

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

ANGLOPHONE WEST AFRICA

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 here 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	73,320

Pray for Those without the full Bible

Population
65.7 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

"I will fill them with joy in my house of prayer... for my Temple will be called
a house of prayer for all nations."

Isaiah 56:7 (NLT)

PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Pray for communities in Nepal affected by catastrophic flooding. Over a dozen churches have been destroyed or severely affected. The hardest hit community is the Tagar community, who just celebrated their New Testament dedication last year. Pray for the body of Christ as people grieve the loss of pastors and believers. In one church, only the pastor survived.

— A Bible translation team in Nepal

Pray that more people will join our listening groups and be transformed by hearing God's Word.

— A Bible translation team in Southern Africa

Pray for connections with people we contact. Relationships and respect for culture are key. Team members are developing relationships with many people who are not related to each other, of different religions and dialects.

— A Bible translation team in Eurasia

Praise God that many churches opened their doors to receive copies of the Gospel of Mark, reaching 635 people across 6 churches.

— A Bible translation team in the Americas

Please pray for God's provision for our local translators as they continue to live in debt. They asked for themselves, their families and their animals to suffer no lack and stay healthy without any extra financial expenses.

— Bible translation teams in Eurasia

REGIONAL UPDATE

Publishing 3 New Testaments and a Full Bible in Nigeria

With the publication of 3 New Testaments and a full Bible, 4 language groups will soon have more access to Scripture than they've ever had.

Bible translation work for the Mwaghavul [MWAH'-GAH-VOOL] people began more than a century ago. Though translation efforts halted for several decades, the work resumed in the 1980s, and a New Testament was completed in 1991. Translators have now finished the Old Testament, and the Mwaghavul full Bible is set to be dedicated at the end of November! That's great news for the 700,000 people who speak Mwaghavul, and especially for the 90% of whom identify as Christian.

In more good news, printed New Testaments for 3 other language groups—the Ibani, Hohumono, and Yaniku—are in the works. We praise God for the faithfulness of these teams and their dedication to reaching their communities. Together, the population of these 3 language groups is nearly 300,000.

Please join us in celebrating these milestones!

PRAISE

- That each of the teams involved have continued to work closely and diligently with the publication team and printing agencies to see this work done.
- That nearly 1 million people will have access to Scripture in their mother tongue.

PRAY

- For no delays in the printing, transportation, and dedication process.
- For the impact of these printed Scriptures to be seen and felt far and wide in the respective communities

REGIONAL UPDATE

Bible Translation and Banditry

In early July, a well-liked and active member of the Salka community of northern Nigeria was kidnapped by bandits from his home on his farm. No reason. No ransom asked. The partner requested prayer for the safe return of this brother in Christ. A week later, it was learned that he had escaped and was safely home. For how long? Only God knows.

In a Western context, a kidnapping of someone from their home would cause a hue and cry: involvement by local, state, and federal law enforcement, news bulletins, social media blasts, etc. But for this man? The partner mentioned it in a regular weekly call. It didn't merit a separate email. It was normal. Awful, but expected.

Banditry is a normal state of things in many of the communities in northern Nigeria where Bible translation projects are underway. Many quarterly prayer requests include asking for the safe return of those kidnapped, or praise that no one was kidnapped – this quarter.

PRAISE

- For God's ongoing protection of most Bible translation workers operating in northern Nigeria.
- That God can—and will—change the hearts of those bent on evil who repent of their sin and turn their hearts to Him.

PRAY

- For the safety of the men, women, and children who live under the constant cloud of unpredictable violence.

- For those who serve the Lord in translation at their own peril, as well as others who live under the threat of danger.

FIELD PARTNERS

MISTLAND: Mission for Scripture Translation and Language Development

Seed Company partner MISTLAND celebrated their second anniversary on Saturday, July 25, 2026. MISTLAND has more experience than their 2 years would indicate, as they were formed from a Bible translation organization that no longer exists. Executive director Alex Maifarki and language program managers Sani Adamu and Galadima Bitrus grew up as missionary kids. Their parents were a part of a Canadian church-planting team that recruited Nigerian nationals from one tribe to work in another.

A passion for spreading the gospel through God's Word is deeply rooted in the leadership of MISTLAND. They currently manage about 10 Bible translation projects, 7 of which are with Seed Company. One is a first Scripture project, and another 4 projects will complete New Testaments within the next year.

The anniversary weekend kicked off on Friday with a Bible translation and awareness walk, including musical accompaniment by the Boys Brigade Nigeria, followed by a "swallowship" meal. On Saturday, Rev. Dr. Daniel Gya, Seed Company's Bible Translation liaison, gave an address at the formal celebration. Fellowship continued with games played by young and old alike.

Join with us in celebrating this milestone for MISTLAND!

PRAISE

- For God's faithfulness through many years to orchestrate the establishment and impact of MISTLAND.
- For nearly completed New Testaments in 4 languages.

PRAY

- Safety for our translators who consistently face the real and imminent threat of bandits.
- Wisdom as this young organization seeks to expand and raise up more translation consultants and translators in Nigeria.

SCRIPTED PRAYER

“O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”

Psalm 8:1 (NLT)

Dear Father, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! May it be proclaimed and known among the people of this region. We trust that You are speaking clearly through Word, revealing Your majesty and drawing Your people ever closer to You. Amen.

TRANSLATED SCRIPTURE

Tera Language

Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord! Praise the Lord!

— Psalm 150:6 (NLT)

Bu ku aanyi tunu nuke a pi nyifiri kap kham zhinkir-gwaanji

— Zabure 150:6 (Tera)

ABOUT THE PEOPLE GROUP

About the Tera People

Most Tera speakers are engaged in farming, where they grow guinea corn, millet, beans, and nuts for their own needs and as cash crops. Many raise livestock. Roughly 30% of the 100,000 people who speak Tera identify as Christian; most others follow Islam. Despite their religious differences, the 2 groups remain cordial. Both support Bible translation.

The Tera New Testament, completed in 2015, is widely used in churches, Bible studies, evangelism, and discipleship. Church leaders are eager to have the full counsel of God in their language. Translators are working on 4 Old Testament books, including Joshua and Judges, that contain stories familiar to many Muslims. Church leaders are hopeful these stories will lead Muslims to explore the truths of God's Word.

Witnessing the Power of Heart Language Scripture

During a testing session of Psalms 100–150 in the Tera language, one participant shared: “I have read these Psalms in other languages before, but today I understood their message and context more clearly than ever. It felt like God was speaking directly to me.”

The Tera Scriptures are already transforming worship and community life. Churches regularly use them for memory verses, Scripture readings, drama presentations, sword drills, and praise songs. Some congregations now dedicate entire Sunday services to worship in Tera.

The translation has also inspired renewed interest in the language itself. Many people have begun learning to read and write Tera so they can engage with God's Word personally. In Zambuk, a church that conducts its entire worship service in Tera continues to attract both the young and elderly, drawn by the opportunity to worship God in the language of their hearts.

PRAISE

For the completion of audio recordings and printed trial editions of the books of Joshua, Judges, and Psalms.

PRAY

- For travel protection and good health for Tera translators.
- For success in translating more Old Testament books.

SCRIPTURE

"O God, listen to my cry! Hear my prayer! From the ends of the earth, I cry to you for help when my heart is overwhelmed. Lead me to the towering rock of safety."

Psalm 61:1–2 (NLT)

PRAY NOW

Attacks on the Kwah Tribe

Pray for the Kwah tribe as they continue to endure attacks from Muslim cattle herders. Pray that work on the oral translation project will not be disrupted, that God will protect people from harm, and that the attackers will be transformed by God's Word.

GLOBAL TRANSLATION LEADER

Meet Michael Elijah

In just a few short years, Global Translation Leader Michael Elijah has proved himself to be a quality consultant. He began his new role 3 years ago as a college student, learning Bible translation skills. He demonstrated strong leadership as he supported the translation of the New Testament into his own Marghi language, while also exhibiting these same leadership qualities in his home, church, and community. He recently graduated with a bachelor's degree and is entering a master's program.

When asked, Michael says, "I love studying God's Word. It isn't just an academic exercise for me. It keeps my heart on the right path."

PRAISE

- For Michael's successful completion of his bachelor's degree.
- For safety in traveling and ongoing health.

PRAY

- That his wife and three kids (ages 8, 5, and 3 years) can join him in married student housing for the next two years.
- For continued diligence in his studies.
- For his cousin, a teacher in a Christian school, who was abducted with several other teachers and students about a month ago. Ask God for her release, and for her husband and children as they wait patiently for her return.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Passing Faith to the Next Generation

“Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me.” — Psalm 71:18b (NLT)

Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) aims to freely provide recordings of God’s Word in every language that needs it by 2033. Their partnership with the Bo-Rukul project in Nigeria is making it possible to proclaim God’s power to the next generation.

Bo-Rukul speaker Agarash testifies that he listens to the Oral Bible Translation (OBT) during daily office devotions. It helps him plan his life better and enhances his relationship with God. He appreciates the positive direction his life is taking, and he promises to train his children in the same way.

Gideon reports that daily OBT discussions and teaching the youth how to internalize the stories helps them understand the Scripture much better than before.

Ezekiel states that most of his family members are interested in listening to the Bo-Rukul OBT, leading them to know God better.

PRAISE

That in this community plagued by recurring incidents of kidnapping, banditry, and farm destruction one family was able to negotiate their pregnant daughter's safe return.

PRAY

- For wisdom for local communities and the national government to implement safety measures and for the safe return of other captives.
- That Bo-Rukul young people will grow in the fear and knowledge of God, giving the community hope for a brighter future.

IMPACT STORY

A Visit Wins Over Village Leaders

In March, Seed Company Field Project Manager Philip Whitfield had the privilege of visiting the Adim community in southeast Nigeria, where a team is crafting oral Bible stories in the Urum language. Adim village is nestled in the hills and palms of Cross River State.

For years, nonprofit groups (NGOs) have operated with illegitimate intentions throughout the area. As a result, village leaders and chiefs questioned the legitimacy of the Urum project.

Philip was able to meet with the chiefs during his visit. He vouched for the validity of the managing partner organization, Reach Out Bible Development Initiative (ROBDI), as well as the team's desire to see God's Word spread throughout the region. As he spoke, he sensed the mood in the room shifting from one of skepticism to utter excitement. "When we walked into the room, we were met with suspicion," he says, "and left as welcomed friends."

He and the team were also able to visit a local secondary school for students between 13 and 17 years old. During the visit, one storyteller shared a recently crafted story with the students. Two young girls responded to hearing God's Word in their mother tongue by standing up and sharing their excitement to return to church as a result of knowing that God speaks their language!

May God's Word continue to move in this community as part of the Biase Cluster Project!

PRAISE

- That the Adim community has begun to embrace the work of translated Scripture.
- That the Urum language team has been able to receive much-needed validation from the village chiefs and leaders.

PRAY

- For Bible stories crafted in Urum to keep impacting the lives of Adim's children and families in a powerful way.
- For translators as they continue to build relationships in the Adim community and take the crafted stories into schools and other public places.

PRAY NOW

Progress in Ghana

GILLBT, a Seed Company partner since our earliest days, has completed 35 New Testaments and 15 full Bibles in Ghana! They're now working in 47 languages there, demonstrating a commitment to moving Ghana closer to the day when every language group has Scripture they can call their own. As one example, the Nkonya [NKON'-YAH] community has only 5 Old Testament books left before the full Bible is complete! During their decades-long journey of translation, Scripture has done more than inform; it has healed. After more than a century of conflict with a neighboring group, churches prayed for peace over God's Word, and there have been no new attacks since 2018. Pray for completion of the Nkonya Bible and for the reconciliation and transformation still unfolding in communities like Nkonya as Scripture reaches the final remaining languages.

SCRIPTURE

"You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father."

John 14:13–14 (NLT)