



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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June 2006

“The fool says in his heart, “there is no God” (Psalm 14:1).

Greetings from JoAnn in Uganda!

Being on the frontline of spiritual battles, we are acutely aware of God’s continual presence on a daily basis. Only a fool would deny God’s existence in all that happens here at the Rafiki Village Uganda. Read on to see how God’s helping hand has been at work.

Update on an RGC Girl

Those who read my monthly prayer letters know about one of our students who has been waging a spiritual battle in her own Muslim home. She tried to leave her home and live with some of the other Rafiki girls in a building the Wakiso Baptist Church constructed for girls who have no other place to live, but her family objected. They also objected to her attending church. She agreed to stay at home to help feed her aging father, and to accept the stipulation that she could not attend church, but she refused to deny Christ and her Christian faith.

Several weeks ago, this young woman’s left eye became swollen and inflamed. We were shocked at her condition when we visited. Her family initiated treatment at the hospital but lack of care worsened the situation. Consequently, her sister decided to take her out of the hospital, and was going to take her to a witch doctor. The Pastor intervened. She was admitted into a private

hospital. The doctor feared she might be going into meningitis which is life threatening. After a five-day stay and proper treatment, she improved.

Now this student is back at Rafiki with just a little incision over her left eye. Her family was thankful for our intercession and even agreed that she can stay at the Wakiso Baptist house with the other girls. She can also attend church. Her brother sent a note to us thanking us for our help. This whole episode truly softened the family’s heart. Satan meant her disease for evil, but God turned the situation around and used it for good. Yes, only a fool would say there is no God.

Update on Production at the RGC

June makes the fifth month that I’ve been in charge of production, as well as teaching two classes. The girls are staying “on task” while enjoying their handwork. The morning group works on the big looms making some gorgeous woven products such as shawls, placemats, table runners, throw rugs, and tea towels. The other girls use hand frames to make woven purses, eyeglass cases, cell phone cases, belts, pillows, and stenciled bookmarks. We’re starting our Christmas line of barkcloth Christmas stockings



and ornaments. We have a national weaver-trainer, Annet, who has been a true gift from God. She is knowledgeable and the girls love and respect her. Last week, Lesli Robertson returned for a two-week MiniMission. As a graduate student in weaving, this is her second trip to Uganda to help us with design and refining our product. She's been a true blessing. Check out our product at the Rafiki Exchange when you're in San Antonio or at the Rafiki website at www.rafiki-foundation.org

We now have thirty-five girls and four instructors. In our picture, I'm to the left, Shirlene to the right, and Dave and Gretchen in the back. Annet is in the back row second one to the right of the middle tree. This lovely setting is just behind our girls' school. Some of the girls are dressed in skirts and sweaters, ready for afternoon classes. The others are dressed in capri pants and t-shirts, ready for an afternoon of weaving.

Update on the RCC

The other arm of the Rafiki mission here in Uganda is the children's center. We now have fifty-two children living in eight cottages with national mothers and aunties. Carolyn Enis, the RCC director, is working on getting approximately twenty more children before the end of 2006. Next week, Carolyn hopes to receive three boys who have siblings already at Rafiki. It is especially touching to see these children reunited with their blood siblings. Scovia is four years old and has been at Rafiki about six months. Her older sister, Diana, came last week. The two little girls were so excited to be together again. When we took Scovia, we weren't aware that she had a sister. Yes, God's hand is at work in all things here at Rafiki.

Update on Other Happenings

All news is not good news. Last weekend when I was in Kampala with Lesli at the Ugandan Museum, someone broke into my car and stole my computer. I'm now limping along using my temperamental four-year-old computer. Since I'd neglected to back up the hard drive, I also lost my pictures for the last four months. But I only lost four months of data. Yes, God's hand is at

work. I let my defenses down so this newsletter is a little shy of pictures.

Praises:

- For God's healing of our student and His protection over her
- Many MiniMissionaries coming this summer to help while three ROS are on furlough.
- Completion of MiniMissionary training for my son Eric (pediatrician). (Hopefully he will be able to come to Africa within the next year.)

Prayer Requests:

- Tyler Anderson (a physician's assistant who is assigned to help with medical needs for the RCC and RGC) and family need full funding.
- Stu Coiner is still undergoing chemo. He and his family would like to return to Africa and are praying his cancer will go into remission.
- Please pray for protection from malaria. This continues to be a big problem with the girls. One of our student's eight-year-old brother died last week of malaria. It is a serious health threat.
- The police said they'd try to recover my computer. I'm praying that they do. If not, I'm praying this old computer keeps functioning until I get another. I get many error messages and blue and black screens when I try to open. It is also even more of a challenge than normal to receive my e-mail.

God's hand is at work here. And you are the prayer warriors who help to fight the spiritual battles. The Lord is our refuge.

Serving Him in Uganda,



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