

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 guide to pray strategically and effectively for the work of Bible translation around the world.

Find More Resources:

prayforzero.com

MAINLAND ASIA

Mainland Asia is home to millions who have never read a single verse of Scripture in their heart language. In this vast region, the need for Bible translation is immense—and the challenges are real. Governments can be unstable or hostile, and translators often work quietly, facing constant risk. Yet God is moving. New projects are beginning, and courageous believers are stepping forward to serve. Pray boldly for 20 new translation projects to launch in the coming years. Ask God to strengthen and protect those who labor in secret so that every person in Mainland Asia can one day experience His Word in a language they understand.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

Languages	Population
145	22,497,605

Pray for Those without the full Bible

Population
197.9 million

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. June 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

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.”

Matthew 6:9–13 (NIV)

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray that Isaac, who is our lead translator, will be able to recover his sight. The retina in his left eye has detached, and his right eye has been blind since childhood. Pray that God provides an effective option to restore his vision.

— **The Zabana team in the Solomon Islands**

Pray for a husband-wife team who are translation advisers. Instead of conducting a current orthography training together, the husband is doing so alone while his wife is home with their newborn. Pray that God will meet their every need during this season.

— **A developing project in Mainland Asia**

Praise God that we were able to accomplish all our translation goals, despite fears, insecurity, and difficulties with electricity and internet connection. Pray for continued good health and safety for our families and us.

— **A language team in Asia**

Pray for our lead translator, Pastor Davi, and his daughter, Carla. Carla's newborn daughter, who had been diagnosed with Down syndrome, died shortly after the baby underwent heart surgery. The baby was Pastor Davi's first grandchild, and her loss is felt throughout the village.

— **A language team in Brazil**

PROJECT UPDATE

Connecting with Rakali Scriptures

For many years, spiritual growth among Rakali Christians was stunted by a lack of Scripture in their language. Professing believers struggled to grasp the sufficiency of God’s grace for salvation. Praise God, that has changed!

One woman told team members that reading the Rakali Bible feels like all the verses speak directly to her—clear, natural, and easy to understand. A pastor told the team that he doesn’t understand the meaning of the Bible in his national language, but the Rakali Bible is “very clear ... even like a commentary” to him.

One elderly woman used a Proclaimer device to listen to the audio recording of the Bible. She listened every day, her family says, right up to the time she died. She’d said that she felt God’s love by listening to His Word, so that she had peace as she neared death. One of the woman’s children took comfort in knowing that her mother believed in Jesus Christ by hearing Rakali Scripture on the Proclaimer.

PRAISE

- That local translators are connecting with the translated Scriptures and learning about being patient and kind to their families.
- That the team reports feeling close to God as they translate, leading them to really enjoy their work. Praise God for His nearness!

PRAY

- For Mr. M, a translator who was forced to relocate to a different state. Pray that his new home will provide peace and safety.
- For continued improvement for a translator who is suffering from a health issue.
- Pray for the team as they work to complete the translation of the Old Testament. In recent months, speakers from other communities have visited to encourage the team. Praise God for their encouragement and prayers, which are strengthening the team to continue the work.

IMPACT STORY

Ekisa Community Plays a Key Role

Feedback from the community helps Ekisa team members create the most understandable translation possible. In recent months, they have learned valuable insights from 3 testing sessions as they work to add more New Testament books to the handful they've already completed.

At times, they noticed gaps between their intended meaning and what readers understood. For instance, some people did not grasp the phrase "you are gods" in John 10:34: "It is written in your own Scriptures that God said to certain leaders of the people, 'I say, you are gods!'" (NLT)

However, people resonated deeply with other translated passages. One successful example is John 12:2, where they describe Jesus and the disciples being "at the table." They used the Ekisa word "y aw," which describes the gathering and preparation involved in sharing a meal. When the community heard this new version, they were thrilled, saying, "That's really good! That's the best!"

Another person shared how encouraged he was by John 14:18. He said that hearing the words "It is not true that I will abandon you like orphans" truly touched his heart.

Villagers say they don't fully understand the Bible's message when they read it in the national language or related dialects. Their urgent request is, "Publish the Ekisa Bible quickly!"

PRAISE

- That team members persevere to make understandable Scripture available to the Ekisa people.
- That God makes it possible for people to gather and provide feedback that makes the best translation possible.

PRAY

- That the team will complete and distribute the 4 Gospels, and for current work involving audio recording Matthew and Mark.
- For literacy classes that are planned during the upcoming break when schools are closed.
- For peace and safety where the Ekisa people live. Many have left the villages to seek security in the city during a time of unrest. Many need jobs and places to live.

SCRIPTURE

*“O Lord, please hear my prayer!
Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honoring you.”*

Nehemiah 1:11 (NLT)

PRAY NOW

Consequences when ATM Transactions are Blocked

Pray for projects in a country where partners cannot receive funds directly from Seed Company. A workaround was established involving the use of ATM cards to draw funds from a bank in another country. However, in the past few years, the larger, frequent withdrawals caused banks to block them. The projects continued with visitors hand-carrying money into the country, but in recent months, an airline forced a suitcase to be checked, and the funds were stolen. Our partners' registration as a Religious Organization within the country shows promise as a new, long-term solution. So far, funds sent to their account have arrived. Please pray that God will continue to protect both the project teams and access to the funds the projects require.

FIELD PARTNERS

Hope for the Himalayas

Field partner Beautiful Feet Ministries recently changed their name to Rewa Himalaya. “Rewa” means “hope” in the regional languages. They believe translated Scriptures are bringing hope to the Himalayas. Their founding is a direct result of the Imola project, which produced the New Testament 30 years ago. Now the Imola team has almost completed the Old Testament.

Rewa Himalaya manages 4 cluster projects involving 12 languages. They’re discussing a 5th project that will add 3 more languages from the country’s far west side. With these three new languages, Seed Company would be funding 4 projects, representing 12 of the 15 languages the partner manages.

Rewa Himalaya projects employ Scripture engagement staff members who take consultant checked Scriptures into their communities by distributing audio players to listening groups. People are responding positively, saying that the audio players have become their friends as they work while listening to God’s Word.

PRAY

- For the Gharok Cluster project, as it transitions from a storytelling project to a Bible translation project.
- For 3 languages in the western region of the country, that early engagement conversations and surveys will help gauge Bible translation needs and next steps toward starting a project.

PROJECT UPDATE

Translators Persevere Despite Challenges

The 4 SUD [Cluster](#) language teams are making progress towards their goals of orally translating select passages from the Old and New Testaments and distributing them in audio format to their communities. They believe the oral Scriptures will give people a broader and deeper look at Jesus' love for them.

Unfortunately, significant disruptions, including severe fuel shortages, have restricted translators' meeting schedules and frequently prevented 1 translation advisor from traveling to work. Despite these challenges, teams are working remotely, carrying out checking and review activities in villages where possible. Still, the disruptions are jeopardizing the teams' ability to stay on schedule.

In more positive news, Mr. B from the Yah team has faithfully shared God's Word with his community. Through his testimony and the impact of the oral Scriptures, 2 Yah families have come to faith in Christ! Mr. B is now helping relatives in another village to explore the possibility of starting a new fellowship there. Other team members are visiting communities, strengthening believers, and sharing the gospel through the oral Bible in their heart languages.

PRAISE

- That translators are becoming increasingly familiar with the oral Bible translation (OBT) process.
- For the successful completion of a third OBT workshop for several groups.

PRAY

- That translators, who are increasingly hearing reports of persecution, will remain courageous. Pray that they will continue to serve their communities faithfully, strengthened by the Lord in all circumstances.
- For translation advisors, who work diligently between workshops, preparing new passages. May the Holy Spirit guide them, helping them to be sensitive to the languages and cultures of the cluster project.
- For wisdom for those planning upcoming team checking and community testing sessions. Pray that there would be no further disruptions like those experienced over the past 2 quarters.

SCRIPTURE

“The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help.”

Psalms 34:17 (NLT)

PRAY NOW

Seeking Consultant to Keep on Schedule

The Samuk 3 project needs our prayer for 2 specific requests. The translation adviser (an American) was diagnosed recently with hepatitis and mononucleosis. She intended to travel and work with the team in May, which was important for keeping the project on schedule, but she had to postpone her travel plans. Separately, the team is trying to find a consultant to check 1 Corinthians, hopefully in September. Please pray that they'll find one soon so they can stay on track in meeting their goals.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Holding Fast to Faith

Displaced by civil war, Nan and her family moved from village to village seeking refuge. They were dependent on the kindness of others. During this time, her father, who had been a faithful pastor, passed away. Some people claimed Nan's trials were a result of following Christ. Because Buddhists monks were helping the family, even Nan's mother encouraged her to turn her back on Christ.

Translation partner Spoken Worldwide provides oral Bible stories where written Scripture is not accessible. Through their work, Nan heard a story from Mark 1:16–20 in which 4 of Jesus' disciples left their families to follow Him. This encouraged her to disregard her family's wishes and continue in ministry, holding fast to the spiritual legacy of her father.

For Ma Ni Ni, the story of Jesus walking on water from Matthew 14:22–33 is particularly uplifting. Family conflicts and persistent health issues seem like navigating turbulent seas to her. "My life feels like Peter walking on water," she says, "starting with faith but sinking when fear takes over." Like Peter, Ma Ni Ni now realizes she will not sink beneath "the waves" of her trials if she keeps her eyes on Jesus.

PRAISE

For the team's ability to use online tools to conduct community testing and church reviews of the Bible stories.

PRAY

- That God would provide fuel for generators to use during frequent power outages.
- For the Holy Spirit's guidance for final recordings of the Gospels of Matthew and John. May every word be captured with clarity and spiritual power.

IMPACT STORY

Project Manager Finds Fertile Soil

In an isolated border region of their country, Lupha speakers have long lived without the light of God's Word. They are influenced by outdated customs and social challenges. Many young Lupha speakers struggle with alcohol use and substance abuse, while the working-age population is frequently intoxicated. People engage in spiritual rituals, fortune telling, and appeasement rites to cope with the physical and spiritual difficulties of life.

But God is working in a special way among these people! When a project manager visited the Lupha team, he was hosted by a translator's family. He shared the gospel message with them, and every member of the family chose to place their faith in Jesus!

The Lupha language is unique, and only God's Word in their mother tongue will ignite and foster genuine faith and enable a local church to be born.

In March, the Lupha team tested their draft of Mark's Gospel with 4 community members. The session sparked many questions, such as "Who is Jesus?" and "How can a person who has been dead for 3 days come back to life?" These questions convinced the team that the draft needs more revisions for natural understanding.

PRAISE

For the seed of faith in Christ sprouting in the Lupha community.

PRAY

- For wisdom and strength as the team carries out their work.
- For protection, as translators are being monitored by local authorities and community members.
- For more team members with typing skills.
- For the team's sensitivity to the community, so that the revised translation will be clear, accurate, and relevant.

PRAY NOW

Oyta Scripture Recordings

The Oyta 4 team is requesting prayers for strength, good coordination, and technical quality throughout the audio recording and editing process. Ask that these recordings of New Testament books will be completed smoothly and used effectively to help many hear and understand God's Word in their own language.

SCRIPTURE

“They should always pray and never give up.”

Luke 18:1 (NLT)