

# 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.

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 our partners and team members in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, where it is has been difficult to pay translators. Banks have been closed, goods are expensive, and Western Union's concerns about fraud have limited transfers to only small amounts each day. — Translation teams in Democratic Republic of Congo

Pedro is working to translate New Testament books into the Cloudlands language. To support his family, he has a welding and carpentry shop. He recently left his work for a couple of days to spend focused time with the translation team. But while he was gone, a situation developed that threatens his livelihood and relationships. Pray for God's intervention and the strength for Pedro to forgive those involved.

— The Cloudlands team in Mexico

Praise God for the progress He is making possible in the translation of two languages! All materials are drafted, and a translation consultant has checked a large amount. Pray for wisdom as we and our partners consider the best way to move forward on more Old Testament stories. Pray for the video editor, who lives in an unstable country where his life is in danger. Also, pray that we find the right person to engage people with our translations through social media. — A Bible translation team in Eurasia

Pray for another edition of the Pidgin Bible to be typeset and published before the April 12 dedication.

— The Nigerian Pidgin translation team in Nigeria



# Southern Africa

The Southern Africa region spans several countries, including Angola, Mozambique, 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 Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

People	Languages		
253,210	12		

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. March 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**

## **Collaborating with Partners**

Field partners play a key role in making sure Bible translation work is done efficiently, accurately, and on time.

Seed Company's Southern Africa team has initiated quarterly Zoom meetings with Southern and Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) Africa partners to foster closer collaboration. Some 57 staff from partner organizations participated in the first meeting last November that focused on narrative report writing. A second meeting in February attracted more than 40 staff. It included discussions on projects and deadlines, internships, translator training, and more.

#### PRAISE

For the success of initial partner meetings and for partners dedicated to transforming lives through Bible translation.

#### PRAY

- For the next partner meeting in April, which will focus on translation and artificial intelligence (AI).
- For our partners who face daily challenges in translating the Bible.



## Monday

### **BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP**

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone." — Mark 16:15 (NLT)

### Accessible Scripture for the Tembo People

In a remote area of Zambia, the Abatwa Tembo are nomadic hunters and farmers. They rarely go to school and do not read and write. They are very religious and superstitious, believing in witchcraft and ancestral spirits. They cannot access God's Word through a written Bible.

Two of Seed Company's partners are working to overcome this challenge. Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) and The Word for the World (TWFTW) have partnered on an <u>Oral Bible Translation</u> project. TWFTW has located and trained the translators, while FCBH is providing technical support using software called Render. This project started in January 2025.

#### PRAISE

That translators have been identified and are learning computer skills and the translation process.

#### PRAY

That the translators will gain a clear understanding as they internalize Scripture and speak it into their own language.

Watch this Vision video from Faith Comes by Hearing



## Pray Now

On March 10, Tropical Cyclone Jude's 93 mile-per-hour winds and strong rains devastated many towns and villages in Mozambique. One translation team writes: "In our local church, about 40 members have totally lost their houses and their goods, currently living with no hope." Please pray for all those impacted by the cyclone, including the families of translation teams, church leaders, and believers as they recover and rebuild.



## 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)

## Partners in Holistic Development: Ministering to Wantu Speakers

<u>Partners in Holistic Development</u> (PIHD) is dedicated to the long-term transformation of the more than 3 million people in Southeastern Africa who speak Wantu.

To achieve their mission, they concentrate primarily on four activities:

- **Multiplying Discipleship Groups:** Building Christ-centered communities focused on growing in God's Word.
- **Bible Translation & Materials:** Translating the Bible into Wantu and producing relevant biblical resources.
- **Training Leaders:** Equipping local leaders to lead in alignment with God's kingdom principles.
- **Community Development:** Ensuring that all aspects of community life reflect God's transformative power.

#### PRAISE

That the Wantu people have responded well to translated Scripture, which is already making a difference in their communities.

#### PRAY

For wisdom for Wantu translators, as they work in areas highly influenced by a major religion.



## Pray Now

Team members are making final preparations in Zambia to send the Shanjo New Testament to the typesetter. Pray that the team remains focused as they were recently challenged by a setback.



## Wednesday

#### TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: KOTI LANGUAGE

Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. News about him spread as far as Syria, and people soon began bringing to him all who were sick. And whatever their sickness or disease, or if they were demon possessed or epileptic or paralyzed—he healed them all.

#### — Matthew 4:23–24 (NLT)

Yinsa eettettiye Kalileya yooshi asomisaka mmasinakooka, atafusiraka hapari zooshapweya za ofwalume na avonisaka marati ooshi vakatthi wa atthu. Hapari monkoni wa ye khumwazeyela Siiriya yooshi, atthu khusala awaatiisa ooshi apale aarina marati na aari woonaaye olwaaza, anamajini, anatutu na anamarakala, ye noowaavonisa.

— Matthew 4:23–24 (Koti)



### PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Ekoti people of Mozambique

Wycliffe South Africa and Seed Company began work on a project March 1 that will bring the Old Testament to the Ekoti people through Oral Bible Translation (OBT).

About 151,000 Koti speakers live along the Nampula coast of Mozambique. Islam has been the predominant religion there since Arab traders arrived and introduced their beliefs.

Since the Ekoti received the Koti New Testament in 2021, the good news has been preached, and many Muslims have known the truth and received salvation. Those who once struggled to understand Scripture in Portuguese can now hear God's message in their mother tongue.

#### PRAY

- For political stability and peace in Mozambique.
- For the success of an upcoming one-week training workshop for the translators.
- For the safety and health of the translators and project team.



## 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)

### IT, Language Technology, and Media Training

A cohort of 9 students from 6 southern African countries is being trained over 3 years in a specially designed course that adapts to their individual needs. They gather 3 times a year for classes that help them mitigate issues with the technology equipment necessary for Bible translation projects.

In March, two trainers—John Ventress and Roman Meszaros—from KALAAM Media (established in 2008 to distribute Scripture in digital format) trained the students to develop a community website to promote Bible translation projects in their area. On the final day, the students presented outstanding products their communities can now access.

#### PRAISE

That the interns are using their skills to significantly impact their organizations.

#### PRAY

- That the students will maintain motivation and unity as they continue training.
- For intern Emanuel Matimba, whose house was destroyed by a cyclone in Mozambique.



## Pray Now

The Kwangwa project in Zambia, which has translated the New Testament, is nearing completion. Pray that the Lord will provide funding soon for typesetting, the final step before printing.



## Friday

#### IMPACT STORY

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

## Scripture Impacts a Predominantly Muslim Community

God's Word is dramatically transforming lives in some Muslim-majority communities.

Committed Bible translation partners have established more than 100 discipleship groups in various villages. As a result, changes in the communities' lifestyle and behavior have caught the attention of village chiefs. Some have even asked translators to start Bible study groups in their villages!

Chiefs have also asked the team to develop a book for parents to use in training their children. That resource is two-thirds biblical text and is a direct response to the community's desire to incorporate biblical teachings into their family lives.

#### PRAISE

For a growing acceptance and reverence for Scripture and biblical teachings. According to reports, translated Scripture has even been read in the mosque.