



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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TEACH THE CHILDREN

"Children need to learn the doctrine of the cross that they may find immediate salvation. I thank God that we believe in the salvation of children as children. Go on and believe that God will save your children. Be not content to sow principles in their minds which may possibly develop in after years, but be working for immediate conversion. What a mercy it will be if our children are thoroughly grounded in the doctrine of redemption by Christ!

Some talk to children about being good boys and girls, and so on; that is to say, they preach the law to children, though they would preach the gospel—the whole gospel—to grown-up people! Is this honest? Is this wise?

Children need the gospel—the whole gospel, the unadulterated gospel. They ought to have it, and if they are taught of the Spirit of God, they are as capable of receiving it as persons of ripe years. Teach the little ones that Jesus died—the Just for the unjust—to bring us to God."

[Charles Spurgeon quoted in Ryken P. [2005] *Exodus: Saved for God's Glory: Preaching the Word Series.*

LEARNING ABOUT THE SAVIOR

Eight-year-old twin brothers Joseph K. and Josiah W. Mutinda want to know if their parents died for them. "Madam Yeen," they ask, "why are we here at Rafiki? Why do our father and mother not take care of us? You say they have died. Did they die for us?"

Everyday, I have the wonderful privilege of telling these boys that Jesus died for them. I tell them He died for their parents—*He died for the whole world.* They want to know why God required Jesus to be a substitute for them?

They try their best to be good; to obey their teachers, Madam Yeen, and Rafiki, but sometimes they fail. Rafiki Village Kenya gives me the opportunity to explain that no one is able to work himself free from the bondage of sin through his own effort. For this reason, God has given us the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

The twins may not have completely understood everything I have told them, but they will come again and again to ask more questions. I like their questions because it means they are thinking about our conversations. Over time, I believe they will understand it.

HELP THE CHILDREN

We also have some special needs children whom God has given us to provide more than the usual protection and care. Hearing-impaired six-year-old EKC needs a speech therapist to help him. Six-year-old AM is slow in speech, language, and motor skills. Nine-year-old PKK's attention span is very short so he is unable to focus or complete his tasks. Seven-year-old HKC is struggling with English language arts.

If you are gifted in any of these areas—and you would like to exercise that gift to help children—would you pray about coming to Rafiki Village Kenya as a MiniMissionary? Please contact our Home Office at www.rafiki-foundation.org for more details on the MiniMissionary Training Program.



SARAH AND CATHERINE: A SOURCE ENCOURAGEMENT

THE CHILDREN ENCOURAGE

There are also children who are God's messengers of encouragement to me. Seven-year-old AKM wants to know how much I trust God "to let your old mother stay in Singapore? She sick, right? God also there, right?"

We have a twenty-eight-year-old Korean-American MiniMissionary serving with us for two months. Seven-year-old MYM asked me, "Is he your brother? You look the same." I have missed my nephews and nieces in Singapore so God has sent me a representative.

Three-year-old DM runs up to me all the time. I stoop to his level so he can put his arms around me. He whispers, "Jesus loves you this much."

In the crowded Nairobi Children's Court, I was waiting for our case to be called. At this hearing, two-year old GM's destiny would be determined—will he be assigned to the protection and care of the

Rafiki Village Kenya until he attains the age of eighteen years? Or, will he not be allowed to come?

Tiny GM stood beside me; then he turned and walked off scanning the faces in the room. A Kenyan woman bent down to scoop him into her arms. He turned and ran back to me, hugging my knees. She laughed, "This child surely knows to whom he belongs."

I smiled. God has already "predicted" the outcome of this day's hearing.

THE MOTHERS GIVE

Our Rafiki Mothers are priceless. They do an amazing job of nurturing the children and caring for them. I am almost ashamed when they refrain from taking any credit for their selfless ministry to these children. Look at what two mothers wrote below:

An excerpt from a letter about a grandfather's visit:

"I got to talk to him and he expressed his gratitude for how his grandson has been taken care of and how he has grown. He managed to share that by the time the child was brought to Rafiki after the loss of his mother, he was not able to feed well. He said he had lost hope and thought that the boy would not survive.

I then took him to the cottage where Morris sleeps and he marveled at the magnificent house that Morris lives in. He actually thanked God for Rafiki and what they are giving to his grandson. I then told him that by God's grace we at Rafiki are looking forward to raising Morris into a godly contributor to this nation. He promised to visit again when his time will be due, and also bring along his wife. He was also grateful for the photos he took home."

I am,
Your Mama Faith.

. . .and a letter about an uncle's visit:

Hello. As you know, Kasyoka and Munyithya's uncle and friends were here. They could not express their joy when they saw their children. First, they said the children have grown very big. What made them astonished was to hear them speak fluent English and Kiswahili. The children explained that they are learning many things in school. Kasyoka told them she knows Rafiki is the only home she has because she gets everything she needs, goes to school, and wear clean cloths.

The visitors praised your effort but I told them, our director gives glory to God because she is a servant of God, and whatever she does, she does it glorify her God."

Mama Miriam, 15th July 07

KEEPING THEIR ROOTS

Our seventy-nine orphaned children are encouraged to keep their roots through visits from extended family and relatives every six months. Our eight Rafiki Mothers have always welcomed these visits. As the children grow, they will not forget where they were before they came to Rafiki.

An African proverb says, "You may not know where you are going, but you must remember where you came from. Then you can say whether God has His finger on you or not."

As the children grow older, they will be helped to become the godly leaders in Kenya.



WITH A LITTLE IMAGINATION, OLD TIRES BECOME NEW TOYS

BECAUSE YOU GIVE

During my weeks of travel in the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States—and twenty-two presentations later—you have been faithful in your prayers and generous financial contributions which have enabled me to continue serving God by serving the orphans and abandoned children of Kenya. I am unable to thank every one of you personally, but I do want you to know how much your support and encouragement spur me on to continue in this ministry, my ninth year of service with Rafiki.

I remind myself that I did not come to Africa alone. I must remember that God called me, and He sent me—and you. If you have an opportunity to be in Africa, please come visit the children and mothers, and be encouraged.

In His amazing grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yeen-Lan Lam".

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