



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*“Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds”
(Hebrews 10:23-24).*



Living overseas has magnified our understanding of how important communication is between family and friends. Your support through different ways of communication is truly our lifeline. Being with you over our 2004 summer furlough filled us with abounding love which will keep us lifted up throughout this year. God is faithful and we do stand on His promise to fulfill the work in and through each one of His children. Having the opportunity to share His faithfulness with you in your churches and homes confirmed the hope of His promises! We thank the Lord for your graciousness and we already look forward to seeing you again in July 2005! Meanwhile we hold onto the precious support we have by communicating through e-mail and letters. Most importantly, we could never fulfill God's work without your commitment to pray for us—we thank the Lord for you!

Since our return, we vividly see God's faithfulness through **RAFIKI** . . .

REACHING OUR GOD-GIVEN GOALS ~

God has given Rafiki a number of goals pertaining to physical, spiritual, educational, and social needs of people in and around our Rafiki Villages. In Nairobi we see these goals being fulfilled right before our eyes. One being fulfilled in a big way is the physical goal to keep orphans and vulnerable children alive and healthy. The orphans that have come and now are a part of a loving Rafiki family are flourishing because they are safe and growing in a healthy environment. Last Thursday before our weekly ROS prayer meeting, the children surprised us by singing a few songs, and it was wonderful to see God's hope and love shining in their faces! When they were finished they walked on as a group being led by one of the Rafiki Mother's singing, "I have decided to follow Jesus!" **Pray that God continues to provide the means for a healthy environment at Rafiki.**

ALLOWING OUR RAFIKI GIRLS TO BE TRAINED AS LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY~

Quarterly we have medical clinics reaching out

to many of the surrounding villages and each morning we begin with devotions. We look forward to this time as our Rafiki girls have matured in their confidence in sharing God's Word in English and then translating to Kiswahili. The girls have been taking turns, working together as they sing and share an attribute of God to the many waiting patients at the clinic. We can see the daily training they receive at the girls' center come to life as they apply what they learn making an impact on their community! Pray that God will protect and mature them in His strength.

**FULFILLING OUR ROLE IN
SERVING IN OUR LOCAL CHURCH ~**

God has given our family a wonderful opportunity to serve each Sunday in a church where help is very needed! Just as in the States, the churches are always in need of servants. Both Tom and Betsy teach in Sunday school, while Constance and Rebekah (a lovely fourteen-year-old living with us while her parents are on sabbatical in the States this year) assist. Wade also is serving by "setting up church" (we meet under a tent) and helping with the sound system. Jake loves having his dad teach his class each Sunday. His part is being able to answer all the questions! Teaching in a class combined with ex-patriots and Kenyans is enriching. Last Sunday as Betsy was teaching her seven- to nine-year-old class in Luke on the rich young ruler, before she finished the story one little Kenyan boy raised his hand saying, "I would have given Jesus everything to give to the poor." Then another little boy raised his hand with the dearest expression saying the same thing. They really meant it, and they really know the meaning of need. Betsy's heart was so touched seeing God's Word coming to life in the hearts of these little ones. May we all pray and be challenged to take hold of the privilege of serving in our churches!

**IN WATCHING OUR CHILDREN
GROW IN THEIR TRUST IN GOD ~**

Wade, Constance, and Jake are also flourishing in their school, and it is amazing to see their faith grow. Living where it is not safe, lacking the conveniences, and being away from extended family has

caused them to understand what life is all about and where our priorities and focus should fall—on God! Presently, Wade is in the process of applying and discerning choices for university. Please pray that God would intervene in his first choice which is being accepted into the United States Naval Academy. Constance has been such a supportive friend to Rebekah who is away from her family. Jake is giving his all in school and doing fantastically (he still would rather have only P.E. and recess!).

**KEEPING HIS PROTECTIVE
HAND ON OUR FAMILY ~**

Driving in Nairobi is extremely dangerous, yet we experience His safety everyday. Along with driving, we experience danger at night all around us, yet we experience His peace and comfort in our home. Rosslyn Academy, where our kids attend, has increased security, but we know God is holding them in His hand moment by moment! Pray that God keeps our compound free from any criminal activity.

**IN BLESSING YOU WITH A
COMPASSIONATE HEART TO CONTINUE
SUPPORTING US IN PRAYER AND FINANCE ~**

You have heard us share that God has confirmed in our hearts that this is where He wants us to serve, but we could not fulfill this work without YOU! YOU make it possible for us to live and work here and we sincerely thank you and pray that God blesses and keeps you in His hand as you selflessly give to His work through Rafiki!

Sending Our Love,

*Tom and Betsy
Wade, Constance, Jake*

Tom, Betsy, Wade, Constance and Jake

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