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## PRAISE & *prayer*

Ben and Julie Stromme, from my previous newsletter, have been searching for a house and they finally bought one! Praise the Lord, He answered!

Please continue to pray for our translation teams to get our translations accomplished along with the Translation Consultant's feedback.

Pray for our family. Collins, our exchange student, will be returning home early June. It will be challenging to adjust to not having him around. Pray for him as he returns back to his home in Cameroon, Africa.

The community check is an integral part of the Bible translation process. Community check participants must be Deaf, native ASL signers. They are not required to have knowledge of the Bible prior to the check. The purpose of the community check is to bring the Chronological Bible Translation (CBT) to the Deaf community, giving them an opportunity to give feedback based on the following criteria (CANA):

- Is the signing and translation **Clear and Accurate**?
- Is it **Natural**?
- Is the signer and his/her presentation in ASL **Acceptable**?



*all scripture is*  
**INSPIRED BY GOD**  
USEFUL FOR TEACHING, REBUKING,  
CORRECTING, AND TRAINING IN  
*righteousness*

We recently did community checks in Phoenix, Arizona, and at Deaf Missions in Council Bluff, Iowa.

At the Phoenix community check, we had a variety of ages in attendance. We had wonderful feedback with various perspectives. I met two sisters who moved to America from Colombia some years ago. When they saw the CBT for the first time, they expressed their desire for a Bible in Colombian Sign Language. I told them there is a **Colombian Sign Language Bible translation available!** I went on to explain that our partner, Deaf Bible Society, provides access to this translation through the Deaf Bible app. They were so thrilled and excited to know that they can see the Bible in their own language! **The participants were surprised to learn that there are 28 different Bible translations offered in the sign languages of other countries.** There are more sign language Bible translations coming soon!

In April, our team of eight drove down to Council Bluff, Iowa. The community check was held at Deaf Missions, another Bible translation organization working on a book-by-book translation of the Bible. **The translation teams at Deaf Missions gave very constructive feedback as they understand the Bible translation process.** One man admitted that he felt DOOR's CBT was not a good match for adults but was more suited for children. **After participating in the community check, he was awestruck and said that he would be watching more of our CBT.**

In April, I had the opportunity to attend the Forum of Bible Agencies International (FOBAI) held at the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC. CEOs from many Bible agencies worldwide attended this year's annual FOBAI meeting. **In the Deaf Development Group meetings, representatives of DOOR and several other agencies involved in sign language Bible translation created minimum standards ... standards for just how sign language Bible translation should be done.** Some of the areas of discussion were Translation Consultants, Scripture engagement, and media, to name a few.

## *standards in* BIBLE TRANSLATION

FOBAI established the Deaf Development Group (DDG) several years ago. DDG is a unique group for FOBAI to work with since **Deaf people working in sign language Bible translation sometimes need different criteria requirements than those involved in hearing/written Bible translation.** For example, the Translation Consultants must be a Deaf or hearing person fluent in the sign language or able to understand another language.

The DDG committee includes:

- the American Development of Sign Language Association, for which I am chairperson,
- the Asian South Pacific Sign Language Development Association,
- the European Deaf Church Association Bible Translation, and
- the Africa Deaf Mission Alliance.

The chairman of each group meet every other month via Zoom (a videophone conference software). We discuss issues different translation centers are facing. **We must then determine changes or improvements needed in these specific areas.** We then make a proposal to FOBAI for consideration. FOBAI will either vote to approve our proposal or request us to rework the proposal.

This was my first time to attending FOBAI. Seeing many people from different **organizations and countries come together and participate in the discussions** was a wonderful experience.

Lastly, at the Museum of the Bible, we had the opportunity to tour the museum which recently opened last **November.** WOW! So much to see in a limited time. I was told that it would take me nine 8-hour days to see it all! I plan to go back again with my family!



DOOR International's mission is to bring God's Word and reproducing Christian fellowship to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit (501(c)3) Christian mission organization of many Deaf people (and a few hearing people).



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