

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](#)

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Saturday

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray for the church leadership, that they may stand firm in the face of challenges within their communities. Praise God for the tribal leadership the Lord has raised up, for their dedication and care for the flock. Praise God for the young people who have learned to play the guitar, are already playing in services, and remain in the Word of God.

— the Awaete team in the Americas

Please pray for the Crimean Roma in Ukraine, that amidst the hardships of war, their hearts might be opened to the gospel. Ask God to protect the Crimean Roma who continue to stay in Odessa, which lately has been frequently shelled by the enemy.

— the Crimean Roma team in Ukraine

We're grateful to God because we concluded the revision of the first draft of Isaiah with the help of the consultant. May the spiritual eyes of the people in the community be opened and idolatry be uprooted from their lives and hearts as the Word enters.

— the Zapoteco Yalalag team in Mexico

We thank God that we and our leaders are still healthy. Pray for the peace of Tanzania in the time of election and beyond. Pray for the lives and prosperity of translators, and pray for the Bonde Cluster preaching team to get a PA system for the ministry.

— the Mbunga team, part of the Bonde Cluster in Tanzania

Please pray for the team and family of translator Selmira ([pictured in the floral dress](#)), who passed away after battling kidney issues. Her death is a hard blow for everyone.

— the Napo Quechua team in Peru

Americas

The Americas region spans an astonishing 56 countries, including North America, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean. Many translation teams benefit from community support, strong partnerships, trained theologians, and reliable internet and technology.

Ask God to send workers to do more language surveys, especially for oral and sign languages, to accurately determine the remaining needs.

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
1,031,807	89+

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

God's Word for the Goa People in the Americas

Daily life for the Goa people, numbering fewer than 2,000, revolves around hunting and fishing. Most of them are animist, but the number of Christians is steadily increasing. Today, we celebrate the timeline of gospel and Scripture impact for the Goa over the last 35 years:

1990: The gospel is introduced to the Goa people by two missionaries.

1993: The missionaries are expelled from the village but relocate nearby and begin translating Luke's Gospel.

2002: The first Goa people accept Christ! A church forms, and Bible translation continues.

Today: More than 230 Goa people identify as Christ followers. The team is in the process of publishing 18 books of the Bible. Men are leaving lives of alcoholism to learn and teach God's Word. Translated Scripture is being used in programs to prevent and heal addiction.

PRAY

For God to bless the many Bible translation projects throughout the Americas among small, indigenous groups like the Goa, and provide the connections and resources to provide the first Scripture for those still waiting.

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)

Shapra of Peru

Roughly 2,000 people who speak the Shapra language live deep in the Peruvian jungle. The cost of transportation (mainly by motorboat) is so high that people rarely travel to or from Shapra communities, which have limited access to basic services. Very few Shapra speakers follow Jesus. Although there are some churches, most people practice traditional beliefs and shamanic rituals.

Some people think Shapra is the same as a neighboring language, Candoshi. While the two are related, Shapra speakers have clarified that they can't understand Candoshi Scripture well and need their own translation. The two language communities are partnering together in a new [cluster project](#).

PRAISE

- That the most important community leader (“Apu”), Mashurashi Mashkina, is a Christ follower.
- That a project is underway to translate Genesis and Exodus, providing Shapra speakers with a firm foundation in the one true God and His ways.

PRAY

- For the logistics of this new project. Team members must travel 2–3 days to the city of San Lorenzo (the closest place with an internet connection) for translation work. Additionally, since most translators are also pastors, others will need to care for the churches during their absence.
- For the team to find a translator who knows Spanish, the language that computer instructions are provided in. After a long search, the team leader has finally found a candidate, but she still needs to be verified and trained.
- For safe drinking water, access to health care, and good education.

Tuesday

PRAY FOR PARTNERS

Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up.

— Deuteronomy 6:7 (NLT)

Bible Society of Mexico

Roughly half of the people in the Mexican state of Oaxaca [Wah – HAH – kah] are from indigenous groups like Chinantec, Mixe [MEE – hay], and Zapotec. The many varieties of these languages often have even less mutual intelligibility than Spanish and Portuguese.

Currently, the Bible Society of Mexico is partnering with seven language groups in Oaxaca to translate Bible stories and integrate them into community life. They are living out Deuteronomy 6:7. It is easier to believe the God of the Bible has more power than the local *brujo* (known by some as a “witch doctor”) when people are continually reminded of God’s faithfulness in their own language.

[Watch Zapoteco Las Delicias Team Recording John's Gospel at Studio Que Todos Oigan \("That All May Hear"\)](#)

[Watch Translation Consultant Cosme Explaining Oral Translation Steps](#)

[Watch Pastor Maurilio Sing at Funeral for Church Member in Hidalgo Yalalag Village](#)

PRAISE

- For the warmth and camaraderie these teams enjoy as they support each other; though one consultant may be from one town and speak one language, he might travel long distances through the mountains to visit, pray with, and encourage the other teams.

PRAY

- For some of the faithful local brothers and sisters who support these teams:
 - Cirilo Cosme Gregorio, who spent 27 years translating the New Testament and now passes on what he's learned to the Old Testament translators
 - Fausto Liriano, a consultant from the Dominican Republic
 - [Jose Carlos Gomez](#), a consultant and mentor
 - Maurilio Delgado, who serves both as a pastor in his town and also a translation facilitator

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: SOUTHERN AYMARA [AI – YAH – MAHR’ – UH] LANGUAGE OF PERU

*From the dew of heaven and the richness of the earth,
may God always give you abundant harvests of grain and bountiful new wine.*
— Genesis 27:28 (NLT)

*¡Diosaw jumarojj churatam alajpacha sullanaca, uqhamarac suma lak'a orakenacsa!
¡Ucat jumarojj churpan jilarquiri trigma uqhamarac vinsa!*
— Genesis 27:28 (Southern Aymara)

About 390,000 people who speak Southern Aymara in Peru have never read the Bible in their language. Church leaders read the Bible in Spanish and then interpret it for their growing churches. While Scripture is available in neighboring Bolivian Aymara, there is little crossover between the two languages. Many Southern Aymara speakers mix faith in Jesus with other cultural beliefs, and only about 15% are estimated to be regularly practicing Christians.

May God give the faithful Southern Aymara translators “abundant harvests of grain and bountiful new wine” as they see many souls saved through sharing God’s Word in their language!

PRAY FOR THE SOUTHERN AYMARA TEAM

In this initial project, the Southern Aymara team in Peru is focusing on the first few books of the Old Testament. They also plan to create evangelistic pamphlets and craft oral Bible stories.

Translator Edwin reports that the translations they've completed so far are already being used in worship services, small groups, and family gatherings. He writes, "Aymara speakers feel a stronger connection to the Scriptures, which has enriched our faith. In addition, seeing the Bible in our own language has generated a deep sense of pride and belonging among us."

PRAISE

For God watching over the team as they travel to the communities.

PRAY

For the health and well-being of the translators' families, since in this season the high Andean areas are experiencing very cold weather.

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

Amanda Azevedo in Brazil

Amanda works with [YWAM Brazil](#) on Oral Bible Translation projects, including the [Ruth Cluster](#) project. She produces content to promote Scripture use in communities, including video, graphic design, social media, and photography. She also trains others who wish to engage in missions, focusing on least reached people groups in Brazil and around the world.

She writes, “As I began mission work, I had contact with missionaries who were working in Bible translation. I heard several stories of how [the ‘JESUS’ film](#) impacted people by hearing it in their mother tongue. This confirmed my desire to produce audiovisual materials, including God’s Word, for these people groups.

“Since then, I have been working on producing mobilization materials, training young people, and producing short films with biblical principles in a contextualized way among these groups.”

PRAY

- For a documentary Amanda is working on to reach people's hearts as it is nearing completion
- For an upcoming mobilization and recording trip in Colombia
- For her health during this busy term: "So that I can finish my internship well for the glory of God."

Friday

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

IMPACT STORY

Pokomchi [POH – KOHM – CHEE’] of Guatemala

While the Guatemalan church has a strong history of Christian evangelism, indigenous communities like the Pokomchi remain disempowered by a lack of Scripture in their languages. Pokomchi is a Mayan language spoken by about 40,000 people. Most Pokomchi speakers worship multiple deities, and some even include Christian figures in their worship. The Pokomchi Old Testament was completed in 2022, and translators are currently working on the New Testament with a goal of preparing the full Bible for printing by 2026.

The story of Doña Cecilia shows how Bible translation is filling a deep desire in Pokomchi believers’ hearts:

Doña Cecilia is an elderly Pokomchi-speaking woman with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. When her whole family organized a special birthday celebration for her, they asked her what she wanted. The gift she wanted most was to hear God’s Word in her own language. For too long, she’d been attending a church where they preached only in Spanish, and she hardly understood anything.

Because of faithful local translators’ work, her birthday wish was granted. Though advanced in years, she jumped up and down and cried tears of joy at hearing God’s Word in Pokomchi.

PRAY

“Thank God we are almost finished with the translation and consultancy, but another stage is beginning, which is the composition, and that requires a lot of effort. May God help us and give us much strength and health in this stage of work.”