



DAN, SARAH, AND EZRA

THE EBERLE FAMILY

SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION

One of the things that has greatly enabled Bible translation in Deaf communities is the advent of affordable and accessible video technology, but many challenges to distribution still remain. In some parts of the world, people have easy access to the internet, and can watch Scripture content on smartphones via downloads or sites like YouTube. In other areas, the cost of reliable and fast internet access is out of reach for the majority of the Deaf community, but most have smartphones and can watch the Bible translation via microSD cards or other physical media. Some regions still rely on DVDs and DVD players. In still other regions, even this kind of technology is inaccessible, and only churches or other organizations can afford the means to show videos of the Bible translation. **These widely varying situations call for carefully planned Scripture distribution strategies**, so that each people group has access to God's Word in a way that fits their needs and situation.

WORKING FROM HOME

Even though we can't travel right now, there are a range of things we can do from home. **Dan spends more than 20 hours on Zoom most weeks, doing things like:**

- Budgeting for the next fiscal year
- Consulting on and testing for a software development project
- Managing our IT and survey staff
- Providing tech support
- Meeting with partners
- Purchasing equipment
- So much more!

CHALLENGES

- No travel means training is difficult. **While training can be done on Zoom, time zone differences and language barriers make everything a challenge.** Also, training just goes better when everyone can be together.
- **Scheduling and planning for the future is anybody's guess right now.** Many, many of our plans have a tag that says "when coronavirus pandemic allows" for a start and end date.
- **Survey fieldwork, where we go to a country and investigate the language and situation there to lay the groundwork for ministry, is totally on hold right now.** These trips are usually spread throughout the year, and we're having to find other ways to keep our staff busy when they would normally be on these trips.
- Many partner and funding organizations are under stress from the coronavirus as well, and that means they need longer lead times for funding and proposals, which are made more difficult by scheduling guesswork. **Pray for wisdom and patience as everyone works through this together.**

Greetings! We hope this update finds you healthy and well. Like most of you, our lives have looked a little bit different over the past several months due to the coronavirus pandemic.

LIFE IN LOCKDOWN



Working from home isn't new to us, but staying in one country for this long is a rare occurrence in our lives! Aside from some pre-pandemic travel in January and February, Dan has only made one trip this year. DOOR's international travel freeze is still in place, and we doubt we'll see that change anytime soon. While some of DOOR's ministries have been disrupted by the pandemic, there is still much we can do, and a good deal of work continues moving forward around the world. At home, we've focused on staying busy and enjoying the western New York summer. Ezra has learned how to swim; we've spent a lot of time outside; and we have finished a lot of creative and home improvement projects. People often ask us how we stay busy, but it's really no problem; we always have something to do. We're still doing church and other social activities online, with a few small gatherings from time to time. Ezra really misses having other kids around, which is a big challenge for an extrovert!

PRAISE:

- We're thankful for a delightful summer at home, regardless of social distancing and coronavirus! We're enjoying the weather and family time.
- We're thankful that the overall impact of the pandemic on DOOR has been very insignificant.
- Praise for continued healing and improvement for Sarah's father.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Prayers for wisdom as we plan DOOR activities around a lot of uncertainty.
- Pray for our partners, many of whom have been hit harder than DOOR has, that God would provide and give them peace and stability.
- Pray for the many, many Deaf people around the world who cannot work right now due to COVID-19.



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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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