

# 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	Project Update	Impact Stories

Pray With Others

Get More Resources



## Saturday

#### PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray that our translations of Genesis and Psalms will be successfully audio recorded, and for our work as we draft Proverbs and check it with an advisor. Pray also that many Shatikha speakers will tune in and respond to the gospel messages that are being broadcast.

— The Shatikha team in Mainland Asia

Our team is mourning the loss of Elder Duo, a dedicated translation advisor who served with the team from the very beginning of our project. We remember him as kindhearted and deeply passionate about Oral Bible Translation work. Pray for the comfort of his wife and six children, and that the Lord will provide another person to fill his role.

— The Pidgin-Gbii Cluster team in Liberia

Praise God for the success of the Dangbe-French transition pilot classes, which have made it possible for us to validate the transition guide we developed. We believe the program will lay the foundation for a transcribed version of audio recordings that will soon be available. Also, pray that the supply of electricity in our area will be stabilized so our work is not hampered. — The Dangbe team in Togo

Pray that Scripture engagement and impact in our community will continue. Praise God that we have finished audio recording the New Testament and the final audio editing for Mark.

— The Kobas team in Islands Asia



## 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** 

### Relationships and Networking Lead to Bible Translations

In 2011, work began to bring translated Scripture to 16 important language communities in the largest state in the largest country in South Asia, where very few people follow Jesus.

The Janrath project had few translation goals, per se, but built relationships and networks to facilitate Bible translation and church planting.

The Rashawadi <u>Cluster</u> project grew out of that initiative. Beginning with "foothold goals," it bore fruit as small gatherings came to be formed in these unreached areas. Evangelists and disciple makers were empowered as they received Scripture in their mother tongues.

New Testament translations are finished in four languages. Today translators are using artificial intelligence tools to accelerate carefully-checked work on Old Testament books.

#### PRAY

That these communities will complete this critical stage of completing the Old Testament despite many challenges.



## 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)

### AI Fuels Adaptation of Translation from Branchu To Branchare Language

For many years, it was hoped that 19,000 Branchare speakers would be able to access Scriptures in the Branchu language—a full Branchu Bible was published in 2023. Language differences, however, have proven to be a significant barrier.

Persistent appeals from local church leaders for Scriptures in Branchare have paid dividends. Last October, a small team was trained to adapt the translation from Branchu into Branchare. After 6 weeks, Seed Company experimented to see if artificial intelligence (AI) could assist in this kind of adaptation project. The first-of-its-kind Al/adaptation experiment has been an unequivocal success: 8 months in, the team has completed 55% of the entire New Testament, and the local church is thrilled.

#### PRAY

That Branchare speakers will soon have access to Scripture in their own language.



The Hydakini community currently has no Scripture in their language. Thankfully, this is changing as a translation project is underway. However, the project has only one full-time translator. Pray she will have strength, wisdom, and protection while working in a sensitive Muslim-majority context. Ask the Lord to provide trustworthy teammates and pray that translation efforts will open doors to share the good news of Jesus with Hydakini speakers.



## 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)

### Oral Bible Storytellers Receive a Meaningful Training Experience

The Assembly of God church provides important training for SinTam Cluster project storytellers. This Oral Bible Storytelling project serves two different language groups. The initial phase of the project was the first organized attempt to use oral Bible stories to reach out to the "unchurched" people of both communities.

In a training April 29–May 2, devotions and sessions on how to internalize the meaning of stories focused on the stories of the first Passover, Jethro's advice, the Ten Commandments, and the rebellion of Miriam and Aaron.

It was a deeply impactful time where storytellers and trainers felt comfortable opening their hearts and sharing personal matters they had not disclosed before. As a result, many lives were transformed, and participants returned with deep conviction.

#### PRAY

That storytellers will apply what they have learned and many lives will be changed by the Bible stories they share.



We prayed for the Bibleless <u>Thako community in 2024</u>. Thako was 1 of 3 languages in the Tamna Cluster project launched in 2024. The other two languages are moving forward with translation, but there is still no Thako team. Efforts to bring heart language Scripture to this community are languishing without translators and other necessary personnel. Please ask the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers so that the Thako may begin translation of His Word into their language.



## Wednesday

#### TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE: TRICAL LANGUAGE

For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. — Romans 3:20 (NLT)

Kerongnalni mote tongkhlaise Kaitor borognw raidia hinwi yachaknw omoya, matwr kerongnalni bisingtwi borog sakni sumsokni kothoyw chetwn manw. — Romans 3:20 (Trical)

It is not that God will accept people as righteous if they obey the law, but through the law people get consciousness of their sins. — Romans 3:20 (translated back into English from Trical)



#### PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

#### Quiet Sacrifice Furthers Team's Progress

When the Mudi church community gathered to review the translation of 1–2 Thessalonians, 1–2 Timothy, and Titus, Susmita, the wife of a local church leader, quietly made a remarkable sacrifice. She paid others to take care of her cows and goats for 2 days, giving up her income so she could cook and serve meals to the review team. Her service created a welcoming environment, allowing the team to focus fully on their work.

Local believers aren't just participating in this project—they are investing! Mudi churches contributed 40% of the review program's total cost. One church gave an additional \$40, a huge sum from a congregation with few material resources.

#### PRAY

- For the success of the Mudi team as they translate several New Testament books.
- For the believers in the Mudi community, that they will use these Scriptures and grow deeper in their faith.



## Thursday

#### PROJECT UPDATE

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)

### Bamboo Terraces Adopts AI-Assisted Drafting

We previously prayed in 2023 for the <u>Bamboo Terraces</u> project, which now consists of 10 languages. One people group has already received their New Testament, and the rest will dedicate theirs in the next 6 to 8 months. Translators are eager to work on the Old Testament.

The partner, IEM, wants to use artificial intelligence (AI) assisted drafting to accelerate translation in the next phase. Key team coordinators will participate in an AI training workshop in August.

The potential to complete the Old Testament in a shorter time frame is significant in this country, which is increasingly opposed to Christian activities.

#### PRAISE

For the successful completion of 10 New Testaments and their widespread use.

#### PRAY

That team members will quickly learn and navigate the shift in how AI-assisted projects operate.



The 5 languages of the Rhododendron Cluster from the mountains of South Asia are nearing completion of both print and audio New Testaments. While 2 print dedications have occurred, 3 remaining languages hope to print and dedicate their printed New Testaments in the next 3 months. Audio recordings, in partnership with Faith Comes by Hearing, have just finished for 1 of the languages. Pray for recordings in the other 4 languages.



## Friday

#### IMPACT STORY

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

#### Parents' Surprise Turns to Delight

Though Vita speaker Mary was an active member of her church youth group and the choir, her parents were surprised when the church elders invited her to join the Bible translation team as a translator. They assumed this role required significant theological training, which she didn't have. The elders assured them that Mary would receive the training she needed to do her work, so they agreed to let her join.

Last month, when Mary brought the first few chapters of Genesis translated into Vita home to her family, they were amazed. They were delighted to discover they could read the text, and they appreciated Mary's explanations. Her involvement in the exegetical checking process has enabled her to become an avid student of Scripture.

#### PRAY

That Mary and the other translation team members will continue growing in their skills and produce high-quality renderings of God's Word.



Please pray for wisdom, courage, and safety for believers throughout South Asia—especially those living in areas hostile to the gospel. Some have been forced to move great distances to avoid persecution and protect their families. One member of a partner organization moved his family after his son, the only Christian in his class at school, was falsely accused of not supporting their nation, simply because he was a believer.