

Vajtswv yogke  
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# Every Tribe. Every Tongue

A 7-Day Prayer Guide For  
Bible Translation

God is love

Thiên Chúa là tình yêu

WYCLIFFE  
SINGAPORE

wycliffe.sg



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# *Every Tribe. Every Tongue*

**A 7-Day Prayer Guide for  
Bible Translation**



## The Heart of Bible Translation

“So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”  
— Romans 10:17 (ESV)

Imagine never hearing “God is love” in a language you understand. That’s reality for 1 in 5 people today. For many communities, the Bible is incomplete, outdated, or non-existent in their heart language. **Bible translation** is about access to identity, healing, and truth. Hearing God’s Word in one’s heart language makes His love, truth, and justice deeply personal and easier to understand — it connects people to God in a way that a foreign language often cannot. When people receive Scripture in their heart language, their faith becomes personal, understandable, and transformative.

How can it be that God’s Word in my own language goes straight into my heart? It’s like Paul was writing directly to me! I’ve read Philippians in the national language before, but the words just passed right over me.

But when you read it out in my own language, I felt like there was no barrier between God and me! I felt that living water was washing over me and nourishing my dry heart. It’s like living water flowing beside a tree bringing it back to life.

— A believing local of the GG people

### PRAY

- Thank you God for the Scriptures in my language. Help me to meditate on it every day to know and love you more, my heavenly Father.
- Lord, please give vision, stamina, and protection for all involved in Bible translation and discipleship worldwide.
- Lord, stir the global church to care about Scripture access for the unreached and marginalised.

### TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: How has having the Bible in your language shaped your life?
- Post your favorite verse in your Instagram Story with #HeartLanguage #BibleForAll
- In your small group, share this people group’s joy as they dedicate their New Testament, click or copy: [wycliffe.sg/post/simar-cluster-reaping-harvest](https://www.wycliffe.sg/post/simar-cluster-reaping-harvest)

# Translators on the Frontline

“...behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb” — Rev 7:9a (ESV)

Bible translation isn't a solo mission. Many of the most vital translators are **Mother Tongue Translators (MTTs)** — locals who translate Scripture for their own people. They know the culture, idioms, and traditions, allowing them to convey not just words but meaning. Some of them are not believers yet and there are some who grow to believe in Jesus as they translate God's Word. The believers among them sometimes visit other believers to encourage them, pray with them, and some have even cast out demons in their ministry. Many work under hardship,

persecution, or isolation, yet they press on so their communities can encounter Jesus personally.

In recent weeks, a MTT visited several believers to encourage them. They witnessed God working through their prayers in miraculous ways: a man paralysed for the past six months was able to move his hands and feed himself, and there were two instances of casting out demons.

— A report from the mission field

## PRAY

- Lord, we pray for Mother Tongue Translators to have their daily practical needs met and for stamina to work through their projects with accuracy.
- Lord, we ask for MTTs to grow in their spiritual faith and that you would provide resources, mentorship, and community support for them.

## TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: In Rev. 7:9, why do you think God values every language and culture enough to have every language included in the vision? Meditate on this aspect of God.
- Write a short prayer for a translator. Share it in your small group or online.
- Pray for people groups still without Scripture—set aside time monthly to pray: learn more [wycliffe.sg/post/r200-programme-80-languages-and-counting](https://wycliffe.sg/post/r200-programme-80-languages-and-counting) or [joshuaproject.net](https://joshuaproject.net).

## The Hands Behind the Scenes

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." — 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

When people love God, they often want to read His Word for themselves. **Literacy specialists** help communities learn to read their heart language, often for the first time. They create writing systems, dictionaries, reading primers, children's books, and tools to open Scripture and other community-related materials like printed folk stories. **Scripture engagement workers** help people understand the Bible through storytelling, visual arts, drama, and audio. Their goal is for the Bible to not only be available, but embraced and lived out. They conduct Scripture readings to youth and elderly groups, to encourage people to read the Bible for themselves.

"The school buzzed with activity in the first quarter, especially the two visits from the project team to check on students' progress. "The mother tongue reading results were encouraging—most students reached higher learning levels," the staff reported. The school management committee chairman added his thanks: "When we shared our need to replace the old bamboo toilets, the team quickly stepped in to help. You care not only about our children's education, but also their well-being in many ways."

— A report from the mission field

### PRAY

- Lord, we pray for literacy workers to develop heart language resources that meet community needs and give people a sense of dignity in their heart language.
- Lord, may more teachers and literacy workers join the work so that literacy levels are raised to alleviate community poverty and hardship.
- Lord, we pray for Scripture Engagement specialists to work effectively with local believers to prepare, check and produce Bible resources in the right format.
- Lord, we pray for local believers to grow in faith as they engage with God's Word and to resist pressure and temptation to convert to the majority religion.

### TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: Think of someone who helped you first understand the Bible—how is their role similar to literacy and Scripture Engagement workers?
- Read this story about literacy on the Wycliffe Singapore website: [wycliffe.sg/post/i-can-write-my-name](https://wycliffe.sg/post/i-can-write-my-name).
- As a small group, try learning a Bible story orally (without reading). Retell it to each other, like in an oral culture.

# When Faith Meets Tech

“...But the word of God is not bound!” — 2 Timothy 2:9b (ESV)

Behind every Bible app, audio file, and digital Scripture is a dedicated team of **IT specialists**, platform builders and more, ensuring God’s Word reaches where books cannot—from refugee camps to remote villages. Tools like The Bible Translator’s Assistant speed up translation work, Starlink keeps teams connected across distances, and software like Render preserves and shares oral translations for communities who learn by listening. Even the Deaf engage with digital Sign Language Bibles. Organisations like Kalaam Media go further, creating apps, multilingual websites, and training local teams. Technology is a lifeline, bringing

God’s Word to life in every language and learning style, empowering people everywhere to access, understand, and share Scripture.

A Bible translator shared: “Periodically, [one translator] has to make a two-hour trek through [a] jungle and down the mountain, with her baby and her laptop, where she can reach a small town that has an internet cafe. And that internet cafe has just enough bandwidth to do a ‘send/receive’ with other members of her translation team.

— A report from the field

## PRAY

- Lord, we pray for tech developers and IT support teams as they connect with language communities to develop tools that are appropriate for their contexts and would widely facilitate translation and Scripture use.
- Lord, we ask for wisdom as these IT specialists prayerfully navigate the benefits and pitfalls of using Artificial Intelligence to do your work in ways that bring glory to you.
- Lord, we pray against censorship or cyber threats that would shut down apps, websites and systems that support Scripture translation and use.

## TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: How has digital access to the Bible shaped your faith?
- Explore a Bible app (YouVersion, Deaf Bible, etc.) and share it with a friend. Here is an example of a Kalaam Media-developed website for the Oral Hakka community: [suarahakka.com](http://suarahakka.com)
- As a small group, commit to a “digital fast” for one day—except for your Bible app. Share what God teaches you.

## Voices of the Silent

“Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped.”  
— Isaiah 35:5 (ESV)

Over 70 million Deaf people use sign language, yet most still lack access to Scripture. Sign language Bibles aren't written—they're filmed, with Deaf translators signing Scripture visually. For many, it's the first time they feel God speaking directly to them. These translations empower Deaf believers to study the Bible, join church life, and grow in faith in their own language.

More than words, sign language Scripture is a lifeline—opening doors for Deaf communities to embrace their identity, share God's love, and experience His Word in a deeply personal, life-changing way. Each signed verse is not only translation, but transformation, offering hope where silence once stood. Together, we can help ensure no Deaf person is left out of God's story.

For someone like Pastraporn Sarakong, growing up Deaf meant being surrounded by spoken words that she couldn't grasp. Her early years were spent in a hearing school in Thailand where she tried to read and write like her hearing peers, but it felt like trying to unlock a door without a key. “I didn't understand what was going on,” she recalled.

It wasn't until she learned Thai Sign Language that she could finally communicate with others fully and deeply. Today Pastraporn leads a team translating Bible stories into Thai Sign Language, determined that others won't have to struggle like she did to connect with the Word of God.

—[www.wycliffe.org/blog/posts/the-beauty-of-sign-language-bible-translation](http://www.wycliffe.org/blog/posts/the-beauty-of-sign-language-bible-translation)

### PRAY

- Lord, we pray for more workers to commit themselves to be sign language Bible translators and Deaf leaders.
- Lord, we pray for new tools to speed up sign language projects.
- God, please stir churches to welcome the Deaf and to exercise empathy in including them in church family activities.

### TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: Spend a moment empathising with those who cannot hear.
- Watch a sign language Bible video and share it. Try “Jesus: A Deaf Missions Film” – the trailer: [youtu.be/15Uw2z73Su4?si=MdGgm7gNNMEAM5zR](https://youtu.be/15Uw2z73Su4?si=MdGgm7gNNMEAM5zR)
- Learn how to sign one Bible verse together as a small group and pray it in sign: [youtube.com/watch?v=wnsweXxZB7Y](https://youtube.com/watch?v=wnsweXxZB7Y).

# Trauma Healing Through Arts and Scripture

“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.” — Psalm 147:3 (ESV)

Trauma leaves “heart wounds” that separate people from God and from one another. Wycliffe’s Arts in Trauma Healing (ATHP) brings music, dance, drama, visual arts, and media into these broken places, helping communities grieve, express emotions, and experience God’s comfort in holistic ways. Creative expression reconnects mind and heart, making healing deeply personal and sustainable.

From songs giving hope to victims of exploitation, to Deaf communities integrating arts with Bible translation, these practices connect people with Scripture and reveal God as healer. By shaping artistic expression within each culture, communities find meaningful ways to lament, process pain, and discover hope.

The facilitators’ training for Oral Story-Based Trauma Healing was held recently. All the participants joined in the discussions enthusiastically. On the final day, several of the participants felt led to go to their home villages (mostly in a dangerous area) far from the main city to hold Trauma Healing sessions. Pray that they will be safe, and that God’s love and care will heal the inner wounds of the oppressed, victims of war, and those in poverty.

— A report from the mission field

## PRAY

- Lord, we pray for communities carrying deep emotional wounds to experience your healing and abundant life in Christ.
- Lord, we pray for Arts and Trauma Healing teams to develop culturally-meaningful animated versions of Scripture stories so that Oral communities can interact with your Word more easily.
- Lord, please raise creative leaders using music, dance, art, and drama to bring hope.

## TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: How do creative expressions (music, art, movement) help you process emotions and connect with God?
- Share a personal lament or story through art, music, or writing, expressing a struggle and God’s presence in it.
- As a small group, create a short piece of art, music, or dramatised story that expresses hope and healing in Scripture. Pray over the work and dedicate it to communities in need of God’s comfort.

## Until All Have Heard

“This gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” — Matthew 24:14 (ESV)

Over 1,600 languages still wait for even a single verse of Scripture. But hope is rising. Across the globe, churches, translation teams, IT specialists, artists, and volunteers are working together to bring God’s Word to every tongue. Every app built, every audio recorded, every song or artwork created is part of this divine mission.

God calls us not to watch from the sidelines, but to take part. Whether your gift is tech, creativity, teaching, prayer, or advocacy, you have a role in helping people encounter God in their heart language. Imagine the day when every person, in every language, has access to the Good News. That vision is God’s mission—and He invites you to join in. Your prayers, gifts, and steps of faith can help transform peoples and generations.

Our church began five years ago with a handful of believers. Now, we have more than 35 new believers,” shared Elder R\* from a local church. “In our village, many people struggle with the national language, but they understand our own K\* language well. Until recently, K was only used orally. We prayed for someone to help our people, especially the elderly and young children, learn to read in K. With the start of Bible-learning activities, our prayers have been answered!” Brother M\* also noted that children are now learning to read K in schools, which is sparking their interest in reading the Bible in their mother tongue!

— A report from the mission field

### PRAY

- Lord, we pray for new translators, techies, artists, and advocates to rise up.
- Lord, we pray for financial provision and global partnerships.
- Most of all Lord, please show me my part in your mission.

### TAKE ACTION!

- Reflect: There are several ways to be involved in God’s mission. Would you like to start learning about, praying for and experiencing working with us for God’s mission?
- Explore [wycliffe.sg/be-involved](https://wycliffe.sg/be-involved) with a prayerful heart.
- If you worked through this guide in a small group, end the week with a “commissioning moment.” Pray over one another and commit to take a step—learn, pray, give, advocate, or go.



THANK YOU  
FOR PRAYING





Ala ye kanuya ye

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