



# The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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*"I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing; and I will cause showers to come down in their season; there shall be showers of blessing. Then the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase" (Ezekiel 34:26).*

After months of dust! dust! dust!, everyone in Jos is expectant of the first downpour that signals the start of the rainy season. Bore holes and riverbeds are drying up. Not only is this a household concern, but for those who wash cars by the riverside, an income source as well. Still, in the midst of the dryness, we are experiencing showers of blessings. We hope that you will rejoice with us as you read about the latest downpour of blessing that God is working through The Rafiki Foundation in Nigeria.



## Rafiki Medical Clinic

We had our first medical clinic March 7-11. The clinic was staffed by professionals from the States and also from the medical community here in Jos. All of these people volunteered their time and skills so people from the surrounding villages could come for free medical care. Each day, three to four hundred people lined up at the Village gate with many of them spending the night so they could be the first in line. As the people waited, pastors from our partner churches would stand on top of the walled area so the crowds of people could hear and share the gospel; we had over two hundred people receive Christ as their Savior! Many volunteers from our local churches and BSF classes counseled people who were HIV positive or had terminal illnesses and shared the love of Christ with them. Showers of blessings!

## Blessing

While on weekend duty at the village, David was informed that a visitor had arrived. It was the grandmother and uncle of Blessing, a primary

one student. Blessing had never attended school before coming to Rafiki and could not read, write, or speak English. All during the visit, grandmother exhorted her to learn to read and write. Blessing had an extra big smile on her face when it was time to visit her classroom. When Uncle saw Blessing's school books, her writings, and drawings, he was overwhelmed with joy. When Rafiki Mother Esther asked Blessing to pray before we ended the visit and she prayed in English, it brought grandmother to joyful tears. Momma Esther joked with grandmother that now Blessing is ahead of her. Showers of blessings!



BLESSING WITH HER GRANDMOTHER AND UNCLES

## Hosea

To keep with the analogy, you could say that this young boy has been like a leaky roof on a rainy day. A constant interruption in class and alienated from other students, we put him on a behaviour program; the goal—to sit, listen, and participate appropriately with hopes to catch up academically and to develop friendship skills. The reward for meeting the day's goal was playing David's guitar or time on his computer. After his rock star aspirations diminished, Hosea thought he would try the computer. After weeks of success, Hosea was allowed to invite other students to join him in the Headmaster's office to learn computer. As a result, not only is Hosea behaving and learning, but also is making

friends and is learning how to be a friend.  
Showers of blessing!



HOSEA AND DAVID

### Culture Day

Five school days a year are set aside to teach the children about the traditions of Nigerian culture. The theme for our March Culture Day was "Drums." Drummers and dancers from two local tribes, where many of our children formerly lived, came to perform. Big John, a frequent volunteer from nearby Miango village, taught the children to listen carefully to the drums because the drums talk and when you hear "your" drum it will make you want to dance! Big John also taught the children about the Hunting Festival when villagers will dance at the end of dry season in an effort to bring the spring rains. He also taught them about the Living God who does bring the rain in His good and sovereign time. Nearby villages held their Festivals but still no rain. When it finally did rain, just this week, the children were quick to thank God in heaven for bringing the rain.



### Flame tree

We can learn many lessons from God's creation, but one that stands out here at the end of dry season is the beautiful and aptly named flame tree. It comes into full bloom under the stress

of no water. Stress is part of life anywhere, and Nigeria is certainly no exception, but like the flame tree, when it is dry, hot, and dusty, God is still at work bringing showers of blessings. We too are called to bring showers of blessings amidst the stress of our daily lives.

### What a downpour!

In Nigeria, when the first rain comes, people run out and soak it all in! We pray that your partnership with Rafiki's ministry to orphans in ten African countries will bring you showers of blessings. The need is great, the work is stressful, and the blessings? Well, they just keep pouring down! Come see us this summer so we can tell you more of the fruit and increase the Lord is working for His glory.

Here is our schedule:

- **July 10**, 10:30 A.M.  
Hickory Grove Presbyterian Church  
Tennessee
- **July 13<sup>th</sup>**, 10:00A.M.  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
1509 McKittrick St.  
(509) 667-2121.
- **July 16**, 10 A.M. – 2P.M.  
Evangelical Reformed Church  
7435 S. Madison Street, Tacoma WA  
**The Rafiki Experience:** buffet luncheon, special music, ROS, sale of RGC Products, Kids program, nursery care, Q & A, and more!
- **July 9-15**  
Julie and girls in Tacoma area
- **July 17**  
Mt. Vernon, WA.
- **July 19-26**  
Orcas Island, WA.

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Praying to see many of you soon!

*David & Julie  
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