



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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"When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?'" (John 4:7).

Dear Family and Friends,

Water. It's a constant challenge here in Zambia. In the States, people turn on their taps and expect a safe, abundant flow of water. But here in our home, we watch a thin little trickle of water come out of our tap. Then we pour it through our purifying filter to make it safe to drink. At night, the water company just turns off the water supply, so there's no dallying after dinner to wash up the dishes!

But, at least we have water in our home. For most of the girls who come to our Rafiki Girls' Center in a poor district of Lusaka, there is no water coming into their homes. There's no indoor plumbing. Water is turned on at street side taps every third day in various locations around Matero. Before coming to school, many of the girls join the long lines in their neighborhood, all carrying pails, jars, and barrels as they go to "fetch" water to carry back for their families' use. (They can identify with the Samaritan woman going to the well to draw water!) The girls and the women often carry their heavy pails home on their heads. Even little children do their part, following along behind, toting water in one-liter plastic bottles, sometimes with one in each hand!

At the girls' center, we are so thankful to have a large plastic tank to store water on the day our area receives water, so that it will last during the days we do not. Recently, improvements to our storage system were made, and we now have the water we need. After we filter and chlorinate it, it is safe to drink. (Last December, we had asked you to pray for sufficient water and God has provided. Thank you for praying!)



ED WITH WATER FILTER

It is such a blessing to have available both the water that satisfies physically and the "living water" of Jesus that satisfies spiritually to give to the students at the center.

And water also has provided a reason for prayer and praise at our building site for the new orphanage Rafiki Village Zambia about an hour outside of Lusaka. Lots of good water will be a must when we have many children and staff to supply. On a recent Friday, the drilling company began to sink the "borehole" (well). After sixty meters and no water, they stopped. It was a "dry hole." We prayed and asked others in our churches over here to pray. On Monday, the drillers tried another site and hit a wonderful big gusher! Plenty of water for our future needs! Thank you, Lord!

Our new class of girls who joined us April 1st is making wonderful progress. The girls are so proud of their newly learned sewing skills and are making cute stuffed animals for sale at the Rafiki Exchange.



GIRLS WITH STUFFED LIONS

