

FALL 2019

# RON & LAUREN LAWER

SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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## Insight & Understanding

### Community Check

Showing our draft translation videos to a wide variety of Deaf people in our target community (Deaf Americans) is so important to creating an excellent translation. We ask carefully designed questions to assess what Deaf Americans actually understand when they watch our translation drafts. This is a critical part of every Bible translation project. **We always get feedback that helps our translation to be more natural and clear.**

In June and July, we visited three different cities for a four-week community check. Many of the attendees came from different religious backgrounds. **Due to their varied backgrounds, we realized we needed to create better signs for certain words.** For example, for the New Testament word “believer,” we had been using a sign that looks like a cross on the signer’s heart, but some were confused by this sign. When you accept Christ, is it the cross that comes into your heart? No, it is Jesus Himself who comes to live inside your heart! **Since this is what sets Christianity apart from other religions, we felt it important to make that distinction.** So we came up with another sign, which uses the unique three-dimensional nature of sign languages to represent Jesus coming into your heart. Everyone liked this concept better!

The participants learned a great deal more when seeing the Bible in American Sign Language (ASL) as opposed to reading the written English version of the Bible. One elderly Deaf woman, who has been a believer for a long time, had been reading the Bible for years. At first, when she saw a passage of Scripture in ASL, she was puzzled, trying to connect both versions, then she **finally understood what the verses meant. She was excited to “see” the Scriptures clearly in ASL!**



## PRAISE & PRAYER

### Praise:

- Praise the Lord for the three additional translation consultants working with our program this summer! This is a huge answer to prayer!

### Pray:

- Pray for our translation consultants to have wisdom and discernment to ensure our translation is accurate.
- Please pray for the financial needs of the CBT program in 2020 and beyond. Pray for wisdom and guidance from the Lord for Deaf Harbor’s Executive Director and myself as we look for organizations to sponsor our ministry.

## Family Update

Our family had an eventful summer. In addition to my travels, our daughter kept busy with marching band rehearsals throughout the summer, and our son worked at the Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa for 8 weeks. Lauren and I were able to take a week off in the midst of my travel; a dear friend gifted us a stay in her condo in Pompano Beach, Florida. We spent most of our time there getting some much needed rest and sleep during our trip to Florida.

Our daughter, Natasha, is now a senior at Rosemount High School. As mentioned before, Natasha is heavily involved with marching band. We are taking every opportunity to attend all of her competitions. She has a total of 7 competitions and performances; 3 out of 7 of the performances are either out of town or out of state. It's been such a blessing to see how she has grown from a shy little girl to a fine section leader of the low-reed group in her band.



Our son, David-James, is now a sophomore at Metro Deaf School. He has grown about 4-6 inches during the summer. His goal is to be taller than his dad. He enjoys having a "brother" living with us from South Africa. Africa, a senior at Metro Deaf School, came to live with us last January and has been living with us ever since, except when he went home during the summer break. David-James and Africa have three classes together. It has been wonderful to see them working together and helping each other with class assignments.

Our children's activities and schooling, along with our work, have been keeping Lauren and I on our toes! But we are doing well by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. "But he [Lord] said to me, "My grace is enough for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9a. There are times when we feel weak, but this Scripture reminds us to believe and rest in Him! Amen!



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### ABOUT DOOR

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

Send gifts to: Dept. 9012, P.O. Box 30516, Lansing, MI 48909-8016

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