



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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One of the most valuable things I heard in the last three months is a reminder to “live out of faith, rather than history.” These words have been helpful when I find myself in a situation where I don’t want my past experiences to dictate the present. Example:

Living by history tells me I should be anxious with no place to work. Living by faith assures me this is a season of rest to be restored for the future.

These words are also very helpful as I think about the future. One of the most common questions I am asked is “Where will you live in Africa when you return?” The answer is yet unknown. I am forced to live out of faith as I reply, “It will just depend where the need is greatest.”

Living out of Faith in March



WHISK

This was a time to trust God as I said goodbye to Whiskers—fondly known as Whiskie, or Whisk. My seventeen-year-old faithful feline friend died on March 17th. Leslie and Larry Clark helped me to take care of her and say goodbye.

Living out of Faith in Israel and Turkey

It was an amazing experience. Western Seminary organized our journey to follow the footsteps of the Apostles from ancient Caesarea to then Asia Minor. We stayed in a kibbutz on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. We followed their journey going to Capernaum, Caesarea Philippi, and Jerusalem (with a detour at Qumran to learn about the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls).

I felt as though I was visiting the home of my good friend. His name is Jesus. Hearing the Sermon on the Mount on a hillside near the Sea of Galilee was more than I was prepared to experience. Jesus taught so many real life ways to live by faith in that sermon.

Jesus, the Son of God, became even more of a human person to me. He faithfully gave up His heavenly throne to actually die on earth for my sins and yours. Were it not for the knowledge of the His resurrection, the Easter/Holy week that followed was almost more than I could bear as I heard about the crucifixion of my friend Jesus.



EPHESUS, TURKEY

Traveling to Turkey to see the seven churches of the book of Revelation opened my eyes. I saw the contrast between the home of the Apostles, and where they went to spread the gospel. I’m sure they had their own way of saying to each other “Toto, I don’t think we are in Kansas any more” as they lived and moved in a highly developed “Roman society.” They were very far away from the Israel countryside. It is obvious their faith caused them to press on.

Living out of Faith in April

I am so grateful for the time with family and “family.” Here are pictures from my birthday and other visits to family friends.



DAD AND I

It was wonderful to be with my dad for my birthday. I can’t tell you the last time that happened.



MY "DAUGHTERS" GWENNIE AND MADELINE



IAN

Sharing our birthday together for the first time.

Living out of Faith in May



WITH MY NIECES

The highlight of the month was my niece, Mareesa's, graduation from high school. Thank you for your prayers for safe travel. I was delighted to be there for "the moment" and celebration.

I am also grateful for a successful surgery—especially when the pathology came back negative. Again, Leslie and Larry Clark saw me through that, providing a loving place to bounce back from surgery.

Living out of Faith on Sabbatical

Someone wrote and asked if I am eating bon bons and sleeping all day. (Smile) Even though America is the land of plenty of bon bons and more, I can't say that describes my current lifestyle. But I can say it has been restful and rejuvenating to spend so much time with long-time special people in my life. I am trusting God's perfect provision for this time of "R&R."

Prayer Requests:

- Safe travels as I drive across country to visit friends and my other niece, Tanya in Houston.
- Continued good health for my eighty-four-year old dad.
- Discernment and wisdom for the Rafiki Home Office staff as they administer the programs and future of Rafiki. For their ability to see God's plan for my placement in Africa in 2007.
- That I will glorify God as I represent Rafiki Malawi at a missions conference in Roanoke, VA in July.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity to provide for this sabbatical time. God willing and by faith, I'll be in touch again in September.

With love in Christ,

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NOTE: Please visit www.rafiki-foundation.org to find information on your ROS, what *Rafiki* is doing, the centers, and the Exchange.