



# NO BIBLE SUNDAY?

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## Offering resource

# You go away with nothing!

### **Description:**

A “human chart” shows the need for translation and leads to an offering.

### **What’s needed:**

10 volunteers, 1 Bible, 2 New Testaments and 2 Gospels

### **Aim:**

To make a practical response to the day’s teaching by giving toward translation

### **Time:**

3 minutes plus your offering time

### **Instructions:**

1. Say: *“As we prepare to move into our offering time, I need 10 volunteers.”*
2. After they have come to the front, say: *“These people represent all the languages in the world today. There are around 6800 languages, so each of our brave volunteers represents about 680 languages.”*
3. Hand the first person a Bible and say: *“Congratulations! Out of all these languages, you are the only one that has a translated Bible. Actually there are just over 400 languages that have the whole Bible; but as we can’t cut you into parts we’ll say this is close enough.”*
4. Hand the next two people New Testaments and say: *“You don’t get the whole Bible, but you two at least get New Testaments. Just over a thousand languages have a translation of the New Testament. I hope you enjoy it!”*
5. Hand the next two people some kind of printed Scripture portion, such as the Gospel of John. Say: *“I am afraid that you don’t get a whole New Testament or Bible. But you DO get something. Around 900 additional languages have had something translated into them, but not as much as a New Testament yet.”*
6. Look at the other five volunteers and say: *“I am afraid I have some bad news for the rest of you. More than half of the world’s languages have never received even one verse of Scripture. Not one. So in the words of Anne Robinson, ‘You go away with nothing’.”*
7. Look at the congregation and say: *“Today we have the chance to help change this situation. Wycliffe Bible Translators has a vision to see a Bible translation started in every language that still needs one by the year 2025. Our offering today will go to support this vital ministry. Please give generously so that Wycliffe can give the Bible to those still waiting. But first let’s pray.”*
8. Pray: *“Thank you Lord for blessing us with your love as revealed in your word. Open our hearts to the needs of those who still are waiting to receive it. Help us to love them as you do and want to make a difference in their lives. Please take the gifts that we are about to give and magnify the impact of the work done through them. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”*
9. Collect the offering.
10. Say: *“Today, through your prayers and gifts, you have helped make God’s message of love understandable. You have helped bring it closer to those still waiting. Thank you.”*
11. Proceed with the service.

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