

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 | Bibleless | Regional Update | Ministry Partners | Impact Stories | Equipping the Saints | Active Projects |

<u>Pray With Others</u>

Get More Resources



Saturday

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray that our storytellers will be transformed by the Scripture stories they have learned, so that there is meaningful impact in the community. — The Bonkeng team in Cameroon

Thieves recently robbed the office where our team works, taking virtually all our computers and other equipment and even emptying our cloud storage. Pray that the Lord will give us strength to persevere against this blow and make effective changes to our security.

— The Jade Star Sign Language team in Asia

Pray for our new translators, Lupyana and Makrina, as they learn and gain experience in their work. Pray also for church leaders to play a significant role in using Vwanji Scriptures.

— The Vwanji team in Tanzania

Pray for our lead translator, John Afro, who is recovering from a bone transplant in his leg. He was injured in a car accident years ago. Pray for the team as they continue working while he heals.

— The Mbembe-Adun team in Nigeria

Praise God for making it possible to conduct evangelism activities in Borana and the surrounding synod.

— The Borana team in Ethiopia



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 over the last few years, decreasing the number of languages waiting to be engaged from 200+ to fewer than 40 today.

Challenges in the region 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 Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

| People | Languages | | |
|--------|-----------|--|--|
| 76,911 | 18 | | |

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. May 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

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)

The Southern Grebo Need Scripture

The Southern Grebo are a large, predominantly Christian people group in Liberia. Though 75% of the population affiliates with local church denominations, the Southern Grebo have no translated Scripture in their language. Churchgoers rely on interpreters who are often doctrinally biased and inaccurate in their translation, making it difficult to understand God's Word and apply it to their daily lives.

The Bible Society of Liberia wants to begin a Bible translation project among this people group. To accelerate the translation process, they are considering the use of a neighboring language as a source text for adapting the Scriptures into Southern Grebo.

PRAY

That God will raise up skilled Southern Grebo translators and provide the necessary resources for a thriving Bible translation project.



Monday

REGIONAL UPDATE Nigerian Pidgin English Bible Dedication

After 13 years of steadfast effort and faith, people are thanking God for the dedication of the Nigerian Pidgin English Bible on April 12. This achievement is a testimony to God's faithfulness and the perseverance of many who prayed, translated, typeset, and shared the vision.

Now, for the first time, millions who speak Nigerian Pidgin can encounter God's Word in the language that speaks to their hearts.

The excitement in Nigeria is palpable as 15,000 copies are being distributed, opening the Scriptures to even broader communities and nurturing spiritual growth. It's a powerful sign that the number of Bibleless languages is dropping toward zero in Nigeria.

PRAISE

That the translation is already among the top downloaded versions on the YouVersion app, demonstrating a deep hunger for God's Word.



Pray that the newly dedicated Nigerian Pidgin Bible will reach and deeply impact millions of people across Nigeria and beyond who communicate in that language. Ask God to ignite faith and unity as churches and communities embrace Scripture. Pray that this translation fosters spiritual growth and brings hope, moving the world closer to a future where everyone can hear God speaking in their heart language.



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)

LIST: Unlocking Languages, Unlocking Lives

Bible translation partner LIST (Luke Initiative for Scripture Translation), located in Jos, Nigeria, recently celebrated their 10th anniversary. They often work with minority language groups in Nigeria who have no Bible in their heart language. The organization printed their first magazine in March called *Unlocking Languages, Unlocking Lives*.

Under new <u>leadership</u> and working with Growth Partners for a few years, LIST's board and staff have demonstrated a desire to grow and become more effective in implementing their vision: "Impact lives for Christ by translating the Scripture and Scripture-based materials with the Nigerian Church." *(See next page for prayer requests.)*



We praise God for LIST's partnership *(see opposite page)* and for the three dedications of their projects in recent months for the Dadiya, Kamo, and Etkywan New Testaments. Pray for LIST's translators, that they would continue to grow spiritually with a deepened faith and reliance on God, and for safety and peace for language communities victimized by bandits and other violent groups.



Wednesday

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: ZARANDA* LANGUAGE

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. — James 1:5–6 (NLT)

In gonwakən a hwol ma'ulən u, an ngyem Lya, mul bəlti nə toh kə zoki, bənə la'ti biwai, Lya nən bətlti. Amma an gyemi nə la'ti mbadli, bənə cetl mbadlwai, gaki mul cetl mbadli kənə lakumi kəge' balmal kən siɗa, ginə etəl də katti u, a də jakənti — Yakubu 1:5–6 (Zaranda)

If any of you lack wisdom, ask God, who gives with a pure hand, without finding any fault. God will give it to him. But ask God, lean on God without doubt like a wave from the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

— James 1:5–6 (translated back into English from Zaranda)

*The Zaranda language is part of the Bu Project in Nigeria.



IMPACT STORY

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

Literacy Classes Alter Course of Theresah's Life

When Tuwuli speaker Theresah first joined the translation team's literacy classes, she was shy and struggled with low self-esteem because she couldn't read or write. But soon, she learned to write her name and short sentences. Her reading skills progressed to the point where she became a Scripture reader at her church.

In time, Theresah participated in a literacy training program and became a teacher. She started helping people in her community with various writing tasks and committed to helping as many children as possible learn to read and write. Eventually, she joined the translation review committee and started growing in her relationship with Jesus through deeper engagement in Scripture. She is thankful to have God's Word in her language.

PRAISE

For God's work in Theresah's life, drawing her to Himself and equipping her to serve her community with joy and confidence.

PRAY

For the Tuwuli translators as they work hard to complete the full Bible in their language.



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)

Partners Benefit from a Board Development Workshop

The Nigeria Evangelical Mission Association (NEMA) partnered with Seed Company April 15–16 to host its first Board Development Workshop. The successful event brought together 20 board members from 6 Bible translation organizations across Nigeria, creating a shared space for growth, reflection, and strategic equipping.

"This workshop was an eye-opener," one participant said. "I now understand the spiritual weight of my role as a board member and how I can serve more effectively." Another said, "The biblical foundation for leadership has reoriented my thinking. We are stewards, not just decision-makers."

PRAY

- For grace, clarity, and effectiveness as NEMA follows up with each organization to provide coaching and support.
- That the training will bear fruit with long term impact.



When a Language Program Manager Cohort began in May 2023, the 11 Bible translation organizations operated independently with minimal interaction. Praise God that these organizations have built lasting relationships over the past 2 years that have led to collaboration with Bible translation work. Pray that all 13 interns finish well as they approach the conclusion of the internship this September.



Friday

PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT Gumbasi Cluster Project: Losing Everything to Gain Christ

The four Gumbasi Cluster project teams—Gus [GAH'-UHS], Kariya [KAH–REE'–YAH], Mburku [MM–BER'–KOO], and Siri [SEER'–EE]—have transitioned from producing oral Bible stories to orally translating full Bible books. The teams have made great strides in providing their communities with God's Word and fostering faith and unity amid difficult circumstances.

The conversion story of Gambo and his family (see photo, next page) has had a profound effect on the local Siri community. Having been devout Muslims, Gambo's decision was courageous and brought substantial challenges. The Muslim ruler in their area retaliated by taking away his house, farmland, and land. Nevertheless, Gambo has remained steadfast, saying that following Jesus is more important to him than all the material possessions he lost.

PRAY

For Gambo's family, that their resilience and commitment to Jesus in the face of persecution will inspire other Siri speakers and demonstrate the power of hearing Scripture in one's own language.



Praise God for the impact that oral Bible translation is having among the four people groups of the Gumbasi Cluster. Some members of the Siri, Mburka, Kariya, and Gus language groups are turning to Christ after hearing God's Word in their language for the first time and remaining strong in their new faith—even in the face of persecution, *(see story, opposite page).* Pray that many more will follow Christ after hearing Mark, Luke, and Acts in their heart language.