



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing Hope and Love through Jesus Christ

February 1, 2011 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.com

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1st Peter 4:10



Brenda and Esther

As we arrived at Brenda and Esther's home to see where they live with their father, we were told that they had gone to fetch water. We began walking on the narrow path leading to the communities' water source and found the girls walking along the way. Brenda, the oldest sister, was carrying two small Jerry Cans. One was for her and one for her younger sister Esther. Esther could not carry her own Jerry Can and so Brenda was helping her. I imagined how different my childhood would have been if as a young girl I had to make this trip several times a day to fetch water for my family.



When we reached the communities' sole water source, we found that it was stagnant, dirty water. I felt sick just looking at it and watching Brenda fill her Jerry Cans. What would it be like if I had to drink this water everyday? What would it taste like? And how often would I get sick?



We followed the girls along the narrow path through high bushes and weeds back to the family's home. The walk was rather lengthy, especially for two little girls to carry water. Many young girls in Uganda are raped every day on short trips like this to get water. Were they scared to make this trip by themselves every day?



Brenda showed me their home and the room where they sleep. Brenda, Esther and their father were sleeping together on one mat on the dirt floor with no mattress or pillow to soften the hard ground.



As I have been in Uganda for some time now, I am not as affected by seeing constant hardship as I once was. I do not burst into tears every time I see a hurting or starving child. Instead, I remind myself how God has given us the opportunity to change the lives of seven – and now nine children whose lives will be forever changed by God's love and compassion. However, after this day of seeing a glimpse into Brenda and Esther's lives, I found myself very emotional.

Before taking the girls to their new home, we received all the paperwork we needed from the LC1 (local council government official) and police. As we left for home, Esther (the younger sister) snuggled in my arms and soon fell asleep. As Joseph drove the van, I soon found myself crying and thanking God that I was born into a loving, Christian family where all my needs and wants were provided. I never had to walk miles to fetch water, do manual labor, or go in search of food. I never had to take care of, as a parent does, for my younger sibling. I never experienced true hunger.

It humbles me that God has given us the responsibility to care for these children that are in need of a family and a home. I know that these children will become the next leaders of Uganda. They will be future teachers, businessmen, nurses, doctors, pastors, and missionaries.



From pictures left to right → Fauziya and Annet are helping dry Esther off after her bath. Esther is hidden under the blue towel. After drying off, Annet helps Esther with her new pajamas. Fauziya and Annet are very excited to have two new sisters. In the middle picture, the side profile of Esther shows how malnourished she is. After bathing, Brenda and Esther join the other children in the living room and immediately begin playing. Brenda picks up a baby doll. The other children enjoy getting to know their new sisters!

Sponsors for Brenda & Esther

Our new girls, Brenda and Esther, are in need of loving sponsors. I have attached their profiles with this newsletter. Prayerfully consider sponsoring these children and giving them, "a hope for the future" (Jeremiah 29:11). Please be in prayer for these two little girls, Brenda (age 5) and Esther (age 4).

Thank you for School Fees!

Each of our children including one of our new little girls, Brenda, will be able to go to school this term due to our wonderful sponsors. Joshua, Joel, Oscar, Fauziya, and Brenda were very excited to start school this week. Thank you for educating these children and helping to provide a better future for them. Pictures will follow in the next newsletter.

Medical Clinics with Loving One by One

Joseph and I had the privilege of helping the non-profit organization, Loving One by One, with several medical clinics. I was able to help in the pharmacy and Joseph helped with translating. As Joseph translated, he had the opportunity to share the love of Christ with one of the men attending the medical clinic. The man quickly repented and allowed Jesus to change his life forever. Thank you to Sherry Roberts for this wonderful opportunity to serve. We had a great time getting to know everyone on the short term missions' team. Pictures following on the next page →



Medical Team Working in the Pharmacy



Joseph and Sara



Medical Clinic at a Local Church

Thank you to EVERYONE who has been so generous in supporting us!

God Bless You!

Sara Hamilton Kiwanuka

Director and Founder of Rafiki Africa Ministries

Rafiki means Friend! Thank you for being a friend to the Rafiki Family!

- Praise that Joseph's hernia repair surgery was successful and he is now healing.
- Pray for wisdom and discernment that God will show his desires for the ministry to the staff.
- Pray that Rafiki Africa Ministries will always be in the center of God's will.
- Pray against any attacks of the enemy.
- Pray for God's protection over the Rafiki Home.
- Pray for God's continued guidance in rearing these beautiful children.
- Pray for our staff that takes care of the children daily – that they will be strengthened and continue to show God's love to the children.
- Pray that God will be a light in these children's lives and the children will ultimately come to know the Lord personally.
- Pray that God will continue to provide for our needs as we grow and that God will be glorified.
- Pray that we will continue to be good stewards of the money we receive for the ministry.

Please Give by Sponsoring A Life:

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$30 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We have 9 children currently in the home (listed from youngest to oldest) Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Brenda, Mary, and Joshua. When you decide to sponsor a child you will be helping take care of their needs by paying for their shelter, medical needs, food, clothes, and education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these children. You can sponsor a child as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: sarinafrica@yahoo.com

Donations can be made payable to and mailed to:

Rafiki Africa Ministries

P.O. Box 3526

Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 100% of money raised goes to helping orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. Rafiki is classified as a 501©3 charity and contributions to Rafiki are tax deductible under Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the tax code. Rafiki is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code. This exemption is retroactive from the date of filing the 501©3. For further clarification, contact Frank Hamilton at (512) 771-0681.

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