



DAN, SARAH, AND EZRA EBERLE

winter 2019

PRAISES

We just celebrated Ezra's 6th birthday! While in Florida for meetings, we visited Legoland for the day, which was a dream come true for Ezra.

PRAYER

Many of our extended family members have struggled with health problems of varying seriousness over the past few months, and we've tried to help out as much as possible. Pray with us as we consider making some longer term changes so we can help out more easily.

DOOR is one of just a handful of sign language Bible translation organizations. We're always looking to partner with others, and want the work to be well coordinated. Pray with us for unity among all these organizations, and that we would all work together well!

SIGN LANGUAGE BIBLE MOVEMENT

In November, Dan and a colleague were able to attend the first-ever Every Tribe Every Nation (ETEN) summit in Orlando, Florida. ETEN is a collective impact alliance: essentially, a loose group of organizations and people with the common goal of Bible translation, working in partnership to accelerate the process and reach their shared goals together. The alliance is made up of some of the largest Bible translation organizations, and has made its mission to end Bible poverty around the world. To learn more, visit illuminations.bible.

In addition to the summit, we were able to participate in some training, workshops, and meetings related to the Digital Bible Library (DBL). The DBL is a digital archive working towards hosting every Bible translation in the world. DOOR has been working with them to get sign language Bible translations entered into the DBL.

In addition to these trips, we've also traveled to Baltimore and Dallas for meetings with partner organizations. There's so much going on in the global sign language translation movement that we can't fit it all in this newsletter, but suffice it to say that we are seeing God move in a lot of exciting ways around the world. DOOR is a vital part in getting God's Word to Deaf people groups all over the world.



One of the challenges of doing Bible translation for sign languages is the lack of software tools.

Sign Languages Software & Resources

Unlike spoken language translators and consultants, who have a wide range of programs and tools at their disposal, translators and consultants who work with sign languages have very few or zero options for many aspects of their work. This forces workers to take a more manual approach, rely on other tools not really meant for the task, or work using resources meant for spoken languages.

This isn't just an issue for sign language workers. Several years ago, we had the opportunity to visit the Portuguese Bible Society; even in Portugal, a significant world language, Bible translators had to rely on commentaries, helps, and translation notes in English, as those books weren't available in Portuguese. In that case, the translators learned English to better access the tools, but for most Deaf people, that isn't a viable option. One of the things we're working towards in DOOR is making software and resources like these available to the Deaf in sign language, so they have everything they need to produce the best possible Bible translations. Pray with us that God would help us overcome these obstacles!

The Home Front School On The Go

All of this travel (more than six months total in 2019!) provides a lot of opportunities for learning. We are able to study and learn first-hand about different places in the USA, as well as other countries. Lately, Ezra has been learning more about the geography of the United States and how to find different states on a map. In Florida, we studied a little about water vs. land birds and also about some of the really cool trees they have like the live oak!

Being on the go a lot can also present its challenges. We get very tired traveling at odd hours of the day, visiting new places, meeting new people all the time, and using different languages. Sometimes we're cranky and sometimes we get

sick. Please pray for special traveling mercies: that we would have an extra dose of patience with each other while we travel, as well as protection against sickness.



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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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