



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

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"From (Christ) the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" (Ephesians 4:16).

Because of Jesus, the Season Is Christmas

And our blessings are abundant. We have so many reasons to be thankful including the birth of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Because of Jesus, There Is the Body of Believers.

The body of believers joined together builds itself up in love as each part does its work. Here is a list of many of the people and the work of each part of the body for which we give thanks to God:

- We have loving families and friends to encourage us in this journey, including many we visited with in November.
- Last night we found a home for our cat.
- Charmaine's cousin Carolyn in Fresno provided space for storage for us in the U.S.
- Tarry's brother Brian and sister-in-law Marcia provided the horse trailer to make the move.
- We just learned of new support for our work from Tarry's home church, First Presbyterian Church Santa Barbara.
- We have two other churches (Park Boulevard Presbyterian in Oakland and Redeemer Presbyterian in Santa Rosa) supporting our work along with 100 other individuals.
- We learned that we are fully funded for two years, making it possible for the Rafiki Home Office to provide us with health insurance and other essential assistance in shipping our personal items to Liberia. They have gone beyond their "job descriptions" to help us move these goods.
- There are hundreds of people praying along with us, all being administered by our faithful prayer captain, Kim Bradshaw, and her family.
- We are also grateful for an organization in Tennessee called "Service to Servants." They exist to send goods to missionaries serving in Liberia and provided space in a container for us to send personal items.

- In Liberia, there are already six little lives being cared for at the Rafiki Village Liberia: Anna, Karen, Obadiah, Adam, Michael, and Kasbah (in order of ages, youngest to eldest— four months to four years).
- They are being cared for by Rafiki Mothers and Village staff hired by the three ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) Ed, Donna, and Joanne. When we get there and learn the names of all the others we will be sure to share them with you.

From this list of blessings you can see plainly that we do not do this work in isolation. The body of Christ, and its many members all work together to make all this happen.

Because of Jesus, It Is Not "Good-bye."

While we look forward to serving "the least of these" in Liberia, it is hard to say "good-bye" to loved ones here in the United States. A missionary once told Charmaine that a big part of the missionary life is saying good-bye. We are either saying goodbye to supporters, family, friends, or those we serve depending on the direction we are going. And yet, we can say good-bye with the knowledge that because of Christ and the faith God gives us by grace, we will surely meet again in heaven. This makes the greetings and good byes that much sweeter.

Because of Jesus, We Serve.

In the Scriptures it tells us whatever we do for the least of these we do for Jesus. We are going to Liberia with the knowledge that God cares about all people including the children of Liberia. What we do for them we are doing in gratitude for what Christ has done in our own lives.

The President of Liberia has announced that education is one of the highest priorities for her administration. As a result she is attending the openings and dedications of educational institutions, including her visit to the Rafiki Village last July. It is our prayer that we can be just one small part of God's bigger plan for the children of Liberia as their country regains its footing to make a place for itself in the world economy and improve the future for Liberia.

As You Go Forward with Us

Please Pray for:

- The children of the Rafiki Village to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- That the Village would be a light for Christ to others in Liberia.
- That support would be raised for other ROS, including a medical doctor, enabling them to come.
- That relationships with the officials of Liberia would continue to be effective and bring the children God has chosen to the Village.
- For the arrival of containers of supplies for the Village and the opening of the Rafiki School in the New Year.
- For our flexibility as we receive our assignments and understand how best to serve with the team.
- For the health of our parents, especially Tarry's father Richard. Pray that the doctors would be wise in making decisions to address his heart condition.

We look forward to sharing photos and stories of Liberia after we arrive in January. As Charmaine learned to say in Ghana, "We thank God for your lives."

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas!

With love in Christ,



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