

HOME

Reaching the hearing-impaired

—by Jenna-lea Kelland

HOST A CHURCH PREMIERE!



Are you ignoring the Deaf?

Unless one has a Deaf relative or are involved in a Deaf organisation, we are often oblivious to the problem that consumes so many lives and as a result, forget to reach out to people with this disability.

We are sheltered from the fact that 65-70% of Deaf people in South Africa are

ting the Gospel to people who cannot read or hear. With projects to translate the Bible into signed videos, CVC Media was approached by a Deaf organisation and after much brain-storming, realised that a film that would explain the Gospel would be better suited for the Deaf.

This is how 'Home' was born - South Af-

Finding the perfect cast

'Home' is completely driven by sign language (SASL), but with subtitles, gripping music and sound by Juan Visser, the hearing are definitely catered for.

A particularly unique aspect of the film is that all the main actors are Deaf. Lisa Craye, interpreter and one of the founders of Talking Hands, organised and held auditions within church communities to find appropriate actors for the various roles. A few of the Deaf actors were actively involved in drama and have previous experience in plays.

The story, written by Lynda and Andy James, was inspired by the moving parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). This innovative and contemporary adaption has a true South African feel.

The parable of the prodigal son

Jacob, fresh out of school and restless in life, approaches his successful father to ask for an early inheritance. He promises his father that he will use the money for a business venture, yet when arriving in Johannesburg meets an old friend with a negative influ-

ence. It is not long until Jacob finds himself caught up in the temptations of gambling, bars and women. Eventually, Jacob is drowning in debt, despair and living on the street when his brother finds him and takes him home.

This difficult journey of a young boy, as with the Biblical parable, illustrates lessons

Reaching Deaf communities with the Gospel

This movie provides an incredible tool for both the Deaf and the hearing – by bringing people together and highlighting the difficulties of being Deaf in South Africa while sharing the love of our Father, God. For pastors in South Africa, 'Home' can be

The Deaf are often overlooked, particularly in the area of media...which is why 'Home', the first film for the Deaf, was created to share the Gospel.

This movie aims to narrow the gap between the hearing and the Deaf - by bringing people to Christ through a powerful Biblical message.

With 5% of the world's population (360 million people) living with disabling hearing loss, the need to reach these folk with the Gospel is of great importance. In our country, South African Sign Language (SASL) is used as a first language for an estimated 300 000 users.

With inaccurate and outdated statistics available, it is clear that the Deaf community are consistently marginalised and overlooked - particularly in the area of media.

unemployed and need the love of God and the care of a local church. Unemployment and illiteracy are high in South Africa's deaf community.

Finding a solution

You might think, "What can I do to help?" As Christians, we have a mandate to "become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the Gospel, that I may share in its blessings." 1 Cor 9:22-23.

There is no easy way of communica-

rica's first full feature Deaf film.

The vision

CVC Media, producer of this unique film, embraces a mission statement and mandate to reach people and guide them into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Directed by Jarrod Saunders and filmed in Cape Town, the purpose of the film is to see both Deaf and hearing people come to know Christ as their personal Saviour through the powerful Biblical message of the film.

of family, friendship and most importantly, forgiveness. His father receives him with open arms, expressing his love: "Son, my dear, dear son, my love for you is much bigger than your debts."

God's provision

The testimony of God's goodness was evident in the making of this film. With funding mostly coming from CVC Media, part of a global charity organisation called Christian Vision, much of the practical support came from unassuming sources.

used for an outreach to the Deaf in your community.

A strategic opportunity would be to invite others to attend the upcoming premiere with CV Media on the 26th of May in Cape Town. They will also be working with churches to host countrywide premieres. Whether Deaf or hearing, get people excited to "Preach the Good News to everyone." Mark 16:15. ■

HOME was produced by CVC Media. For more info or to watch the trailer, see www.home-movie.co.za