



*John and Jenn*  
**SAMSON**  
serving DOOR International  
*Kenya*

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Sophie doesn't like to sleep much. Pray that she would soon grow out of that.
- We need to get to America to downsize our things and put them in permanent storage. We're not sure when to go.
- Pray our plans wouldn't be further delayed due to COVID.

## The Impact of You

### OUR DONOR



Think about all your favorite Bible verses and passages. How they have impacted your life and affected who you are as a person. **Now write them down on a piece of paper.**

... did you do it? No cheating!

Ok, now take that piece of paper and set it on fire. If that's too much, wad it up into a ball and throw it in the trash. You never get to use those verses again. **They're gone forever.**

~~For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.~~

~~For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.~~

~~And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.~~

It's one thing to know that millions of Deaf people all over the world have no access to Scripture, but I want you to feel it as well.

The main obstacle for providing translations for all the sign languages in the world is a desperate lack of consultants. For the 350+ sign languages in the world, there are around a dozen consultants who can check the accuracy of sign language Bible translations. I am training to be one of them and am even now working to assist them in translation. **In supporting us, you are increasing the number of sign language Bible translation projects there can be at a time.** It's not hard to see the impact your support has, and the impact lasts. How long does a Bible affect a culture? The KJV has impacted billions of people for the past 400 years. Every Bible has a multi-generational impact. How long will our sign language Bibles be used? 50 years, 100 years, 200 years, more? **Only God truly knows that answer.**

# WHAT'S NEW?

## birth of Sophia

Sophia Grace "Sophie" Samson was born October 5th 2021 at Aga Khan hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. She's been a bundle of joy and sleep deprivation for the last 3 months, and we love her to pieces. **She's grown quite a bit in that time.**



## completing my M.A. in linguistics

I successfully defended my thesis titled "The Iconicity and Non-arbitrariness of Body Locations in Four Unrelated Sign Languages" for my Master's in Linguistics degree on December 1st. **I've been working on this for several years and I'm very happy to be done.**

	ASL	Auslan	HKSL	KSL
Iconic	90.0%	86.7%	88.0%	88.9%
Non-Arbitrary	8.1%	6.5%	6.5%	3.1%
Total	98.1%	93.2%	94.5%	92.0%

Total Motivated Signs

## COVID for Christmas

Unfortunately, our plans to visit family back home in America were disrupted by the coronavirus surge in December. Right before our flight we tested positive for COVID and had to quarantine for two weeks. We had a smaller Merry Christmas here in Kenya with the three of us.



## consultant training

As you know, we're here in Kenya for training so that I can become a sign language Bible translation consultant. I've been training all of last year, first with intercultural training last January, and starting on Kenyan Sign Language in March (after our initial February leave date got postponed). **With the formal language training and my thesis complete, we've been able to work on a personalized development program for my consultant training, which I will be doing for the next few years.** More interesting, however, I've been able to start working with the translation teams. I just finished teaching a few classes of Discourse Analysis (linguistics) to one of the translation teams, and I am supposed to be assigned to a team to work with on a day-to-day basis soon (likely the Kenyan translation team). So even though I am still getting training, I get to work with the teams doing much of the work of translation checking already. **The main difference is that all the work requires final approval from a full consultant.**



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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 of many Deaf people (and a few hearing people).

To Send Donations: Dept. 9012, P.O. Box 30516, Lansing, MI 48909-8016

*While DOOR seeks to apply every gift as intended, all contributions are solicited with the understanding that DOOR has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.*

