



THE SIMONS FAMILY

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serving in the US w/DOOR International

SIGN LANGUAGE WORK

Did you know there are about 2,750 languages in the world which still have inadequate Scripture? More than 380 of these are sign languages. Every Tribe Every Nation (ETEN) and its partners have the goal of translating the Bible into languages people understand by the year 2033. This is a big vision, especially for sign languages.

ETEN selected 15 sign languages that they wanted to see receive a complete Bible translation. Many of the countries chosen have over 500,000 Deaf people, and their Bible not only has the ability to reach their own country but potentially neighboring countries. Kenyan Sign Language (KSL) was among the ones that were picked.

Many sign languages today are working on New Testament translations or portions of Scripture. The work in Kenyan Sign Language is a major step forward in helping Deaf communities experience God's Word in a language they truly understand.

Some people have asked if AI could speed up Bible translation. While AI is improving quickly, it is still not accurate enough for sign language Bible translation. Sign languages include hands, eyes, facial expressions, and body language, which AI still struggles to translate naturally and in a way accepted by the Deaf community.

However, AI can help support parts of the translation process.

KENYA CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

With the KSL team being designated as one of the 15 countries to do a full Bible translation, we are needing to improve our translation process to make it more efficient. The translation team will be working closely with Bible consultants, language advisors, and exegetical check consultants.

In the past, the translator would film the Scripture portion first. Then the video would be sent off to the consultant to review and approve. This process could take several months.

Now we are changing the process. The translation team, consultants, and advisors will be working together in the same video studio. This means the translation can be filmed, reviewed, and approved much faster, sometimes even the same day. Instead of waiting months, the team can work through the story together and make adjustments right away.

In order for this to happen, we are remodeling our current offices in Kenya. The goal is to have a studio space where four to five people can work together in the same room. We are also upgrading to a more modern video technology that allows the team to capture the footage, review it, and process it immediately.



I traveled to Kenya in mid-March for a month to help with all of these upgrades. With much to accomplish in a month's time, I felt prompted to ask my coworker, Philippe, to join as well as a local friend from

Northwest Arkansas, Aaron. Aaron is a "jack of all trades" in building and construction. Aaron is fairly new to faith; he is excited for this ministry opportunity. Here is a little of Aaron's story.



AARON'S STORY

Hello, my name is Aaron Shaw. Before I accepted Christ, I spent a lot of time with people who drank heavily. We frequented a lot of rough places.

Growing up I attended several churches, but things were not explained clearly. I knew that Jesus was Lord over the earth but still did not fully understand. Later I started attending the Deaf Ministry at Fellowship Bible Church (FDM) with the Simons family. For the first time in my heart and mind, I finally understood who Jesus really was. I am very grateful to learn and grow with the people there.

After accepting Christ, I endured many trials...friends betrayed me, my house was hit by a tornado twice, the sewer flooded the house, insurance stopped covering it, and I lost a lot of money. But through it all I had peace knowing the Lord was in control. Before, I would get very upset in hard situations, but now I trust Him.

Now I pray and read the Bible much more than before, even several times a day.

With this opportunity to go to Kenya, I look forward to helping people understand who Jesus is. I am excited to see what the Lord will do next in my journey.



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ABOUT DOOR

DOOR International's mission is to bring God's Word and reproducing Christian fellowship to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Christian mission organization.

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.



SCAN TO GIVE