

# 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
	Regional	Old	Ministry		Equipping	<u>^</u>
the World	Update	Testament Review	Partners	Projects	the Saints	Stories

Pray With Others

Get More Resources



## Saturday

#### PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Praise God that our literacy team has finished teaching a primer class for the second time. Nine new students and two returning students all passed the reading test on the last day! Pray for team members to balance promoting literacy widely with keeping a low profile with authorities. — A Bible translation team in Asia

Pray that team members will be able to adapt the ways they work to meet the challenges of armed conflict in their area. Battle lines keep shifting, forcing evacuations and making travel unsafe. Pray for tech solutions that make reliable virtual communication possible, and provision for translators, their families, and church communities.

— The NoKi Orality Cluster teams in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Praise God that we were able to accomplish recent goals, despite a translator's need to care for his son for three weeks when he was hospitalized for a kidney problem. We also rejoice that his son has returned home and is improving. — The Yamka team in Mainland Asia

Reyna and her husband, Crispin, help with community testing for our project. Reyna had bladder surgery two years ago that didn't work. Despite a second surgery almost immediately, her condition has not improved. Please pray for Reyna to get better and lead a more normal life.

— The Doyi team in Venezuela



## South Asia

Home to more than 2 billion people, a staggering 26% of the world's population, South Asia covers four countries. Once ruled by the British, these nations are now thriving democracies. While some parts of South Asia have had Christian presence from the earliest centuries, in recent years, persecution has increased sharply. Political parties oppose Christian outreach, and church leaders have been arrested.

#### Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

We praise God that most of the known Bibleless languages in South Asia have been engaged in translation, according to <u>Progress.Bible</u>. While this is a huge milestone, partners strongly believe there are many more needs that haven't been discovered yet. In addition, many translation teams in early stages have a long, difficult road ahead before their people receive significant portions of Scripture. Please continue praying for initiatives like the <u>Finish Line Project</u> that are trying to find and reach the remaining South Asian people groups in need of God's Word.

Pseudonyms may be used for names and locations in areas hostile to Christians.



## Sunday

### REGIONAL UPDATE Full Bible in Sight for Padim Speakers

Leaders from NIEA, a Seed Company partner, met with church leaders in a South Asian country 17 years ago to discuss translating Luke's Gospel and the "JESUS" film in 5 languages. A small team of enthusiastic men was carefully selected and eventually trained to be mother tongue translators for the "End to End Initiative," a project focused on recording audio Bible stories for 3 language groups, including Padim [PAH'–DEEM]—a language spoken by 274,000 people.

The Luke and "JESUS" film project ended in 2011, and a Padim New Testament was dedicated in 2019. Work on the Old Testament began in 2021, and about 40% has been completed. By God's grace, the Padim people could celebrate their full Bible in 2028!

#### PRAISE

That the Padim community has received the New Testament with enthusiasm and is using the mother tongue Scripture in church services, Bible studies, and personal devotions.

#### PRAY

For wisdom and perseverance for translators as they seek to complete the full Bible in this project phase.



## Monday

#### PRAY FOR UPCOMING REVIEW OF OLD TESTAMENT

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

— Psalm 119:105 (ESV)

### **Church Leaders Praise Updated Translation**

The Malayalam [MAH–LAH–YAH'–LAHM] team reports that pastors and church members are thrilled to have the updated Malayalam New Testament version, which was finalized and dedicated late last year. Earlier translations drafted more than 2 centuries ago included serious errors and discrepancies, leaving readers confused and disinterested. The new version addresses those challenges by using clear, contemporary language.

Now the team has finished the base translation of the Malayalam Old Testament and is waiting for Bible scholars to review their work.

#### PRAISE

For the updated Malayalam New Testament and the completion of the base translation of the Old Testament.

#### PRAY

For those reviewing the base translation, that God would equip them with wisdom and that their review would be accurate and precise.



## Pray Now

Staff members from translation partner NLCI have been troubled by authorities related to an Oral Bible Translation training event. Pray that authorities would lose interest in these activities and that their memories would be short.



## 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)

### "Butu's Heart"

Throughout one South Asian country, many people recall growing up with an illustrated gospel booklet in their homes. In the northern region, the booklet was called "Raja's Heart," and in the southern region, "Thampy's Heart." It contains Scripture verses and an engaging narrative about how God's Word cleanses a sinful heart.

The Olgam translation team recently completed their New Testament, and while waiting for it to be printed, they've published and distributed this booklet in Olgam. It's now titled "Butu's Heart." They're praying its message will whet their people's appetites for the New Testament. The team leader says it's already "proving to be quite effective."

#### PRAY

That "Butu's Heart" will stir a longing among Olgam speakers to know more about God's Word, resulting in greater engagement when the New Testament arrives.



### Pray Now

For partner organization IEM as they work to meet new requirements and regain their FCRA registration. Without it, normal operations remain restricted, and IEM must rely heavily on local sources for funding. While active projects are making progress, IEM faces several challenges due to restrictions that prevent them from receiving funds from Seed Company. This has also affected the approval process for transitioning a couple of projects. Please pray for timely provision, wisdom, and encouragement for the team as they navigate this season.



## Wednesday

#### TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: TUBHALU LANGUAGE

On the morning of the third day, thunder roared and lightning flashed, and a dense cloud came down on the mountain. There was a long, loud blast from a ram's horn, and all the people trembled. Moses led them out from the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.

— Exodus 19:16–17 (NLT)

ಮೂಜನೇ ದಿನೊಟ್ಟು ಪೊರ್ತು ಮೂಡುನಗ ಗುಡ್ಡೆದ ಮಿತ್ತ್ ತೆಡಿಲ್, ಮಿಂಚೆ, ಕಪ್ಪು ಮುಗಲ್ ಅತ್ತಂದೆ ಬಾರೀ ಜೋರುದ ಕೊಂಬು ಉರಿಪುನ ಮಲ್ಲ ಸ್ವರ ಆನಗ ಜನೊಕ್ಕುಲು ಮಾತೆರ್ ಪೋಡಿದ್ ಕುಂಬರಿಯೆರ್. ಅಪಗ ಮೇಶೆ ದೇವೆರೆ ದರ್ಶನೊಗಾದ್ ಜನೊಕ್ಕುಲೆನ್ ಲೆಪ್ಪುನಗ, ಅಕುಲು ಗುಡ್ಡೆದ ಮುದೆಲ್ಗ್ ಪೋದು ಉಂತೊಂಡೆರ್. — Exodus 19:16–17 (Tubhalu)

On the third day when it was sunrise, on the mountain there was thunder, lightning, black cloud besides that a very loud trumpet blast when that happened people all feared and trembled. So Moses brought to meet God, when he called the people, they to mountain's base went and stood.

— Exodus 19:16–17 (translated back into English from Tubhalu)



#### PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT The Tubhalu Old Testament

Tubhalu speakers who await the Old Testament in their language are sharing stories about their New Testament's impact.

One elderly lady has been reading the New Testament daily. When her son noticed, he became curious and started reading it himself. Now both are expressing joy in what they have found in Scripture!

A retired pastor says that he enjoys spending his last earthly days reading the cherished Scriptures about His Savior in Tubhalu.

Another pastor is putting himself at great risk in his country by distributing New Testaments to Tubhalu speakers.

Team members hope to complete the Old Testament in the next 6 years.

#### PRAY

- For the health and strength of translators to finish the Old Testament.
- For the salvation of almost 2 million Tubhalu speakers who have yet to hear the gospel.



## 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)

### Advanced Training for Consultants

Last Command Initiative (LCI), a group of 20 Bible translation organizations in a large South Asian country, is continuing collaborative efforts to complete 43 full Bibles in languages with populations greater than 500,000 by 2033. They recognized the need to provide advanced training in Old Testament quality assurance checking and developed a 3-year program with 6 training workshops.

A 25-member cohort is gearing up to begin this internship program. Most of the interns are already certified consultants serving with various Bible translation organizations. They will be trained in genres such as legal text, narratives, poetry, wisdom literature, and prophetic and apocalyptic literature.

#### PRAY

- That the project's logistical arrangements will fall into place soon to launch the first workshop in May.
- That the spirit of collaboration will continue and that the training will equip the consultants to effectively support teams throughout the country.



## Pray Now

Pray for the New Shoots Cluster teams as they begin translating Old Testament books into four languages and continue distributing New Testaments that were dedicated in February in their communities. The teams also ask for prayer for their country, which is experiencing political unrest and instability.



## Friday

#### IMPACT STORY

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

### Deaf Talks: Reaching Hundreds of Thousands

<u>Deaf Talks</u> is a dynamic platform that lovingly offers hope, information, and connection to the Deaf through videos. It reaches more than 250,000 people every month and has released over 1,300 sign language videos.

It's more than just a <u>YouTube channel</u>, however. It bridges the communication gap between Deaf and hearing communities, whose social networks often exclude the Deaf.

From live election coverage to travel vlogs, from mental health campaigns to community training programs, the impact has been tremendous.

Praise God that Deaf Talks is transforming lives and has expanded to Nepal this year.

#### PRAY

That God will continue using Deaf Talks as he did when a suicidal Deaf person watched a video on mental health, and found the strength to choose life again.