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I know a lot of hearing Christians who have a favorite verse that has been meaningful and encouraging to them.

For Deaf people, who so highly value narrative and its power to communicate deep truths, it's often a favorite story instead.

One of the favorite stories of DOOR's leadership team comes from 2 Chronicles 20:1-30. It may be a relatively obscure passage to you, but we refer to it often. Please do read it yourself, but I'll give you a quick summary. (Spoiler alert...if you'd like to read it directly from the Bible first, go ahead! I'll still be here when you get back!)

## WHAT'S YOUR *favorite* BIBLE VERSE?

Jehoshaphat, king of Judah, is told that a vast army of his enemies is coming to attack. Jehoshaphat's first response is to call the people of Judah together to pray and fast. He leads the people – men, women, and children – in prayer at the temple in Jerusalem. He recognizes God's sovereignty and power. He recounts God's faithfulness and the people's trust in Him. He lays the situation before the Lord, saying, "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." The Lord sends a message of encouragement: "The battle is not yours, but God's ... You will not have to fight this battle ... Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you." The people's response is unanimous ... falling down in worship, then standing up in praise. The next morning, Jehoshaphat has the praise team lead the army into battle (a strange battle strategy indeed!). As the praise begins, the Lord sets all the enemy armies against each other. The army of Judah collects the plunder and assembles to praise the Lord. They return to Jerusalem and praise the Lord. All the surrounding kingdoms fear God, and the kingdom of Judah is at peace.

Can you see why it might be a favorite passage? Whether we face threats in restricted access countries, COVID travel restrictions that seem to change daily, or weariness from handling complex situations (fill in your own challenges here), the battle is not ours. **If we start, continue, and end with God-focused prayer and praise, we know His presence. He may not remove the enemy or the struggle, but we are reminded that when we refocus our eyes and hearts on Him, our perspective changes, and His sovereignty, love, and work in the midst of it are so much more evident.**



Maybe you'll want to add this story to your arsenal of favorite parts of the Bible. Or maybe there's another story that's meaningful to you. **Maybe next time I see you, I'll ask, "What's your favorite Bible story?"**

You prayed that the Lord would bring interpreters to us to train, those who would want to develop a specialty in international interpreting in the Bible translation context. Thank you so much for praying! He has led us to several people, and we will soon be providing some of them with an international immersion experience.

## answer TO PRAYER

International immersion for interpreters — a few examples of their assigned learning tasks:

- Observe a team of experienced interpreters in an international context, and meet with them in post-meeting debrief sessions
- Participate in an international Deaf-led worship service.
- Compare the life experience of Deaf people from two countries that are not your own
- Meet at least 3 Deaf people (from other countries) who have different roles in the Bible translation process and learn about their tasks and perspective.

We're also working with Word Access ([wordaccess.com](http://wordaccess.com)) as they produce training workshops and modules for interpreters in these specific areas.

Please continue to pray for this process. We are still looking for interested, certified interpreters, and training them is a large task. Expanding the pool of interpreters with this specialty will not only help DOOR, but also many of our partner organizations that are involved in sign language Bible translation around the world. It's more important than ever that Deaf people lead this work, and that they consistently have a seat at the table. Interpreters are an important part of providing that access.

## prayer REQUESTS

- Pray for DOOR leaders at all levels, that praise and prayer would be pervasive in our leadership, decision making, and ministry activities.
- Many travel needs and requests are coming up this fall. I won't be able to do all of them. Pray for wisdom in choosing trips.
- I continue to visit my parents and appreciate being able to spend time with them. Please pray that as I begin to travel again, we will have good support systems in place for when I'm not here.



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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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