

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

Pray for the consultant reviewing our draft of six New Testament books to ensure they are accurate and sound natural. Please pray for the health of all involved so that we can complete this work, which is taking place online. Pray also for our nation's churches, as there have been country-wide crackdowns on church meetings. This has impacted church leaders and believers, and has affected our team's ability to use church buildings for translation work.

— a translation team in Asia

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our dear colleague, Emmanuel, who went to be with the Lord on November 25. We ask for your prayers during this difficult time, especially for Emmanuel's young widow and their two children. Please also remember our staff as we grieve the loss of a beloved friend, brother, and ministry co-worker.

— the Cameroon Association for Bible Translation and Literacy team

We are preparing our draft of Colossians and translating to another language so that our consultants can review for accuracy. Please pray that the Lord will give us skill, effectiveness, power, and wisdom in finding the right words during this process, as well as stable internet and electricity.

— a team in the Americas

Please pray for the 30 local pastors and evangelists we have trained and who are traveling to Hadza villages, sharing Luke's Gospel, showing the "JESUS" film, and beginning Discovery Bible studies in Hadza.

— the Hadza team in Tanzania

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.

Bible translation has accelerated rapidly in Nigeria the last few years, decreasing the number of languages waiting to be engaged from 200+ to just over 20 today. Challenges include social and economic instability, persecution, corruption, lack of training, and false teaching. Many projects are brand new and need fervent prayer to bring their good work to completion.

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
721,330	39

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. December 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

Transitioning to New Leadership in Nigeria

Nearly 40 Bible translation organizations in Nigeria participate in the Language Programs Coordination Forum (LPCF), a group dedicated to encouraging quality Bible translation and collaborating on the remaining translation needs in their nation.

LPCF, under the steady leadership of expatriate Bible translation executives for more than two decades, has impacted hundreds of language groups through mother tongue Scriptures. They have developed many Nigerian translators into translation consultants, language technology specialists, and organizational leaders. Over time, there has been a gradual shift toward majority-Nigerian leadership of the organization and the Bible translation movement.

On October 16, members of LPCF elected the first-ever all-Nigerian Leadership Committee to guide the organization and to promote translation among Nigerian churches.

PRAY

For this transition of leadership to be supported well, for the new leaders to quickly build deep and trusting relationships, and for God to bless them with fresh zeal and vision for this next season of Bible translation in Nigeria.

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)

Bansi of Nigeria

More than 780,000 people speak the Bansi language, and the majority of them claim Christianity—yet many still practice traditional beliefs as well. People are still accused of witchcraft, and some sacrifice to demons.

When not farming, Bansi men often gather at the market square to socialize. These gatherings provide an ideal context for Oral Bible Storytelling. In this project, which will produce the first Scripture in the Bansi language, trained storytellers will learn and share 25 Bible stories.

PRAISE

That the storytellers just finished learning their first four stories about the birth of Jesus.

PRAY

That there will be many opportunities to share these stories during the Christmas season as people gather together.

Pray Now

For the Paasaal team in Ghana as they translate the Old Testament alongside the Ghana Institute for Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation (GILLBT). The two groups have agreed to pilot the use of artificial intelligence technology with a Scripture app to accelerate the pace of translation. Pray for wisdom and patience as the groups use this new technology. Pray that the technology will be accepted and used by GILLBT with other languages translating the Old Testament.

[Watch hymns of praise at a Paasaal community gathering](#)

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)

Nigerian Partner Expands Vision

The [Mwaghavul](#) [MWAH – GAH’ – VOOL] Mother Tongue Initiative began with a focus on finally completing the Mwaghavul Bible after missionaries began translation more than 100 years ago. Today, we praise God that the entire Mwaghavul Bible is scheduled to be available within the next 2 years!

With this long-awaited success in sight, the Mwaghavul Mother Tongue Initiative has changed their name to My Mother Tongue Initiative. This change indicates reflects their expanded vision to help other communities with Bible translation once their Bible is completed.

PRAISE

For the fruit Scripture is already producing in the community.

PRAY

For this partner as they prepare to shift their focus to neighboring languages and train up the next generation of Bible translation workers.

Pray Now

The Initiative for the Translation and Development of African Languages (ITDAL) oversees oral Bible stories and translation projects in 36 languages. Every December, ITDAL invites two leaders from each language community to its offices to hear stories of what God is doing beyond each person's own tribe. Pray that the stories they hear will encourage and strengthen these community leaders and motivate them to provide resources to help sustain their local translation efforts.

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

— Hebrews 10:36 (NIV)

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: KONO LANGUAGE OF SIERRA LEONE

Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

— Psalms 51:10-12 (NLT)

O Yataa, faa chende be n ma, mbe i-a i'a nyina chende gbasaya be n ma. I ma n gbain i yakɔɔ, i sin ma i'a nyina chende gbain n fe. A ma n ni i'a kunkamaya buɔdia che ma son to, min be a ma n nyina ni gbasaya masɔn kooya be koe a i ma.

— Saami Nu 51:10-12 (Kono)

O God, give me a good heart, and give to me the power of your Spirit. Do not drive me from your presence, and do not take away your Spirit from me. Make me to receive the joy of your salvation again, so that my spirit will receive power to honor you.

— Psalms 51:10-12 (translated back into English from Kono)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Kono Old Testament

Kono speakers live in the heart of Sierra Leone's diamond mining industry, but many work for large foreign-owned companies and benefit minimally from the profits.

When Kono speakers received the New Testament, they were still recovering from a lengthy civil war. Churches used translated Scripture for trauma healing programs, facilitating reconciliation within their own community and with neighboring groups. They're eager to have the full counsel of God's Word so they can continue growing in their faith.

Today, as many as 20% of Kono speakers are Christians, and they enjoy peaceful tolerance with Kono Muslims. However, they often mix biblical principles with traditional practices, turning to dead ancestors for help.

PRAY

- That as Kono believers receive the Old Testament, they will receive power to honor and obey God, as Psalm 51 says.
- For smooth progress and strong local support so the full Kono Bible can be completed by 2028.

Thursday

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

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)

Naaza Badu in Nigeria

As a young child in Ghana, Naaza was first introduced to Islam, but he gave his life to Jesus at a Christmas crusade when he was only 8 years old.

Growing up, Naaza learned to read and write in his heart language of Koma. After the New Testament was complete, he served as one of the main readers for the audio version produced by [Faith Comes By Hearing](#). He later moved to Nigeria to help with the great Bible translation needs there.

Naaza is currently getting his Master of Arts in Classical Hebrew and Translation Consulting from [Whole Word Institute](#) in Israel as part of his [Seed Company internship](#). He is working with the Cicipu [CHEE' – CHEE – POOH] team to complete the Old Testament.

PRAY

For comfort for Naaza and his family after his mom passed away in September.

Pray Now

For the Cicipu [CHEE' – CHEE – POOH] project, which has been suspended due to continuing disagreement among community members and safety concerns for the translation team. Ask for God's guidance and protection over the translators and their families during this challenging time. Pray that the hearts of the community members may be softened and a peaceful resolution found so that the project can resume and bring God's Word to the Cicipu people.

Friday

IMPACT STORY

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

Learning New Skills to Minister to the Abureni

In April, we prayed for the [Abureni](#) people of Nigeria, where Bible translation is significantly impacting the community, 70% of which identify as Christian.

Translator Gabriel joined the Abureni team in 2022. Initially, he faced challenges in mastering the language, but now he reads and writes Abureni fluently. Gabriel has developed numerous skills that are useful to the team, from learning translation software to operating computers, setting up equipment to show the “JESUS” film, and conducting assessments to determine the impact of the translation on the community.

The project has not only brought new knowledge and skills to Gabriel but has also strengthened the community's connection to their language and faith.

PRAISE

That God is drawing the hearts of the Abureni to His Word.

PRAY

That many churches and believers will use the translated Scripture to grow in their faith.

Pray Now

For pastors from Nigeria who earlier this year agreed to establish *Pray for Zero* regional networks to intercede for Bible translation. The first regional meeting in October had 63 participants! Pray that pastors from the five other regions in Nigeria would sense God's call to build strong prayer networks for Bible translation.