

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

CONGO BASIN

The Congo Basin includes the nations of Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, and Republic of Congo. Praise God that committed, trained local believers & partners are eager for all communities to have access to all of

God's Word in a language they can understand best. Obstacles to their progress include ongoing conflict, economic instability, rebel activity, and corruption.

Pray for Those Still Waiting for Bible Translation to Start

Languages	Population
11	263,530

Pray for Those without the full Bible

Population
18.2 million

Source: ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. August, 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

"Listen closely to my prayer, O Lord; hear my urgent cry. I will call to you whenever I'm in trouble, and you will answer me."

Psalm 86:6–7 (NLT)

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray that our team will find the right time to check translation drafts with a consultant. We avoided the east monsoon season, which shut down travel from June to August, and must now avoid clove-picking season (late October to early November) and west monsoon season (December to February) while still finding openings in the consultant's schedule.

— The Buru team in Indonesia

Praise God that our coordinator's trip to take a new shipment of Banda-Linda New Testaments to the towns of Bangui, Bambari, Ippy, and Bria went well. Pray for members of the Ippy Dedication and Language Committee as they continue to organize mini-dedications in Atongo-Bakari and the surrounding villages.

— The Banda-Linda team in Central African Republic

Pray for God's protection over our community as we live as a minority. We are experiencing increasing religious challenges and growing concerns about potential threats. In addition, rising inflation has made daily life more difficult. We seek God's peace, provision, and protection in these challenging times.

— A Bible translation team in Eurasia

Pray for translator Lauren as she and her team prepare to embark on an outreach trip to Nigeria in October. Praise God that translator Anthony and his wife, reviewer Stefi, were accepted into a program to learn Hebrew. Pray that their relocation to Jerusalem and their completion of the intensive 15-month course will be successful.

— The Kaaps & Psalms that Sing team in South Africa

REGIONAL UPDATE

Building Capacity in the Congo Basin

Seed Company's Congo Basin field operations team and Growth Partners' organizational development team have joined forces to support the capacity building efforts of Bible translation partners in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Local partners are assessing remaining translation needs in their region as they work toward meeting Vision ASAP's (All Scripture, All People) 2040 goal.

A key partner in this collaborative process is Wycliffe Congo, an organization founded in 2019 with a mission to unite Congolese Bible translation organizations. Marius Lokoyo, director of Wycliffe Congo, has met with leaders of both Seed Company teams to discuss first steps towards getting Scripture to impact partners in the DRC as quickly as possible. The impact partners would then translate materials that would be used for Scripture engagement, evangelism, and discipleship purposes.

PRAISE

- Many organizations throughout the DRC have joined Wycliffe Congo and regularly meet via Zoom to discuss Bible translation and remaining need.

PRAY

- Rebel activity and Ebola outbreaks in the DRC have severely limited travel and collaboration in the past 2 years.
- Wycliffe Congo is a small team with a big vision. Pray for strength and safety for their team.

IMPACT STORY

Scripture Restores Broken Marriage

When a husband from the Sonde people group was unfaithful to his wife, she was deeply hurt and ready to divorce him. Then members of the translation team visited their community to test portions of Matthew's Gospel and shared verses from Matthew 19 with the couple.

As they discussed God's sacred design for marriage, both the husband and wife sensed the Holy Spirit softening their hearts. They chose to abandon their plans for divorce and pursue reconciliation instead. They also committed to becoming active members of a local church where they could continue growing in their faith through Scripture in their Sonde language.

PRAISE

- That team members are able to conduct community testing, giving people the opportunity to hear and interact with God's Word in their own language.
- For the life-changing impact of the translated Scriptures as they continue to transform individuals, restore families, and strengthen faith in the community.

PRAY

- That the Lord will provide strength, protection, and wisdom to the team members as they continue serving.
- That nothing will hinder the translators from carrying out the project's planned activities.
- That God will continue using the translated Scriptures to draw people to Christ, transforming many lives, and bringing healing and reconciliation throughout the Sonde community.

SCRIPTURE

"But in my distress I cried out to the Lord; yes, I prayed to my God for help.
He heard me from his sanctuary; my cry to him reached his ears."

Psalm 18:6 (NLT)

PRAY NOW

Ebola in DRC

The Bundibugyo Ebola virus, announced in May 2026, has rapidly spread to affect thousands of people. The outbreak impacts access to health care, education, travel, and the economy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Pray for front-line doctors, nurses, and health workers; the sick and their families; and effective treatment options. Pray for our SIL partner located at the center of the outbreak in Bunia. Pray for protection and guidance for the Nyindu translators and their families, whose plans to return to their home communities have been repeatedly disrupted by regional conflict and the Ebola travel restrictions.

FIELD PARTNERS

Hooray, Stephanie finally made it!

Field partner ACOTBA-SUBO (Association for Bible Translation and Literacy) and translation teams in western Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) had been anticipating a visit from Seed Company's Regional Director Stephanie DeWitt for some time. Travel complications in the area kept preventing her from coming. But she finally made it there in May 2026, along with Field Project Manager Marie Makaya. The administrative staff and team members were able to ask many questions and share their concerns. It was a productive and encouraging time for all involved.

PRAISE

That this visit was finally able to happen and that it was a huge success.

PRAY

That as the Ebola virus spreads throughout the DRC, that the Lord will protect ACOTBA-SUBO staff, the translators, and their families, keeping them all safe.

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE

Yakpa Language of the Congo Banda Cluster 3 Project

Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night.

— Psalm 1:1–2 (NLT)

Tshæræ komɔ næ avɔɔ æne tshe na ná sænæ bale dæ gbitshiri næ ayindi a zu yindæ ævi ne, tshe ka ka gapa áwá næ æ ndje næ ændje wɔɔ tæ ndje tæ Ndjapa né, yeka æne tshe sæ sæ næ bale dæ awoo do ndæ re ne! Akedæ, tshenæ æne tshe yindænæ ætæ dæ kæyisæ æræ næ Agbɔɔɔ; tshe gbi tshurubu dæ dæ arɔ.

— ʔTSHI 1:1–2 (Yakpa)

ABOUT THE YAKBA PEOPLE

As part of the Banda peoples, most Yakba speakers live in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic. Poor communications networks, impassable roads, and dense forests keep them isolated from other parts of their countries. Sadly, many Yakba live in despair, trying to overcome problems linked to widespread poverty, disease, alcoholism, and superstitions.

While most identify as Christians, many rely on African Traditional Religion when they face difficulties. But that is changing! Yakpa speakers responded enthusiastically in recent years when they heard oral Bible stories in their language. As a result, more than 800 surrendered their lives to Christ, and 25 Yakpa churches were started.

Hearing Acts 2:1–8 in Their Language on Pentecost Sunday

The Yakpa-speaking community experienced a special milestone during the celebration of Pentecost this spring. For the first time, they heard the Yakpa account of the Holy Spirit's encounter with Jesus' followers on Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2:1–8. Many expressed joy and requested copies of the translated Scripture so they could read and share it with others. Their response strengthened the Yakpa translation team's commitment to making Scripture available throughout the community, trusting that God's Word will deepen faith and draw more people to Christ.

PRAY

- That God will guide the Yakpa team as they work on Ruth, various Psalms, Jonah, the 4 Gospels, Acts, and Romans.
- That the Yakpa-speaking community will develop a growing desire to read and engage with God's Word in heart language, and that literacy challenges will not prevent lives from being transformed through Scripture.

SCRIPTURE

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

PRAY NOW

Pray for Peace

The Kivira [KEE-VEE'-RAH] and Masanze [MA-SAHN'-ZEH] translation teams request prayer that warring parties in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo will observe a ceasefire to facilitate inclusive dialogue and that God would grant the conditions for lasting peace.

GLOBAL TRANSLATION LEADER

Dr. Joseph Mushunganya

People in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) face many difficulties. Long-running armed conflicts threaten their livelihoods and safety, while this year's Ebola virus outbreak continues to spread.

But even in these conditions, God is shepherding the work of Bible translation through people like Global Translation Leader Dr. Joseph Mushunganya. Working under a linguistics mentor, Dr. Myles Leitch, this gifted musician is analyzing the vowel harmony in Kinyanga, his mother tongue.

This project is almost complete and could result in a scientific publication. It also prepares Joseph to work with Bible translation projects to design and implement writing systems as an Orthography Workshop consultant.

His goal is to become a local linguistic expert for the many languages in eastern DRC, where the needs are immense.

PRAISE

- That God is training Joseph for the vital role of helping to define remaining linguistic needs in eastern DRC.
- That Joseph has persevered in his work and continued to develop his first scientific paper.

PRAY

- For the health and safety of Joseph and his household in this troubled part of the world.
- For his important work of becoming an expert on his own language, and his development as a good consultant.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

One Year of Training Under Their Belt

The Word for the World (TWFTW), an indigenous organization founded in 1979, empowers nationals to translate the Bible for their own people. They desire to complete first-time translation of the entire Bible in 1,000 languages by 2050. In partnership with community and church leaders, TWFTW recruits translators and provides them with training and certification, AI-driven translation tools, linguistic research, and methods of quality assurance.

The Kasenga team in the Democratic Republic of the Congo recently completed their first year of TWFTW's Diploma in Bible Translation training course. The team writes, "This training is important to us because it increases our skills in Bible translation." They will begin the second year soon. After drafting portions of Mark, Luke, and Acts, the team tested it in the community to ensure clarity and naturalness. When relatives of the team heard these portions, they responded by telling the translators how much they are looking forward to receiving the Word of God in their mother tongue.

PRAISE

For the work of the consultant who checked the books of Mark, Luke, and Acts, as well as the translators who inputted corrections.

PRAY

- That God will give the team wisdom and strength to maintain the course toward completion of the entire Bible for the Kasenga people.
- That social-economic conditions will improve in the country so the team and community will experience peace and safety.

IMPACT OR SCRIPTURE USE

Partners Need Trauma Healing, Too

After more than a year of war, trauma is a real factor for people in parts of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). That includes the staff of our partner ATBA (Bible Translation and Literacy Association) in the city of Goma.

Under mounting pressures, they continue to faithfully manage the 3-language Noki Orality Cluster 2, 3-language Sud Kivu Cluster 2, plus another language project.

In June, a Global Translation Leader named Jimmy Ndeshibere, who is also a trauma healing facilitator, led the organization's staff in a retreat. They said that they were strengthened by the way that sharing their difficult experiences and hearing Bible teaching brought them to the cross.

Inspired by this experience, they composed songs about forgiveness. Now they are planning a workshop to translate Scriptures for trauma healing with projects based in Goma.

The women's group at another partner, GALPCDI, works with 3 Seed Company language projects. They engage conflict-affected communities through the Luholo Women's group, which composes and performs stories, skits, and poems based on Bible stories related to trauma healing.

Where God has allowed difficult circumstances, He is also caring for His people and making ways for His work to continue!

PRAISE

That God is faithfully providing protection and healing for Bible translation partners, and even providing the vision for them to become ministers of His healing for others.

PRAY

- For healthy minds, bodies, spirits, and relationships in the midst of enormous pressure due to the conflict, Ebola, and a financial crisis.
- For the translated Scripture, stories, songs, and media to reach the community members who need them despite the logistical challenges.

SCRIPTURE

"Praise his glorious name forever! Let the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen and amen!"

Psalm 72:19 (NLT)

PRAY NOW

The Newest Balobo South Storyteller

Praise God for his love and provision for sister Karen, a storyteller from the Southern Balobo community, and her newborn. After attending a workshop earlier this year, while on the long river journey home with her team, Karen suddenly gave birth in the row boat! Praise God that mother and baby are both healthy and doing well. Praise Him also for the courage and resilience that He gives the many women who are learning to tell His story.