

Bringing Hope to the Hopeless

Jonathan's House Ministries July 2008



The Temporary School



Part of Class 5

God is GOOD!

We are so thankful for the generous response of all of you in helping our kids grow! Several Months ago God laid a plan to raise money for the school on the heart of one of our supporters. Through this letter writing campaign and the purchase of bricks for the school, over \$30,000 has been raised for the construction of a permanent school building at the orphanage! We are trusting God for the remaining \$30,000 and have started the construction of the foundation for the school. Praise the Lord for this plan, this man, and all of you who have helped to build this school, brick by brick.

From my knees... Roger Hatch Diary, June, 2008 -

I stood in amazement as I watched the pigs "rooting" through the fly-laden trash pile for food that had been discarded far above in the litter strewn streets of the city. I was also beside myself as I saw the pigs waddling in the stream of water as though they were taking a bath. You can imagine that the stream was muddled with the human waste and disease that washed out of the road-side canals of the same city where the trash was coming from. Beyond the banks of the stream was a field of sorts. It didn't have crops as so many "fields" do here in the Midwest. It was more like a hog lot. It was trampled through and filled with broken glass and trash. It was muddy and mucky. This was daunting to me; I grew up on a very large hog farm and I have seen a lot of pigs doing all of the things, yet this was very different. As I looked on at the pigs I also saw children of all ages right along side the pigs doing the same things the pigs were doing. The "field" was actually a soccer field and there were boys playing soccer there. And this was just a snapshot of the whole. There are reportedly 49,000 people living like this. There are no clinics, no hospitals, no doctors, no nurses, no schools, no teachers, no churches, no supermarkets...nothing. All I could think then and all I can think now is, "what a desperate life to live." I know there are hundreds of other places like this in the world, but this is my part of the world that God has sent me to. This is the part of the world that all of you have prayed for and all of you have supported. This is the part of the world where we take care of the kids. What can we do? How many kids will die never knowing Christ and maybe never knowing that there is any life better than this? We were able to help one special child of His. Her name is Alice Amara and she is a little more than a year old. She has four upper teeth and she is very alert, especially for her condition. She liked to play with the little boys ear next to her. She only weighed 8.5 pounds. Her mom wasn't alive and she hadn't been fortunate enough in life yet to get regular meals. Today, because of your support, she is eating every day at the Gondama hospital's refeeding unit. Pray that she recovers and grows and comes to know Him and shares how He rescued her. One more child rescued...a successful trip.

WOW!

- *** The farm now has a solar powered electric fence for the goats!
- *** The apartment above impact hall is near completion and will serve as the Office; Daddy Kainwo will move into Hatch House!
- *** God has revealed a path into the Sulima area Southwestern Sierra Leone, where there are few, if any, Christians! We will be sending a couple to live in the area and begin teaching the ways of our Lord!
- *** Support was donated for the purchase of a 30 Passenger bus for the home and school!
- *** Matthew, who suffered from a devastating leg Infection and amputation, now has a prosthesis!
- *** Our street kids have planted and cared for a big garden at the home! Pa Conteh continues to minister to these 30 or more young people!
- *** Several families of children have been located and plans are underway to reunite the children with them, while continuing to provide for the support of the children and their families.
- *** Christie, our short term missionary, has been at the home for over 3 months and is doing great!

If you are not a regular supporter of our ministry, we invite you to partner with us in prayer and giving. 100% of your donations go directly to Sierra Leone. All administrative costs are covered by volunteers, allowing your dollars to literally put food in the mouths of hungry children. **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



This wagon was donated and sent on the last container. Until recently they were using it to haul wood, but moving it by manpower! Since Roger's trip, it is successfully being pulled by a vehicle! Now they know why we asked about the hitch on the jeep!

Praising God over and over!

We want to thank each and every one of you who were so faithful to lift our family up in prayer as we waited on God's perfect timing in bringing Mary Ina home to us from JCC. On April 26, 2008, we safely arrived home with Mary to join the rest of our family.

A verse that strengthened us in those 2 ½ years of waiting was Psalm 46:10, as we were admonished to "Be still and know that I am God." It was a daily reminder that God is in control and that His timing is perfect. It helped us to rest in Him and His provision.

Thank-you, faithful prayer warriors, for your part in Mary's journey. She has been home now two months today, and what a wonderful blessing she is to us! We praise God!

Todd, Pat, Hannah, Zach, Emma, and Mary Gourley



CAN YOU BE A MISSIONARY TO JONATHAN'S HOUSE?

- ***Take a trip to Sierra Leone! (Medical trip planned for March 2009)
- ***Volunteer in our second-hand store in Marshalltown
- ***Host a presentation for your church, friends, Bible study, neighbors
- ***Support a child at the home or in fostercare!
- ***Serve as a missionary teacher at the home and school!
- ***Organize and raise funds for a container to be sent over!
- ***Organize other fundraisers (ie. Auction, garage sales, etc.)
- ***Pray for the many volunteers stateside!
- ***Write letters to our children and staff!
- ***Pray for our kids!
- ***Pray for our staff!

KEEP PRAYING!!!!!!

- +Pray for **PEACE** and freedom from **corruption in Sierra Leone!**
- +Pray for the **new school!** The first \$30,000 for the new school has come in, and we are anxiously waiting on the Lord for all of His provisions!
- +Pray for **Rachel and Leah**—Ask God to bless them in their reunion with their mother and to sustain Rachel's health!
- +Pray for the **Boland and Lowe families** in their adoption processes!
- +Pray for the **transition of Daddy Kainwo** and his family to the Hatch House!
- +Pray **Pastor Kutubu and Margaret** as they prepare to move to the Sulima area.
- +Pray for **Sister Christie Shermer** as she continues to minister to the kids and staff!
- +Pray for the **church plants**, especially **Bondajuma** and their sister church in **Clear Lake, Iowa!**
- +Pray for the **health** of the children at the home, the foster children, the street children and those in the baby-mother program.
- + Pray for the **staff!** Pray for their walks with Christ, their relationships with each other, and their love for the children!
- +Pray for **Joseph B., John S. and Christian B.** as they await their test scores to qualify them for high school!

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If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email and/or would like to be included on the email prayer chain, email us at kjb5@mchsi.com.

Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Matt 19:14 (KJV)