

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 a meeting of Bible translation organizations in South Asia this week. They are discussing new ways to collaborate on completing 17 full Bibles, 22 New Testaments, and 35 portions of Scripture by 2033. They are also discussing strategies to address unengaged languages identified by another initiative. Pray for wisdom, insights, and a plan that bears fruit.

— a Bible translation team in South Asia

Pray that the Lord will supply participants in our workshops with an ever-deepening hunger for His Word that brings wisdom and insights. Pray that community members who struggle with personal challenges will find healing, support, hope, and restoration through their faith in God and fellowship with others.

— a Bible translation intern in Cameroon

Praise God that the diaspora community is learning to read and write in our language, and they are using it to create praise and worship songs.

— the Zapoteco de Teotitlan del Valle team in Mexico

Please pray for our team's good health and strength for the duration of our project. Would you also pray for our country, where we labor under war and conflict—for God's forgiveness, peace, justice, and love?

— a Bible translation team in Asia

Thank God for supplying an interim project manager for the Bomboko translation team. Pray for Pastor Philip Mofa as he steps into this position. Also, pray for project workers who face security concerns in their villages.

— the Bomboko language team in Cameroon

Sahel

“Sahel” means “coast” in Arabic. But in this case, it refers to an African region that borders the southern “coast” of the Sahara Desert, rather than a body of water. Local partners—many of whom use French as a common language for resources and training—are committed, passionate, and gifted. In addition to the security risks posed by many of this region’s 12 countries, obstacles to Bible translation progress include political instability, violence, travel hazards, famine, drought, and poverty.

[Go deeper in specific, strategic prayer for the Sahel with this 3-part article from the Lausanne Movement.](#)

Pray for the Bibleless in This Region

People	Languages
2,784,280	68

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. January 2025.

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

Borgu Bible Dedication Cause for Celebration

Hundreds gathered last October in Tchatchou [CHA-CHOO], a village in the West African nation of Benin, to participate in the dedication of the Borgu Bible. Despite the hovering storm clouds, nothing could dampen the spirit and enthusiasm of those attending this historic event.

Speakers testified to the work of God that had made that day a miracle. They thanked partner organizations for collaborating closely with Borgu leaders. They also acknowledged many difficulties and setbacks that had occurred, yet they all agreed that the completion of the Bible in Borgu, a dialect of the Fulani language, made those challenges now seem a distant memory.

Once the ceremony ended, the clouds could no longer hold the rain. Likewise, may the Holy Spirit rain down into the hearts of the Borgu who do not yet know God.

[Watch the Celebration!](#)

Monday

PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP

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

— Mark 16:15 (NLT)

Oral Bible Translation Project in West Africa

Only 4 of 19 Kuluso [KOO–LOO’–SOH] language groups in West Africa have Scripture in their heart language. Thanks to an Oral Bible Translation (OBT) project that began last October, two more language groups—the Kuluso Naso [NAH’–SOH] and the Kuluso Yalaso [YAH–LAH’–SOH]—will soon have access to God’s Word.

Many of them follow Islam or animism. Nevertheless, church leaders from other Kuluso languages are eager to share God’s Word and disciple those who are interested. At their request, the project is starting with Genesis, Exodus, and Deuteronomy.

PRAY

- For partners as they select team members during the first OBT workshop this month.
- Pray that exposure to God’s Word will draw any potential unbelieving team members to faith in Jesus.

Pray Now

Preparations are underway for a large gathering of translation organizations, all seeking to provide God's Word to one of the most Bibleless areas of the Sahel. Pray for stability in the host country and city where they will meet, as there has been recent unrest. Pray for unity among these organizations as they seek God's will in this great task.

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)

Partnering with Harvest Mission International

Harvest Mission International (HMI) has grown from 2 people trusting God to use them to plant indigenous churches in their own country to an international organization involved in holistic needs ministries, church planting, and Bible translation. God has brought partners around HMI to help them establish local churches and empower local leaders through full access to God's Word in all their region's languages.

PRAISE

That the Gospel of Mark has been translated in 4 new Sahel languages through the work of HMI.

PRAY

- For HMI's staff and their families to be protected against the attacks of the Evil One, who often uses sickness and calamity to disrupt and distract.
- For unity among translation organizations working together to advance God's Word in the eastern Sahel.

Pray Now

Did you know that the ongoing conflict in Israel has had a direct impact on Bible translation? One consultant intern from West Africa has found it challenging to study Hebrew and prepare to check Old Testament translations while in Jerusalem and separated from his family. Pray for consultant interns studying in Israel during these difficult times.

Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: ILEM LANGUAGE OF AFRICA

“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked. “My Rabbi,” the blind man said, “I want to see!”

— Mark 10:51 (NLT)

Yeésu ɲka baru wɔ naa: “Batu ní a laá náá ń yá kí teé sí?” Ɔjɔm ɲka kí wɔ naa: “Úkpé yá ka ń kpéé bírí dɪkpaári.”

— Máarɪkɪ 10:51 (Ilem)

Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man replied, “High one, make me see again.”

— Mark 10:51 (translated back into English from Ilem)

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

Ilem of the Sahel

The Ilem team has now translated about half of the New Testament, after completing work on Genesis and Ruth. Nearly all the Ilem people follow another major religion and are hostile to Christianity. Written materials are difficult to share, so the team is audio recording as much as they can.

PRAISE

That at the end of January, a team from [SIL](#) will arrive to record the dubbing of a film about Joseph. The translation team believes that, given the Ilem people's religious background, this film will especially minister to them.

PRAY

- For the lead translator, Gideon, and his wife Esther, and their four children.
- That God would protect Gideon's family from spiritual attacks. They are considered traitors because they follow Jesus. The family praises the Lord for His protection during the past year.
- For wisdom, as adapting the translation of Genesis has been extremely challenging.

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)

Odile Awossomo in Cameroon

Odile [OH-DEEL'] promotes Scripture engagement for 6 language communities scattered across Cameroon. She supervises and trains Scripture listening group leaders, oversees Oral Bible Storytelling activities, and helps church leaders use Scripture in their local languages.

With a Master's degree in Anthropology already in hand, Odile is working towards a Master's degree in Theology. An internship with Seed Company is preparing Odile to use her academic training to help believers apply Scripture in their cultural context and engage with God's Word at a deeper level.

PRAISE

That both Odile's intern supervisor and her mentor have helped her prepare for a more significant role in Scripture engagement.

PRAY

For Odile as she balances her responsibilities with family, church, studies, and work.

Pray Now

Pray for the Vasu community in Africa, where Muslims are responding to Oral Bible Storytelling. Please pray for the [Faith Comes By Hearing](#) trainer leading a 3-week translation workshop as the team seeks to successfully launch a new Oral Bible Translation project.

Friday

IMPACT STORY

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

— Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

Free to Worship Christ

A member of the Gabri Maja team in Chad explains that for years, while believers in nearby language communities could pray out loud in their mother tongue, people who speak Gabri Maja could not. “The reason given by those who forbid us is that God does not hear our prayers, does not understand our language, and that this language is not made to praise the living God,” the team member said.

After reading Revelation 7:9 and Psalms 150:1–6, however, Gabri Maja believers felt they could “say strongly that there is no more colonization, because God loves all languages and cultures, and none of them is superior to the other.” Over time, “those who forbade us to pray in our language and sing in it have now become our brothers in Christ.”

PRAISE

That God is healing relationships between the Gabri Maja and those who discriminated against them.

Pray Now

Since 2014, the Didi people have been targeted by local terrorists, eventually scattering the community and displacing the translation team. Now relocated, the team is struggling with higher costs of living. Please pray for peace for Didi speakers, and for food and shelter for those who have lost homes and farms. Ask God to comfort and heal those who have lost family members.