



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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“And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus”
(Philippians 4:19 NIV).

A child needs...

Have you ever considered what it takes to raise a child? Maybe a better question is: What preparations are necessary before a child can come into your life? Nancy and I have been thinking a lot about those questions these days because the children are going to be coming to the Rafiki Village Zambia very soon!

A child needs to have a shelter from the weather. The children we have seen may have a bit of shelter, but some are sleeping on mats on a dirt floor. Many do not have inside plumbing or good sanitation. The roof may leak when it rains. At the Rafiki Village, God has provided for us to build eight sturdy, dry, and clean cottages to shelter them from the elements. They will have clean, comfortable beds with sheets and blankets. They will have good clothes and adequate sanitation.



THE COTTAGES—SOON TO BE FILLED WITH CHILDREN

A child needs a variety of nutritious foods in sufficient quantities to meet the demands of a growing body. Most of the orphans we visit eat only one food, *nshima* and it is not enough to maintain a healthy, growing body. At the Rafiki Village, God has provided a kitchen equipped to prepare the meals a child needs, every day, three times per day. He also provides the food that will be placed on the Rafiki tables.



THE KITCHEN—WHERE NUTRITIOUS FOOD
WILL BE PREPARED

A child needs to learn how to become a useful, self-supporting, godly contributor in their community. Guardian families often lack the means to send an orphan child to school, and so they are left to learn whatever little they can on the street, vulnerable to older, stronger people. At the Rafiki Village, God has provided schools, curriculum, and teachers that will prepare the children to meet the challenges of daily living. They will learn a biblical world-view from classical Christian educational methods and curriculum.



THE SCHOOL—WHERE YOUNG MINDS WILL LEARN

Children need someone to love them, hold them, and guide them. A double-orphan has lost his/her mother and father, and so must be cared for by a relative or guardian. Resources are scarce, and there are many mouths to feed. Age and poor health can prevent the guardian from fulfilling that role as they would like. At the Rafiki Village God has provided the godly ChildCare Mother: a woman who has a desire to minister to the needs of the children and has been trained and equipped to rear the children God sends to us. Nancy has begun the four-week training program with five women. These godly, mature, and experienced women will form the first of many families that will grow up at the Rafiki Training Village in Zambia.



THE MOTHERS—SOON TO HAVE THEIR ARMS FULL

In case you missed it: God is bringing all the elements necessary for the children together at the right time—this time. Nancy and I are looking toward February 1—the day that we hope the children will arrive!

We believe that God provides for all of the needs of the children (as well as ours). He does that through the generous giving of people that may read these words and respond to His promptings. Some give to build buildings and to equip them. Others give on a regular, systematic basis to sponsor children. Still others give to make it possible for Nancy and me to be here. To all of you, we say, "Thank you, and please keep it up!" The point is, if God is prompting you to help Rafiki in its work of turning helpless orphans into godly contributors in their countries, answer the call and do whatever He has prompted you to do.

In addition to financial contributions to the support of orphans, Rafiki is in need of people who will go to the ten countries in which we are working as short-term MiniMissionaries or as long-term Rafiki Overseas Staff. What is God calling you to do for Him?

Prayer Points:

- Praise God that we have been able to move to the Village and begin the ChildCare Mothers' training.
- Pray for effective training of our ChildCare Mothers and the other workers as they begin to work at the Village.
- Pray that construction on the cottages will soon be finished so that the children can be welcomed.
- Pray that God will raise up new sponsors to give for the needs of children coming into the Rafiki Villages. There will be children at the Rafiki Village in need of sponsors.
- Pray that God will call and equip additional Rafiki Overseas Staff and MiniMissionaries to be used by Him to help the children in Africa.

Nancy and I are thankful to you for giving to make it possible for us to be in Zambia to care for the children. If you wish to give to our support, please use the enclosed form or contact the Rafiki Home Office in San Antonio, Texas, and indicate your desire. We are going to be in Charlotte, North Carolina, in late February for the Missions Conference at Calvary Church and would love to meet with as many of you as possible while in the U.S.

Serving Christ in Zambia,



David and Nancy Writebol

Contacting the Writebol's:

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P.S. From the Home Office: The Writebols are at 91% of the funding needed to complete their current term four (January 2006 through December 2007).