



## UNTRANSFORMED [Click here for ASL version](#)

*Story from a translation team member from South Asia.*

"A few years ago, my family moved to a village and bought a house. A missionary living there, was the only Christian in that area. When he found out I was Deaf he made sure to include me. At Christmastime, he invited all the people in the village to a celebration, and gave me a gift of a Bible.

"I brought the Bible home with me. When my parents saw the Bible in my hand, they became enraged. They took the Bible from me and burned it. They told me that Christianity wasn't our faith and that I shouldn't follow these people.

"Later, the Deaf church planting team from DOOR came to my area. I was able to meet them and learn a little bit about this God of the Bible. I was selected for the Mountsign\* translation team without even attending the translation recruitment camp. I was scared to tell my parents that I was going to work for Christians, so I just kept that to myself.

**"When I got to the DOOR center, I was so hungry to learn about Jesus that I absorbed almost everything I learned and soon accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior.** Soon, it was time to go home for the Christmas holidays. I was terrified because I had seen my family's rage at simply bringing the Bible into the house. Now I was coming home as a Christian. How would they react?"



*Faces are covered for security purposes.*

"After I was home for a few days, I told my parents the truth. To my utter surprise, they didn't react violently. **They had been observing the changes in me during my time home, and they realized something good had happened to me.** Something changed me for the better, so they let me follow what I believe.

"I went to meet the missionary in my village to share the joyful news of my accepting Christ, and shared with him what I was doing now to further His Kingdom. I am the first believer in my village and I am thankful that the Lord allowed the first believer to come from my village to be a Deaf person, because it is rare and unusual."

*\* Name changed for security purposes*

## Sending Workers into His Fields

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As DOOR continues to grow its ministry and reach, God has been answering our prayers by providing more workers with skills in a wide variety of areas.

In 2019, DOOR underwent a major restructuring and onboarded a new director for our 2-by-2 ministry, Manuel.\* A skilled Deaf leader, Manuel has been taking inventory of the on-ground work happening among our church planting teams. After several weeks of meetings with longtime 2-by-2 leaders, Manuel and his team put their heads together to work out how to better empower our teams to reach more Deaf souls for Christ.

The new ministry model for our 2-by-2 teams is still based on Luke 10 where Jesus sends out the 72, and our teams will continue to evangelize and teach Deaf people about Christ. Our 2-by-2 program originated in South Asia in 2006 when our leaders saw that the Deaf people there thirsting for the Living Water and for Christian fellowship with like-minded Deaf believers.

As our ministry continued to grow in the years since, we came to realize that we needed to broaden the scope of our model and implement protocols to better work across multiple countries in several continents. Manuel and his team came up with a new structure that enables 2-by-2 workers to report to their managers in a multi-tiered leadership model to better accommodate the needs of local, regional, and country-wide ministry.

Our 2-by-2 work is an invaluable part of DOOR's 50 by 25 goal, and we are moving forward with the knowledge that our teams are in capable hands thanks to God and the servant He has provided in Manuel. Please join us in prayer as we implement this new structure. Pray that more Deaf lives will be impacted and transformed for Christ. The harvest is great, but the workers are few.

*\* Name changed for security purposes*



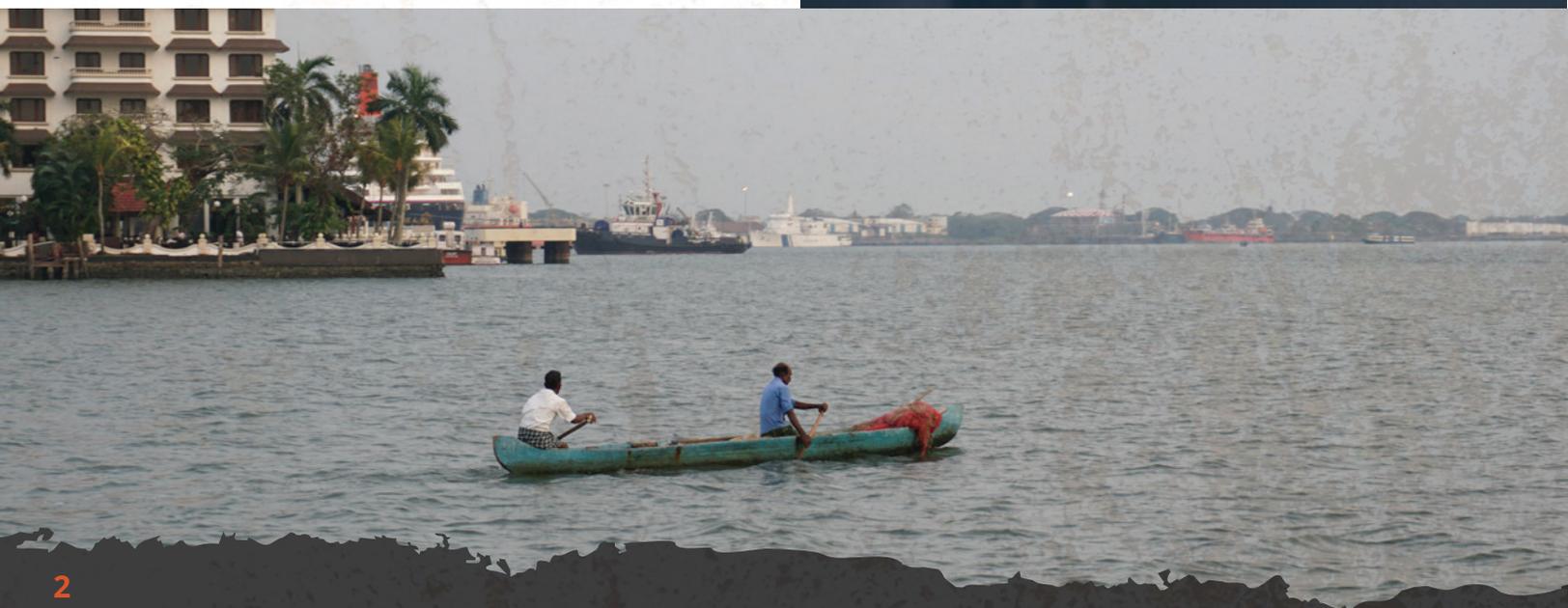
# STRONGER Together

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In the Western mentality that so permeates the United States, sometimes it can be hard to imagine living as a part of a strongly collective society. Yet, did you know that Deaf cultures worldwide, even in the United States, are collective cultures? Culturally Deaf people—Deaf people who are engaged in Deaf culture and sign language—take pride in the collective nature of the Deaf community.

As members of the only minority group to be born to parents not of their own cultural group, Deaf people typically find a sense of belonging in their community.

At DOOR, we recognize and cherish that cultural value, and whenever possible, we seek to have a Deaf majority in every meeting to allow for group processing and the ability to speak as a collective. As a community, we are truly stronger together.





Baptism in South Asia

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**“Would Jesus accept me like the prodigal son was accepted back into the family by his father?”** Yash\*, a young Deaf man, asked Ayal\*, one of our 2-by-2 team members working in South Asia.

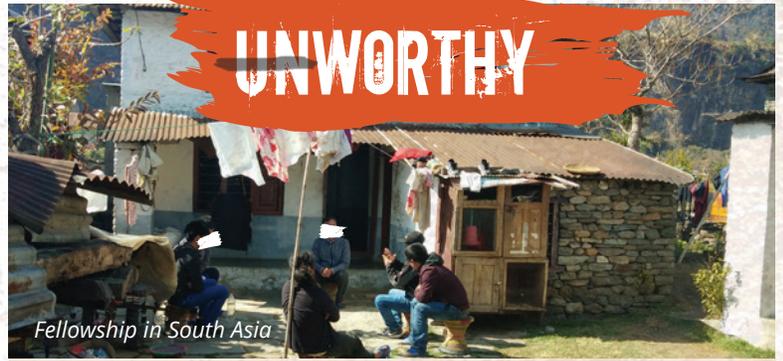
Yash was born into a Hindu family, and still lives with his parents. Throughout his adolescence, he had many friends who tried to get him involved in various activities, but he was more introverted and quiet so he was sheltered from most of the activities many of the young Deaf South Asians engage in.

When Ayal met Yash, Ayal invited him to one of the CBS classes he taught. Yash wasn't a fan of the idea, but he decided to give it a try. He showed up at the class, but the material taught was too overwhelming and he left.

Ayal reached out to extend yet another invite, but Yash told him that he felt he wasn't able to understand and engage with what was being taught. Ayal encouraged him to try again, and offered to spend quality time with Yash to talk through the Scriptures and answer any questions he might have.

Yash came out of his shell through Ayal's mentorship and guidance. "Christ died for the world, to redeem us from our sins," Yash shared. "Ayal took the opportunity to share about Christ's sacrifice after the story of the prodigal son made me really think."

**“ I am really excited to learn more about the Bible and about how much God loves us. ”**



Fellowship in South Asia

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**“I was brought up in a Hindu family,”** shared \*Aakash, a Deaf man from South Asia. "One day, a friend invited me to his church, and I began attending regularly. They taught me about the Ten Commandments, and the commandment about not worshiping idols was completely new to me.

"My family had always forced me to go to the temple with them and worship the idols. I was confused. What was right? What was wrong? What about Jesus and eternal life?"

"Eventually I was interviewed and selected by DOOR to work on the Centersign translation project. During my work with the team, I had the opportunity to translate the passage from Exodus 20:2-17 which talked about the Ten Commandments.

"I was pained by my own actions. This passage convicted me. I couldn't stop worshiping idols because I felt pressured by my family. But the Word of God clearly says that we are not to bow down to them or to serve them because only the Lord is worthy of worship.

"I realized that this is the true commandment. I had to repent, and set aside my past. I will never again worship idols or other gods."

**“ I will only worship the one true God who transformed my life completely. ”**

*\*—not real names*

**Include DOOR International in your will before September 30, 2020 and become a charter member of the Buus Legacy Circle.**

To request a Buus Legacy Circle brochure or to move forward with including DOOR in your will, please contact Brad Wiechertjes at [bradw@doorinternational.org](mailto:bradw@doorinternational.org) or call 616.741.7015. For more information visit [DOORInternational.org](http://DOORInternational.org).

Additional resources for Legacy Giving can be found at [www.christianwill.org/door](http://www.christianwill.org/door).



**Buus Legacy Circle Benefits:**

- Welcome letter of thanks from President/CEO Rob Myers
- Buus Legacy Circle packet and DOOR gift
- Content specific mailings
- Invitations to Inside DOOR (4 times per year)
- Option to travel internationally with DOOR Leadership

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**LEARN** Most of the world's population know little to nothing of the Deaf community. Deaf people groups have rich cultures and languages. One thing you can do to help DOOR is to learn more about this fascinating, engaging people group. Take a sign language class or reach out to your local community to see if there is a Deaf ministry in the area.

**PRAY** God-sized movements are made possible by the power of prayer. Your prayers got us this far. Let's keep running the race while sending prayers heavenward to pave our way.

**SHARE** Maybe your family or friends want to help invest in the Deaf community. Share our mission and values with them, and share the passion we at DOOR have for Deaf people reaching other Deaf people for Christ.

**GIVE** Like every ministry, we cannot perform to our fullest potential without financial support. Your donations are recognized and appreciated for your invaluable role in furthering God's Kingdom.

Support DOOR!



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### Help DOOR Reach the Unreached **50/25**

A gift to DOOR International enables our ability to respond to new opportunities. As DOOR grows, we trust God to increase the resources He makes available.

Please consider a gift to DOOR today.  
Go online to [doorinternational.org/donate](http://doorinternational.org/donate) or use the enclosed envelope.

W I R U S

Before the coronavirus, millions of Deaf people around the world were hungry for hope. But now, with COVID-19 sweeping the globe, these Deaf communities are spiritually AND physically hungry.

With your gift, our missionaries will deliver food and share the Gospel so that these hungry families can be fed. Together, we can show the Deaf that God's love is greater than any virus.

\$ **30/30** Days

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