



Rafiki Africa Ministries

Providing hope and love through Jesus Christ

May 2016 Newsletter

Website: www.rafikiministries.org

Blog: rafikiministries.blogspot.com

“The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” Exodus 14:14

Saving Children’s Lives! The Lord is fighting!

The Lord is fighting for the children and families of Uganda! His love never fails and He never gives up. Last month, I talked about the harvesting of the land and our first season of planting corn. This month, I tell you about the harvesting of souls. This is our main purpose as a ministry – to lead people to Christ. After spending so many years with these children and investing in their lives, it is rewarding when they give their lives to Christ as their Savior.

Jesus desires to not only give us the hope of eternal life but the joy of living every single day as His beloved sons and daughters. The new life that begins with conversion is meant to grow and flourish, yielding the fruit of the Spirit in countless beautiful ways. Pray for our children as they continue to face difficult situations in their lives. Many of them are healing from abandonment issues and the loss of family. Many of them have been abused and suffer emotional wounds. Pray for them to grow up to yield fruit of the Spirit.

“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” Mark 16:16



Boys: Jerom, Addad, and Joel
(from left to right in the back row)

Girls: Annet, Fauziya, Esther, and Brenda
(from left to right in the front row)

These children have given their life to Christ within the past year and have been baptized! We are so proud of them! We are excited for the plans that God has for them as they continue to grow and flourish!

Happy Mother's Day!

As I have become a mother and now have children of my own, God has given me a heart to serve mothers! I realize that in our fallen world there are mothers that do not deserve to have children. However, for the most part, mothers worldwide sacrifice themselves for their children, cheer their children on and cry with them when they are hurting. Mothers are strong, beautiful, and wise. I usually call my mother Mom, but when I am sick or in need of encouragement she is my "Mommy." She always comes through for me. My grandma is very special to me and has faithfully prayed for me and has been one of my greatest sources of support and encouragement as I have grown up and in my ministry as a missionary. I pray that I can be that mother to my children and grandchildren. Many mothers in Uganda share the same prayer.

With Mother's Day just around the corner, we believe these incredible women in our lives deserve more than just a special day on the calendar. They deserve the honor of a legacy. Beyond the flowers, cards, and the special dinner, we believe moms are honored most when they see their children giving back. That is why we want to invite you to give a gift in honor of your mom this year.

This year, you can be a mother to a child that does not have one. You can help a mother find her child that was stolen and trafficked into slavery. You can help a mother that is mentally ill receive medical care that will enable her to care for her child. This Mother's Day, do something different for your mom! Demonstrate your appreciation by showing her what she has taught you...that other people matter...that every mom, no matter where she lives or what resources she has, wants to be loved, celebrated, empowered, and in many cases forgiven. Because if you really think about it, where would we be today without our moms?

Donate Now – www.rafikiministries.org

Janat and her Mom



Janat and her mother, Enid, have a difficult story that unfortunately is common in Uganda. When Enid discovered she was pregnant her boyfriend disappeared. Enid suffered from mental illness shortly after giving birth to Janat. She was kicked out of her home because she could not pay rent. She lived on the streets with Janat as a prostitute trying to make money so that her child could survive. She was arrested for prostitution and Janat was taken from her. The police called us to help with emergency care for Janat. Janat was extremely malnourished and would not have lived much longer on the streets if the police had not found her. Over the past 2 years, Enid has struggled to get her life back on track so that she can get her daughter back. For a year, Enid had no home and lived at the police station. She would beg for food on the streets during the day. During this time, she received medical care for her mental illness. Once her mental illness was under control, she was able to find a job and now has a home that she rents.

She has always shown love for Janat and has never given up on the idea that she will be able to take care of her. She loves her daughter! While she lived at the police station, she would scrape together any money that she could come up with so that she could get transportation to the Children's Home to visit Janat – even if she only got to see Janat for a few minutes.

We believe that every mother deserves a second chance. Throughout her visits to the Children's Home, we have been able to share the love of Christ with Enid who comes from a Muslim family. She frequently tells us, "Thank you for Your God that has taught you to love me and my child."



Junior



Ruth



Janat



Hannah

Ways YOU can pray for us this month –

- Pray for Abbie Stream, our short-term missionary who will be arriving this week to serve at Rafiki Children's Home.
- Praise God for his provision for us and pray that we can get monthly financial sponsors for all of the children so that we can support all of their needs. Pray that God provides the funding we need to accomplish His purpose for us.
- Pray for God's direction for using our land and for God to provide the funds that are needed for building. Pray that it will become a center of hope and refuge for many children and families.
- Please pray for the children by name that are living at the Children's Home: Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Ivan, Aisha, Jerom, Joel, Addadi, Esther, Brenda, Fauziya.
- Pray for these children by name as they settle into their family homes: Annet, Acram, Shakirah, Carol, Don, Emma, Oscar, Cocus, Edwin, Mary, Joshua, Jimmy, Sharifa, Jennifer, Rebecca, and Bright.
- Please pray that the Rafiki staff and short-term missionaries will be strengthened physically, emotionally, and mentally as they care for the children.
- Pray for God's direction in making decisions about the best possible care for each Rafiki child.
- Praise God for the children under our care who carry their Christian faith to their families and serve as a witness to them during family visits and when they are resettled. Pray that God gives them boldness in sharing their faith.
- Praise God for all He has done in 2015 and for all He plans to do through Rafiki in 2016 and the years to come.

Ways YOU can support the ministry –

- **PRAY** for the ministry and orphans in Uganda. "Brothers and sisters, pray for us." (1 Thessalonians 5:25)
- **GIVE** financially. 2nd Corinthians 8:3-4 says, "For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people."
- **SERVE** on the mission field and come to Uganda. We are in desperate need of teachers, childcare workers, nurses, etc. We can use anyone. "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying,

then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.” (Romans 12:6-8)

- **CONNECT** the ministry with local churches, rotary clubs, schools, businesses, etc. Connect us with your friends and family. Please email Sara at sara@rafikiministries.org if you are interested in arranging a speaking engagement.
- **SPEAK UP** and tell their story. What a simple way of obeying God’s instruction to us about the poor... simply tell their story. Proverbs 31:8-9 says “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

Please Give by Sponsoring a Life

Prayerfully consider making a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor. You can sponsor a child for only \$35 per month OR any amount you wish. Every little bit helps keep Rafiki Africa Home running. We are currently supporting 29 children (listed from youngest to oldest) Junior, Ruth, Hannah, James, Janat, Rebecca, Bright, Jimmy, Jennifer, Ivan, Acram, Sharifa, Aisha, Shakirah, Emma, Carol, Don, Jerom, Annet, Esther, Oscar, Fauziya, Joel, Edwin, Brenda, Cocus, Addadi, Mary, and Joshua. Some of these children live at the Rafiki Children’s Home, while others live with immediate or extended family and Rafiki helps with school fees and other necessities. When you decide to sponsor a child you will be helping take care of their needs by paying for their shelter, medical needs, food, clothes, and education. Prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these children as a family or as an individual. If you decide to sponsor a child please notify me by email: sara@rafikiministries.org



Methods for Giving:

Donate through PayPal using the link on our website → www.rafikiministries.org

Please mail checks to:

Rafiki Africa Ministries

P.O. Box 3526

Pflugerville, TX 78691-3526

We are a non-profit organization in the State of Texas. 100% of money raised goes to helping orphaned and destitute children in Uganda. Rafiki is classified as a 501©3 charity and contributions to Rafiki are tax deductible under Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the tax code. Rafiki is qualified to receive tax-deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the code. This exemption is retroactive from the date of filing the 501©3. For further clarification, **contact Frank Hamilton at (512) 771-0681 (USA)**
If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with “Unsubscribe” in the subject line.

Webale! (Thank you!) We thank God for you!
Joseph and Sara Kiwanuka, Founders and Directors,
Rafiki Africa Ministries