



John and Jenn
SAMSON
 serving DOOR International
Kenya

PRAYERS:

- John's upcoming training in May
- The upcoming community checks for the Kenyan Sign Language (KSL) translation project
- Quita, Jenn's mom, to continue recovering well from her surgery

an update from **JOHN**

It's been a very eventful few months! A consultant from another country flew in for a month in January, so most of our work was dedicated to approving passages for publication. This was a new experience for me. I have been involved in drafting, reviewing, and community checking passages, but the final consultant approval is what determines the final version of the passage. I was really encouraged because many of the passages I had worked on before were approved without changes or with minor changes, which shows me that I am on the right track!

I have been steadily progressing in my consultant training. I have an upcoming workshop in May that I will be attending, which is a standard workshop attended by consultants-in-training from several different

Bible translation organizations. I've been talking with my mentor recently and his rough estimate is that I should be able to become a full consultant within the next 3 years, which means I'm halfway there! Thank you all for your support and prayers!



Before the holidays ended, some of my family— my parents and two of my nieces, Alice and Reagan—came to Kenya to spend Christmas with us. It was a great opportunity to spend time with family, show them the work we're doing, and what living in Kenya is like. For example, Kenya has many dirt roads that are less than flat. There are speed bumps, even on the main roads. If you take them at more than five miles per hour, the people in the backseat of the car will be catapulted into the ceiling. As an uncle, I took it as my sacred duty to do so whenever possible. We were able to go visit several places and see almost every type of wild animal. We enjoyed having them here and were sad when they left.

Jenn's Spot

In September, my mom found out that she had a brain tumor. Several neurosurgeons later, she figured out it was malignant and would need to be removed in a risky, but necessary surgery. **Sophie and I found ourselves on a plane to the US at the end of January.**

We were able to stay in the home of some friends, Kate and Michel, who regularly open their home to anyone needing a temporary place to stay. This was a blessing to Sophie and I in many ways. **My parents loaned us a car for our time here, and countless other people have come around to support us and our family.**

My mom is past the surgery, and she is home and recovering well. She is past the risk of cerebral fluid leaking, so she is unlikely to have a surgery related stroke. **She is experiencing double vision, which we hope she will recover from. She will need radiation. We are so thankful for how you all have prayed and continue to pray for her.** We have seen God's hand so clearly over these past several months.

The good news is, this story looks like it will have a happy ending. **But I didn't know that going in. I didn't have a promise from God that everything would all work out; that my mom would be ok.** That was hard. But God. God worked on me in this process and is teaching me a few things:

- God is good
- God loves me and my mom a lot (Genesis 1:26-31, John 3:16)
- "...in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." This includes me and my mom (Romans 8:28)
- God is eager to give good gifts to His children (Matthew 7:7-11)
- I should rejoice and praise God always (Philippians 4:4-5)
- I shouldn't worry about things, even big ones, but instead take them to God. And He will give me peace (Philippians 4:6-7)

In the midst of this storm, God asked me to trust Him, and trust His character. **Trust Him to be the good, all-powerful God He is, regardless of how things might turn out.** Now, He is challenging me to apply this lesson to other areas of my life. Let's just say I'm a work in progress!



1142 44th St SE
Grand Rapids, MI • 49508
616.741.7200
DOORInternational.org

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