

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

We ask for your prayers for four New Testament dedications for tribal groups in South Asia, originally scheduled for today, October 12th, that have been postponed due to recent challenges in the region (a follow-up to a prayer request in [the most recent South Asia issue](#)). Please join us in praying for the opportunity to dedicate these New Testaments soon, and for the safety and security of the team members and the small Christian community in the area. The situation remains uncertain, and we trust in God's provision and protection.

Please continue to pray for physical safety in the midst of droughts and fires. The [Amazon River](#) has dropped significantly, which has led to accidents. Please also pray for spiritual salvation for the many Napo communities bound in the ways of their ancestors despite ongoing distribution efforts of translated Bible portions.

— the Napo team in Peru

Thank God, the book of Genesis-Jonah-Ruth was printed in Vlach. May God touch Roma people's hearts through these pieces of the Bible in their language. Pray for the ministry of Pastor Stanislav, our translator, that God may give him wisdom to balance the work of translation with his church activities. Pray for the ministry of Pastor Leonid Oglo, who works with Vlach refugees, that God might meet all his needs for his evangelistic travels.

— the Vlach Roma team in Ukraine

Pray for the Duke people; we need more translators. Pray for me as I face many challenges both physically and spiritually.

— Rally Dakei, lead translator for the Duke team in the Solomon Islands

Southern Africa

The Southern Africa region spans about 16 countries, including Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, several island nations, and all Portuguese-speaking countries on the African continent. Thanks to strong partnerships across the body of Christ, Southern Africa is approaching Zero! Hindrances to finishing the task include poor roads, political instability, and lack of workers to train local translators.

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
182,560	11

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. October 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 Three People Groups in Angola

Last month, translation projects began in the Humbe, Kuvale, and Kwandu languages, which are collectively spoken by almost 200,000 people in Angola. At the end of this project, they will receive the entire books of Genesis, Luke, and Hebrews in their languages.

In these three cultures, oral communication is deeply ingrained in daily life. Through oral Bible translation methods, God's Word is shared in a way that resonates with their cultural practices, making it more accessible and impactful.

PRAY

- For God's Word to transform many lives as it's translated. According to [Wycliffe South Africa](#), although the Kwandu and Humbe have been exposed to the gospel, there are almost no Kuvale believers or churches.
- For God to bless Wycliffe South Africa as they lead the way in this project, and for protection for the translation teams.

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)

Bible Translation to Begin in Lesotho [LUH – SOO’ – TOO] Sign Language

Recently, International Deaf Awareness Week was observed from September 23–29. In the world of Bible translation, we are more keenly aware than ever of the significant gaps in Scripture availability for the Deaf community worldwide. For many Deaf people, the Bible is out of reach.

One of these Deaf communities, with a population of about 23,000, resides in the landlocked southern African country of Lesotho. To address this urgent need, the Bible Society of Lesotho is gearing up to translate Scripture into Lesotho Sign Language.

PRAY

For the 6-month intensive training scheduled for the new team in January 2025. May the translators receive all the tools and training they need while developing strong working relationships with one another.

A Prayer from Reverend Valente Tseco, Executive Director at Bible Society of Mozambique

Dear Lord,

We thank you for the gift of our lives and families.

We thank you for our daily bread, shelter, and your love, care, and forgiveness.

We thank you for our beautiful land and all mineral resources.

We pray for the people suffering from terrorism in Cabo Delgado.

We pray for peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation in our nation Mozambique.

We pray for the October 9 general elections. We ask your Holy Spirit that no violence occurs during and after the voting process.

Touch the hearts of all political leaders to peacefully accept the election results.

We pray this in the mighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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)

Bible Society of South Africa

Did you know South Africa has 12 official languages? [Bible Society of South Africa](#) works to provide affordable, accessible Bibles for all, including translating for four official languages that still don't have the Bible.

While a large majority of South Africans identify as Christian, many also mix their Christian faith with African Traditional Religion. Bible translation not only helps address discipleship gaps but also honors the cultural and spiritual heritage of each community, healing wounds left over from apartheid.

PRAISE

For Bible Society of South Africa's 200+ years of Bible translation work, and for the good progress made on all four first Bible translation projects.

PRAY

For God to provide all the resources Bible Society of South Africa needs to continue these translation efforts.

Pray for Mauritius Elections

From Bible Society of Mauritius

Almighty God, we pray for the upcoming elections in Mauritius. Help the people have integrity and respect for all voices. We ask for wisdom and discernment for voters as they choose their leaders, and for a spirit of unity and peace to prevail in the nation. Heavenly Father, may Your grace lead all parties involved. May this election bring hope and a brighter future for all Mauritians. In Jesus' name, amen.

Pray for Namibia Elections

From Bible Society of Namibia

Please pray that the elections will go smoothly and that the current peace and stability in Namibia will continue with new leadership. Ask that renewed focus will be given to the prosperity of ALL people and working against self-enrichment that hampers our growth.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: SUKWA LANGUAGE OF MALAWI

Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

— Luke 1:30–33 (NLT)

Po uwandumi akati, "Utakoghope Maliya," Pakuti waba ni chisa cha Chala. Po tesya, tiwise ube ni chifuba, tukapape umwana umwanalume, sona tukamwite ilita ilya kuti Yesu. Umwene takabe we songo, sona ayukwitiwa mwana wa Chala uwa pamwanya. Po u Malafyale u Chala ayukumupa umupando wa Bunyafyale ubwa wise u Devedi, sona ayukuba we Malafyale wa muluko lwa Yakobo akabalilo kosi, po ubunyafyale bwake tebukamale lumu.

— Luke 1:30–33 (Sukwa)

About the Sukwa People

About 90% of Sukwa language speakers identify as Christians. But because they've never had Scripture in their language, many people still fear witchcraft, continuing to visit shamans and adhere to old beliefs. For the last few years, the team has been working to translate Mark, Luke, John, Acts, and Romans, as well as the "JESUS" film script.

May all Sukwa people know that Jesus alone sits on the throne, as Luke 1:32 says!

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Manyika of Zimbabwe

The Manyika are a community of nearly 500,000 people who have just recently received the first portions of God’s Word in their language. They live in the eastern highlands of Zimbabwe, a critical gateway to Mozambique. While about 75% belong to various church denominations, many also practice traditional religion, which includes ancestor worship and rainmaking.

“Manyika” means “to be known.” The desire of the Manyika translation team is to make Christ known among their people. With this goal in mind, they have been translating Mark, Luke, Acts, and Romans, as well as [the “JESUS” film](#) script.

PRAISE

For our partner [The Word for the World](#), which will take on increased responsibility for this project going forward. Praise God for how He has grown and blessed them!

PRAY

For God to grant His divine wisdom to the Manyika team and equip them with everything they need to make His Word accessible to their community as they work to complete the New Testament.

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

Carlos Raimundo in Mozambique

Carlos is a translator and team leader for a project reaching 6 million people in Mozambique, working with Wycliffe South Africa. He is building leadership and public relations skills to help the translation work have an even greater impact in these communities.

“As a [Seed Company intern](#) studying for a degree in Public Relations, Management, and Marketing, I see that the course has already started to produce results, both in my personal and family life, as well as professionally as a translator. Carlos, the translator I was yesterday, is not the same today. I feel better prepared to respond to the spiritual needs of God's people. I have greatly improved the way I communicate in church, at work, and in society in general. As head of my class, I motivate classmates to collect donations to support orphaned children, widows, and the elderly.”

PRAISE

“That I now understand the Bible better when I am translating. Translation is one of the means that takes me to the Throne of God. Sometimes while translating, I get inspired and start singing, praising God, and finish with a very strong prayer that takes me to the highest level of relationship with my God. To Him be the honor and the glory.”

PRAY

“That God will continue to accompany me in my studies and in the work of translating the Bible. Please also pray for my pastoral ministry. We need support from brothers and sisters of good faith who can join us in contributing what they can to the Lord's work. Pray for God to provide for schooling for both of our children. I'm confident that for God everything is possible. He will open doors in answer to our prayers. Also please pray for the orphans and widows that my wife and I care for, that God will provide for their needs.”

Friday

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

IMPACT STORY

Psalms Come to Life in Southern African Communities

Testimonies continue to pour in from the [Psalms that Sing](#) project, which facilitates poetic translation of the Psalms with local artists.

FROM THE MEETTO TEAM IN MOZAMBIQUE

Recently, one leader challenged the translation team, saying, “I want to hear the Psalms sung in my church!” The very next Sunday, Betinho, one of the music leaders, stood up and sang a solo from Psalm 126 [in this video](#).

Praise God that 29 Psalms are now being distributed in the bush to remote Meetto villages, along with [the “JESUS” film](#) and New Testament!

FROM THE KAAPS TEAM IN SOUTH AFRICA

“This workshop taught me that we are able to express our feelings to God, especially with Psalm 88 where the Psalmist accuses God all the time. I have been taught to not question God, so the Psalm blew me away. It taught me that the [chesed](#) love of God is constant.”

PRAY

- For the Psalms that Sing team as they work on translation guides to equip the translators, who face the challenge of capturing both the accurate meaning and the poetic beauty of Psalms. They are aiming to complete 75 guides by the middle of next year.
- For wisdom for the team as the project is wrapping up its “pilot phase.” They will be writing final reports over the coming months and considering the wider roll-out of this impactful program in 2025!