



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and blameless before him” (Ephesians 1:3-4).

Dear Family and Friends,

Enrichment: to make rich or richer by the addition or increase of some desirable quality, attribute, or ingredient. We have just completed a special time in Florida being enriched by some great Bible study and training as we have returned to the States for our furlough. What a joy it is to be learning and growing at this seminar in the new home of the Rafiki Home Office. One thing that we have relearned is that although we are growing greatly and enjoying the wonderful fellowship of fellow ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff), the Home Office, and Rafiki Area Representatives, we have already been enriched to a great extent by being in our beloved Uganda among the people that we have grown to love so dearly.

Enrichment in the School: We have been so greatly encouraged by the growth in the school not only on the academic level but by the spiritual growth that we are seeing not just in the resident students but in the day students, many of whom have never opened a Bible in their lives. In the Primary Two Bible class (grade two), the teacher was reviewing the Day of Atonement in the Rafiki Bible Study on Leviticus. She asked the students to connect the two goats that were an essential part of that festival with the Lord Jesus Christ. Student after student raised their hands and explained that the first goat was the sin offering which was killed outside the camp (as Jesus was killed outside the camp) and the blood was taken into the Holy of Holies and sprinkled on the mercy seat. Another student explained that the blood of that goat could not take the sins of the people but just covered them but when Jesus took His blood to God it took away our sins.

Then they tackled the problem of the scapegoat and described how the priest placed the sins of the people on the goat and then it was released into the desert. A girl said this was a picture of the Bible verse that they were learning that week which said, *“as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us”* (Psalm 103:12). Marsha was amazed at the depth of the teaching and the knowledge of these African second graders who were once helpless, hopeless orphans with no

future. How rich the blessings they have received from God their Father.

Or Marsha could tell you the story of the student in the JSS (Junior Secondary School) who was asked in earth science to tell about how old he thought the earth was and defend his theory. After discussing several theories he wrote that it did not matter how old the earth was. God knew how old it was and what was important was that he, the student, knew that God had created the earth and had a purpose for his life on that earth.



ESTHER STUDYING HER BIBLE



SOME BOYS FROM THE JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDYING AT BREAKFAST

There are so many stories that Marsha could share of the growth of our children in our schools. Stu could share about the coat of arms that one student made for Jesus in art class that had the word “JESUS” at the center. From the “J” a road was drawn that ended at a cross with a lamb on it. On the road the student had written “For God so loved the world.” This youthful

student was in the second grade. As you can see the students at Rafiki Schools learn every subject from a biblical worldview. God is the central focus of their studies. How exciting to think about the effect this Christ-centered education will have on their young lives and what effect these students will have on the future of Uganda and Africa.

Enrichment in Construction: As we look back over our last term, we realize that God has greatly enriched our Village in giving it the buildings that are needed for future growth. Since we returned in January 2007, Stu has been involved in the construction of three cottages in Uganda (now all filled with boys) and a primary school. In 2008, he began construction on a residence hall for boys which is near our Junior Secondary School. When we return from furlough, construction on this building will speed up and it should be finished this year. He has also assisted in the construction of eight buildings in our satellite village which is ready now for the hiring and training of staff. In addition, he has been involved in helping with the construction in Rwanda. What a great joy to see the blessings that these building have brought and will bring in their respective areas.



STU AND ALFRED, OUR LEAD CONTRACTOR

Enrichment in our Family: As many of you know by now, the Coiners are going to have a first this year as their daughter Lisa will be marrying Jonathan Barnes on December 27th 2008. Both girls were able to take time off from work and join us for five days in Virginia for a great family reunion and a bridal shower. The next time we will see Lisa it will be before her wedding in December. We are also greatly enriched in that Stu has significantly improved in his health, having been in sinus rhythm now for over eight weeks. They are beginning to

decrease his heart medication which is a wonderful encouragement.



MEL AND LISA AT LISA'S BRIDAL SHOWER

We love being with family and we would love seeing as many of you as possible before we return to Uganda on August 7. You have enabled us to do what God has called us to do, to reach out to helpless, hopeless, and vulnerable children not only with the food, clothes, medicine, and love that they need, but also with the life-giving message of the gospel. So you are involved with us in an enrichment not only of these children but an enrichment of Africa which we will see flower in the years to come. We thank you so much for the willingness that you have had in giving and in praying for this wonderful ministry to the people of Africa. We are looking forward to being able to share with as many of you personally the blessings that have so enriched our lives. At this time there are many opportunities for enrichment in your life within Rafiki. For example, over sixty orphan children currently residing at Rafiki Villages need sponsors or short term volunteers are needed to assist in the Villages and participate in community medical clinics. May God richly bless you in the Lord Jesus Christ!

Resting in Him,

Stu, Marsha, Lisa, Melanie

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NOTE: Please visit www.rafiki-foundation.org to find information about your ROS, what *Rafiki* is doing, the Villages, and the Exchange.