

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 Journey to Zero

Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for Bible translation each day of the week.

Find More Resources:

prayforzero.com

REGION NAME

The Anglophone West Africa region includes Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia—countries where English serves as a shared trade language. Though communities continue to face social instability, economic hardship, and, in some areas, persecution, the region is marked by strong unity and exceptional local leadership. Ministries bring diverse strengths, fueling rapid growth in Bible translation—especially in Nigeria—and sustained investment in language research. Together, these efforts are moving the region closer to the day when every people group has access to all of God’s Word in the language they understand best.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

Languages	Population
17	52,820

Pray for Those without the full Bible

Population
65.6 M

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. March 2026.

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.

SCRIPTURE

“I am praying to you because I know you will answer, O God.”

Psalm 17:6

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Please continue to pray earnestly for our translation teams and field partners living in the Middle East and North Africa who are impacted by weeks of significant unrest. Many individuals have been affected physically and/or emotionally. Please pray for their perseverance and protection under daily duress. Pray for the strength and peace that comes only from God. May the faithful prayers of their Christian sisters and brothers around the world strengthen and encourage them!

— **Language teams and partners in the Middle East and North Africa**

Praise God that our team completed checking Luke 3–6 with a consultant. Pray for our preparations to share the orthography with the community and that they will be helpful in making any refinements.

— **The Dabenyu language team in Islands Asia**

Pray for a global translation leader who is working with an oral Bible translation project. She suffers from recurring migraines and is the primary caregiver for her aging parents.

— **A Bible translation global translation leader in Eurasia**

Praise God for the impact of the oral translation of the Old Testament in Ekoti. Many in the community cannot read, but with the audio recordings, “even those who can read feel that when they hear the Bible in Ekoti, the message becomes deeper and clearer,” one speaker says. “This ongoing work shows that God cares about the Ekoti people and wants to speak to us in the language of our hearts.”

— **The Ekoti language team in Mozambique**

REGIONAL UPDATE

Advancing the Prayer Movement in Africa

In recent years, leaders from Nigeria and neighboring countries have been increasingly gathering to pray with a clear purpose for Bible translation.

At a Pray for Zero Africa event several months ago in Abuja, pastors and ministry leaders from many organizations met, listened, and asked how their churches could carry bibleless communities before God together (listen to one of the Pray For Zero Africa Summit sessions [here](#)). From conversations like these, new regional prayer networks are forming.

Some networks are small: a few pastors setting aside a weekly time to pray for specific language communities by name. Others link dozens of churches that share updates and take turns leading online sessions.

These meetings are rarely polished. They often happen in borrowed spaces or on patchy internet. Yet every new network means more believers learning names, more pastors carrying translators in prayer, and more churches treating Scripture in every language as part of their own calling!

PRAISE

- For pastors and ministry leaders across Anglophone West Africa who are treating prayer for Bible translation as central, not optional.
- For new regional prayer networks that are forming, linking churches and leaders across countries to carry bibleless communities before Him together.

PRAY

- That regional prayer networks will grow in depth and consistency, even when they meet in borrowed spaces or over unreliable internet.
- That as more believers learn the names of specific language communities, God will move them to sustained intercession and practical support for translators and local churches.

IMPACT STORY

God's Word Comes Alive in Gikyode [GIH-CHOH'-DEE]

In the Gikyode-speaking communities around Nkwanta, Ghana, the New Testament in Gikyode is beginning to make a meaningful difference in the lives of believers as it becomes available. For many people, hearing and reading Scripture in the language of their heart has brought a new level of clarity and connection to God's Word.

Local churches have embraced the translated Scriptures with enthusiasm! Pastors and church leaders are increasingly incorporating the Gikyode New Testament into their preaching and teaching. As a result, congregations better understand biblical truths and apply them in their daily lives.

Church members are also using translated Scriptures in their personal devotional times, allowing them to reflect more deeply on God's message in a language that feels familiar and personal.

The impact of the translated Scripture is also reaching young people beyond the churches. To help encourage Scripture engagement among students, the Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy & Bible Translation purchased and donated 350 copies of the Gikyode New Testament to three senior high schools in Nkwanta. This generous distribution has opened the door for many students to read the Bible in their own language, some for the very first time.

Teachers and school leaders welcomed the donation and expressed appreciation for providing a resource that strengthens both spiritual growth and cultural identity. Students now have the opportunity to encounter Scripture in a way that is accessible and meaningful to them.

PRAISE

- That portions and completed books of Scripture have become available throughout the community, where they have become accepted and meaningful to people of all ages.
- That the impact of the Gikyode Scriptures is felt deeply among believers in both congregational gatherings and personal devotions.

PRAY

- For ongoing distribution, engagement, and impact of Scripture among Gikyode speakers.
- For continual peace and conflict resolution in the Gikyode communities.

PRAY NOW

Violence Continues in Nigeria

Pray for God's protection over communities in Nigeria that live with the constant threat of raids, kidnapping, and unrest. Ask the Lord to give discernment and courage to local leaders, pastors, and translation teams as they decide when to travel, when to stay, and how to care well for their families. Pray also that those who perpetrate violence would be confronted by the truth of the gospel and changed, so that real peace and justice can take root in these regions.

SCRIPTURE

“Let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God.”

Hebrews 4:16

FIELD PARTNERS

Bible Society of Nigeria Celebrates 60 Years

In early February, the Bible Society of Nigeria (BSN) celebrated 60 years of making the Bible available to Nigerians. The week-long event featured an exhibition that included 27 Bibles translated into Nigerian languages, 2 handwritten Bibles, a legacy Bible weighing 15.4 kg in 5 languages, and more.

BSN has been partnering with Seed Company since 2019 on sign language translation. During the celebration, BSN dedicated a second studio at the Deaf Translation Center in Ibadan. This should accelerate Nigerian Sign Language translation efforts.

BSN General Secretary/CEO Pastor Samuel Sanusi said one of BSN's greatest achievements was helping the Nigerian Deaf to access God's Word through 222 chronological Bible stories in Nigerian Sign Language. And Pastor Poju Oyemade, a guest speaker, observed that BSN's Bible translation work was among the "most impactful evangelism efforts in the country."

PRAISE

- For the work of BSN, the dedication of the sign language studio, and their commitment to helping the Deaf in their nation.

- For God's faithfulness to BSN for 60 years.

PRAY

- For upcoming meetings related to Deaf Bible translation.
- That many churches and Christians would join BSN and other Seed Company partners in the work of Bible translation.

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE

Kulung [KOO–LOONG] Language of Nigeria

“Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

— Luke 10:36-37 (NLT)

A gabe yo, ni me a mii bamburum bani tarum mu I dɔbe ba kuni bra mu ba ngyibi kumni? Ki yi dɛbe ma, <<Bwamu taa ni bi gabɔr.>> Ki Yeso na bi ma, <<Kyɛnɛ ka pag nue ri.>>

— Luke 10:36-37 (Kulung)

About the Kulung People

Kulung believers long to have a New Testament in their language. That’s especially important since many struggle to understand the region’s 2 most common languages: English and Hausa. Translators are aiming to complete the Kulung New Testament sometime next year.

The Kulung are known as excellent carvers—making bows, drums, mortars, and shields. Others produce food through farming, fishing, and hunting.

Known as warriors, the Kulung twice defeated Muslim groups in the 18th century. Today, they remain independent and united but face persecution from terrorist groups in the region.

A New Definition of Neighbor

The Kulung tribe in Nigeria numbers 40,000 strong. Many identify as Christians, but labor to understand preaching in other languages. Translated Scriptures, however, are penetrating their hearts and minds.

The story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10 was shared in a Kulung Bible study. Its title was, “Who is your neighbor?” After the teaching, a man named Istifanus confessed that he was thinking his neighbor was only the person close to him. After hearing the message, he realized that his neighbor is the person who needs his help and care—not just his own tribal people. He went home as a transformed man and promised to be a committed Christian as he grows to love others.

PRAISE

- A new SIL consultant, Dr. Alice Reed, is now helping with the Kulung translation project.
- Translators are on track to complete the Kulung New Testament in 2027.

PRAY

- For peace among 2 nearby warring tribes. The chaos is affecting the translators.
- For health and stamina for the translators as they press forward in their translation tasks.

GLOBAL TRANSLATION LEADER

Multiplying Bible Translation Impact

Global Translation Leader Jerome Waziri's internship has enabled him to multiply the impact of several Bible translation teams in Nigeria. In the last quarter, he trained translators in basic computer skills, enabling them to confidently use Paratext software and efficiently begin translation work. Jerome also led exegetical checking for the Adunu Cluster 2 projects, helping the Ajigha, Ēhua, and Jijili teams prepare 1–2 Timothy and Galatians for consultant checking.

Beyond translation project work, Jerome also serves as a teaching assistant in the Linguistics and Bible Translation Department at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN), helping train more than 40 students in translation theory, exegesis, and practicum. Through both translation leadership and academic training, Jerome is strengthening current projects while also equipping the next generation of Bible translators in West Africa.

PRAISE

- That Jerome recently completed his postgraduate diploma program at TCNN with excellent grades.
- That his young son's recent major surgery was successful, and he has fully recovered.

PRAY

- For Jerome and his family to adjust well as they relocate from their home to be nearer to his seminary studies.
- For Jerome to continue thriving in his role as a teaching assistant while he simultaneously pursues training to become a Bible translation consultant.

SCRIPTURE

“The Lord is close to all who call on him, yes, to all who call on him in truth.”

Psalm 145:18

PRAY NOW

Daily Needs for the People of Nigeria

Pray for an end to the economic instability and lack of opportunities across Nigeria. Due to continued inflation, unstable currency, and unemployment, many people are struggling to make a sufficient living, much less a profitable one. Pray for the Lord to guide the national leaders and grant them wisdom to bring provision to Nigeria.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Oral Scriptures Opening Eyes in Akweya Community

Akweya speaker Bernard says he has never been a church person. But now that there are oral Scriptures in his language, he is open to hearing the Bible stories, as long as they are in his language.

When Mrs. Ene listened to John 1, she felt encouraged as she understood that the light of Christ is shining in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. She was also deeply moved to hear that all who believe in Jesus are given “the right to become children of God.”

Akweya Scriptures have also been inspiring local pastors. Pastor Abah Emmanuel said that the translated passages he’s been hearing have been mind-blowing for him and have made his ministry work so much easier. Pastor Okopi Gabriel expressed gratitude for the people who are doing the translation work and rejoiced that this work has taken place in his lifetime. He says the translated Scriptures he’s listened to so far have blessed him and have given him greater enthusiasm for his ministry.

PRAISE

- For the steady translation progress the Akweya team is making under the management of field partner Spoken Worldwide.
- For Akweya speakers' positive responses to translated Scriptures.

PRAY

- That the Lord will protect the translators and Akweya communities from the attacks of bandits and Fulani herders.
- That local churches will partner with the team to facilitate listening groups and commit to using translated Scriptures in their ministries.

IMPACT STORY

Scripture Stirs Bedridden Mother

During this past year, an Akurmi translator's mom experienced a decline in health to the point where she became bedridden. Around that time, the translator brought some newly translated Scriptures home to use with his family for their daily devotions.

One morning, when the family gathered for their devotions, the Lord turned their time into a memorable moment. They started with reading Colossians 4:2–6, then discussed how they could build their faith through prayer, Bible reading, and meditating on the Word of God.

The translator's mother had been lying on her bed in her room, unable to get up by herself for several months. "To our great surprise," the translator describes, "she got up from her bed and joined us. After the devotion time, we asked her what had happened and how she was able to get up by herself. She said she was thrilled to hear the devotion in her own language and felt eager to hear more."

The translator concludes, "For many more months, we continued to have our morning devotions in Akurmi with her, until the Lord finally called her to rest. We are hoping that, as the printed copies will soon be in circulation, more testimonies from local communities will be received."

PRAISE

- For a faithful team of Akurmi translators and a consistent, helpful consultant to guide them.
- That the Akurmi project is on track to finish the complete New Testament in 2029, and that the current translated Scriptures are already being used regularly.

PRAY

- That the translators can continue their work despite recent attacks against local believers, which is sadly too common in Nigeria.
- Pray for the right people and facilities to produce audio recordings of the translated Scriptures.

SCRIPTURE

“Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.”

Romans 12:12 (NLT)

Dear Father,

We rejoice in hope as we praise You for the progress in this region; the transformed hearts, the spread of Your Word, and the partnerships You’ve sustained. We pray that our brothers and sisters in this region would remain patient under trial and trust You for continued growth and true life change that leads to peace and justice.