

THE SORENSON FAMILY

SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

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TRANSLATION UPDATES

DOOR has eight current sign language Bible translation projects and one translation resources development project that will eventually be used to support the training and establishment of even more translation teams for more sign languages. In my role as International Translation Director, I oversee all nine projects and I want to provide an update on two teams in particular. Because they are both Asian teams, we refer to them as Islesign and Mountsign to protect their identities.

Islesign is DOOR's newest team, and is probably the team that has had the longest journey with the most challenges. We've been trying to establish a translation project in that sign language for six years, and I am overjoyed to share that God is good! The Islesign team arrived at our Kenya campus in September 2021, and is now undergoing training in the principles of translation.



Mountsign has been working since 2019, so DOOR and the team started looking for a place for them to work in their home country. After a team gains enough experience and training to be confident working on their own, we encourage them to work on the last half of their project in their home country. Moving from the center to their own countries allow the teams to engage more fully with their communities throughout the translation process, such as conducting community checks and sharing their work with local churches.



PRAISE & PRAYER

Prayers:

- Our two vehicles broke down within three days of each other and had to be towed; one will need a completely new engine. This is an enormous strain on our finances. Pray for God to provide for us.
- Travel might be starting up again soon. Pray for safety and protection.
- Pray for funding for the ASL Chronological Bible Translation project so that they can continue translating more passages from the Bible into ASL.

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for the translation work continuing to happen around the world and that many Deaf people will be impacted by them!
- Praise God for providing financial aid and jobs for our two children in college, Nathan and Hannah.
- Praise God for His protection on us and for good health.

TRANSLATION PROCESS



An Inside Look: **DRAFTING**

In one of my previous newsletters, I gave you an exclusive look at one of the steps of the translation process (check out our newsletter from February 2020 for this look into community checks). Now, I'd like to give you a look at some of what type of work goes into doing first drafts. One of the most common challenges teams face is a lack of signs or concepts for specific Biblical terms.

Our Aela Mukdasa team recently experienced one of those challenges. In their sign language, they have the same sign for heaven and sky. But in the Bible, there are a lot of places where they needed to specifically communicate the difference between heaven (the place of God) and sky (what we see with our naked eyes). If someone preaching in the church used the sign, they could clarify the specific meaning. But in sign language translation, the videos are static and don't have the same interactive feel as preaching or talking to a group in person. The team had to make a decision to help differentiate the two concepts. They had a lengthy discussion with church members from their country and other members of the Deaf community, finally settling on a new sign for sky that was understandable to Deaf Aela Mukdasans.



Another example comes from our Vangasign team when they were translating Genesis 4, which is the story of Cain and Abel. The Bible says that Abel brought fat portions to offer to God, and the team was mystified. The Vangasign language did not have a sign for "fat". The consultant then shared the details of Old Testament sacrifices with the team, and explained the different parts of the sacrifice which was offered to God. The team understood the significance of "fat" in this context and created a new sign to convey this concept. The team will check with other Deaf people in their community to finalize the sign.



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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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