



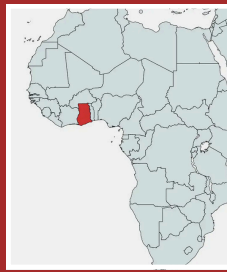
# Bible Access List

Where Bible access is most difficult, and Bible shortage is greatest

# Ghana

Bible Restrictions Rank: **80**  
**MINIMAL ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

Bible Shortage Rank: **27**  
**Bible needs estimate between five hundred thousand and one million**



## An Overview of Bible access in Ghana

Ghana is home to a thriving Christian community, with nearly 72% of its population, almost 25 million people, identifying as followers of Christ. Unlike many nations where believers face persecution or legal barriers to owning Scripture, Ghana offers relative freedom for Christians to access Scripture. However, despite this open environment, just an estimate of 60% of Christians have access to the Bible.

While there are no restrictions on importing, printing, storing, owning, or distributing Bibles, economic hardship remains a significant barrier. Many believers, especially in rural and underserved areas, simply cannot afford a Bible of their own. Additionally, literacy rates and linguistic diversity further complicate access, as not all Ghanaians can read the available translations.

Digital access is another evolving issue. While Ghana has a growing internet presence, some reports suggest government monitoring of online activity. As of now, this has not negatively impacted Bible access, but it remains an area to watch, particularly as more believers turn to digital platforms for Scripture.

Despite these obstacles, there is a strong and growing demand for Bibles in Ghana. With the church expanding and faith communities actively seeking God's Word, the need remains pressing. Addressing this requires not only providing printed copies but also investing in audio Bibles and digital resources to reach those with limited literacy or access to physical copies.

Before we continue, would you take a moment to pause and pray for Ghana?

### How can I pray for Ghana?

- **Provision for Those Without Bibles.** Pray for the millions of Ghanaians who desire a Bible but cannot afford one, that they may receive access through generous initiatives and partnerships.
- **Continued Freedom of Worship.** Ask God to protect and sustain Ghana's religious freedom, ensuring that believers can continue to access and share Scripture without fear.
- **Growth in Biblical Discipleship.** Pray that as more Ghanaians receive Bibles, they would be rooted in God's Word, growing in faith and transforming their communities with the gospel.

#### Bible Access Restrictions

Minimal Access Restrictions

#### Other Limiting Factors

Considerable Other Factors



Poor



Poor infrastructure

#### Bible Shortages Among Believers



Bible ownership is over 50%, **estimated** Bible need is between 500 thousand and 1 million

**Main religion:** Christianity

**Country population:** 34,778,000

**Christian population:**



24,977,000, 71.82% of total population

After praying for Ghana, continue reading on the next page to learn more.

# WHAT'S BLOCKING BIBLE ACCESS IN GHANA?

Unlike many nations where legal restrictions or persecution hinder access to the Bible, Ghana offers relative freedom for Christians to own, distribute, and use Scripture. However, this does not mean every believer has access to God's Word.

The challenges in Ghana are less about government restrictions and more about financial constraints, literacy barriers, and language limitations that prevent millions from having a Bible in their hands.

## Financial and Translation Barriers

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While Ghana enjoys freedom of religion, the ability to afford a Bible remains a significant issue, particularly in rural areas. Many believers, especially in economically disadvantaged regions, struggle to purchase their own copies due to financial hardship.

The Bible Society of Ghana has made great strides in making Scripture available in various languages, but translation efforts remain underfunded. Although Bibles exist in nine major Ghanaian languages, many more languages are still waiting for full Scripture translations. Without financial support, translation projects for languages like Dagaare, Gurune, and Bono remain incomplete, leaving large portions of Ghana's population without a Bible in their mother tongue.

## Distribution Gaps and Infrastructure Limitations

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Despite an extensive network of Bible distribution centers in cities like Accra, Kumasi, and Tamale, rural communities remain underserved. Many Christians in remote areas struggle to access physical copies of the Bible due to distribution challenges.

While organizations like Mission Cry and the Gideons International actively send Bibles to Ghana, reports indicate that demand far exceeds supply. This suggests that while there are no restrictions on distribution, logistical and economic factors continue to create gaps in access.

## Literacy and Language Challenges

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Ghana is a linguistically diverse country with dozens of spoken languages, yet literacy rates vary significantly across regions. While urban populations may have access to Bibles in English, many rural communities rely on translations in their local languages.

However, even where translations exist, limited literacy means that many believers cannot fully engage with the written Word. This makes audio Bibles a crucial alternative, yet access to these formats remains limited due to economic constraints and technological barriers.

# The Digital Divide

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With increasing internet penetration, digital Bibles could serve as an effective solution to bridge the accessibility gap. However, access to online Scripture is not yet universal. The real challenge lies in internet availability and affordability. Many rural communities lack consistent access to electricity or internet services, making online Bibles an unreliable option for many Ghanaians.

## THE URGENT NEED FOR BIBLES IN GHANA

Despite Ghana's religious freedom, millions of Christians still lack access to a Bible. Research estimates that between **500,000 and 1 million Bibles** are required to equip believers. Additionally, more Bibles are needed to supply a growing number of seekers, those who are looking to explore the Christian faith.

### A Growing Church, A Growing Demand

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As the national population expands, the church size expands rapidly as well. With this additional growth, the demand for Bibles is outpacing supply.

Ensuring that new Christians receive God's Word is essential not only for their spiritual growth but also for strengthening the church as a whole. Without access to Scripture, discipleship is hindered, and churches struggle to equip their members with the biblical foundation needed to stand firm in their faith.

### Bible Formats for Diverse Needs

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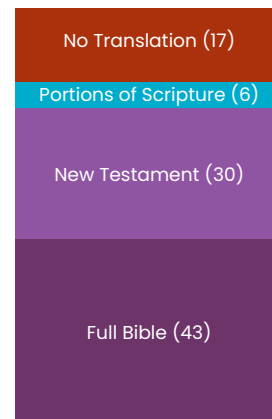
When it comes to formats, **printed Bibles** remain the top priority. **Audio Bibles** are also crucial, particularly for those who struggle with literacy or prefer to hear Scripture in their native tongue. Providing physical Bibles, alongside audio options, ensures that all believers, regardless of their education level or location, can access God's Word.

# The Challenge of Bible Translations

Ghana is home to a linguistically diverse population, with at least 96 spoken languages by Christians. When it comes to translations:

- **43** languages have a full translation of the entire Bible.
- **30** languages have only the New Testament.
- **6** have only small portions translated.
- **17** languages remain without any Scripture

This means that for many Ghanaians, the Bible is either incomplete or entirely unavailable in their native language. Advancing translation efforts is vital to ensuring that every believer can engage with God’s Word in a language they understand.



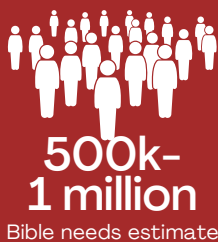
Spoken Languages with Believers in Ghana

## THE CLARION CALL

The need for Bibles in Ghana is more than a logistical challenge, it’s an urgent need that needs the attention of the international Christian community. Millions of believers and seekers are longing for Scripture, but barriers of cost, literacy, and translation stand in the way.

Now is the time for the global church to respond. By investing in Bible printing, supporting translation efforts, and expanding distribution networks, we can equip the growing church in Ghana with the Word of God.

The harvest is plentiful, and the need is great. Let us rise to meet this moment, ensuring that no believer in Ghana is left without access to the life-transforming power of Scripture.



The Bible Access List (BAL) and the Country Profile utilizes data from various primary and secondary sources. Key resources include the survey data, World Christian Database, Open Doors' World Watch List files, World Bank development indicators, and Bible translation data from multiple organizations. For a complete list of data sources and links, please refer to the BAL Methodology available at [Bibleaccesslist.org](http://Bibleaccesslist.org).