in recent years due to intertribal conflict and a brutal terrorist organization. Since 2019, he's been working through an [internship program](#) to become a certified translation consultant, helping to meet a tremendous need in Nigeria.

## PRAISE

- That Theophilus recently completed his linguistics master's degree and is now serving as the full-time language advisor for the Rigwe project.
- That the Rigwe team has completed the New Testament and is now halfway through the Old Testament.

## PRAY

- For God to provide a good office and steady internet access for the Rigwe team. [Learn more about how to pray for the Rigwe project.](#)

# Friday

*Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts.*  
— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

## IMPACT STORY

### Ehugbo New Testament Dedicated in Nigeria

On August 24, 2024, the dedication of the Ehugbo New Testament marked a historic moment for the community. Despite the rain, several hundred people gathered to celebrate amidst their New Year and harvest festivities. The joy on the faces of those in attendance, including local, state, and federal dignitaries, reflected the deep significance of receiving the Scriptures in their [heart language](#) for the first time.

The translation project, which took 17 years to complete, was a labor of love and perseverance. The translators faced numerous challenges—social, economic, and safety-related—but their commitment never wavered. With 10,000 copies printed for a community of 40,000 Ehugbo speakers, this dedication is not just the culmination of years of hard work but a spiritual milestone that will resonate for generations and throughout eternity.

## PRAY

- For the community as they raise funds and awareness to hopefully complete the Old Testament in the coming years.
- For the New Testament to reach past Sunday mornings, extending into the community through Bible studies, outreach events, and home use.