



RAW Missions News: July '07

Reaching out with God's RAW Love, RAW Power, and RAW Truth

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Since we last wrote, we have filled our second children's home, employed more staff, had a team of ladies visit from New Life Church, UK, held a much needed midwifery seminar for the James 1:27 ladies taught by Dr. Rick and Linda Fleischer from the USA (thanks guys!!), had a visit home to the UK (so great to see so many friends and partners, and to be able to spend time with family), and generally been extremely busy...

New Life Ladies Team...



L-R: Julie, Sue, Esther, Sharon, Jacqui, Jenny, Wendy, Rebecca

At the end of May, we were blessed with a visit by 6 ladies from New Life Church, Okehampton. Three of the ladies were returning for their second visit.

They truly had an African experience, and understood what it is really like to live here, as a Tanzanian and as a missionary. They experienced torrential rain (we were definitely slip-sliding on our drives up and down Mt. Meru...), power cuts, and situations we came across that were truly heart-breaking. It was challenging, but a life-changing experience.

They came with many gifts, and most importantly the love of God. Through the generous giving of New Life Church we have been able to sow into many families and ministries here. THANK YOU!!!

The team spent two days up on Mt. Meru, working with James 1:27, giving out blankets, soap, tea, sugar, and baby oil, and ministering during home visits.

We came across many situations needing the compassion of God – including one family, with small children, whose house had just completely fallen down. They had nothing, and were desperately trying to shelter from the cold rain. We gave them blankets, and sheets of plastic that we happened to have in the truck so they could make some sort of immediate shelter. We left James 1:27 with money, on behalf of New Life Church, to build a new structure, and we have heard since that the new house is nearly finished... Since our visit, one of the young

girls has also delivered a baby...they need that house!!!



giving out blankets...



sweater for a baby..

The team also visited Jane's Centre and taught masai widows; taught the James 1:27 ladies; taught our children's staff; spent a morning at a nursery school; did arts and crafts with our children; and managed to fit in a visit to a safari park. Phew!!



arts and crafts...

Our children's work...Seeway Tanzania

Our 2 children's houses are full, though not without challenges – after weeks of problems, including a brief return to the streets, Pascali decided to return home to his grandmother. We pray he will stay there - his only other option now is the Tanzanian juvenile detention system...

Also, we were not able to take Ally, as we reported in our last newsletter, as investigation by us and a Social Welfare officer showed he was not a sibling of Fatuma or Mahija as we had been told, and does actually have a mother who is capable of taking care of him (she just doesn't want to).

Instead, we have taken two brothers into care, David and Arnold – their mother has AIDS, and they have no father.



David (4 years old)

Our final newcomer is Elibariki, a double orphan due to AIDS. His elder sister, Lizberth, is on staff with us. Their father had several wives, leaving many widows when he died – now the widows have started dying too, leaving many orphans...

All children are prospering in all areas of their life. Most are in the top percentile in their schools. One boy is head prefect, and also head drummer for the school. Another girl is classroom monitor...and so on – there is not enough room here to tell you all their achievements!!!

We are very proud of them as well as our staff who show such great

love for the children and truly have their best interests at heart.



face painting...



making chapatis...

In particular we are proud of Kanuti. His father died recently (from years of alcoholism, and an impoverished lifestyle).

It was devastating news for Kanuti – he ran away from home as he was abused by his father (his mother had been forced to leave the home when Kanuti was 3, and Kanuti finally reunited with her last Christmas). He had tried so hard to care for his dad, taking food, money, and clothes home for him during school holidays.

Kanuti's home is 3 hours drive from Arusha, high up on Mt. Kilimanjaro – we drove him and Faith there to help sort out funeral arrangements and paperwork (Kanuti, as the only child, inherits his father's property).

Faith and Kanuti were away 5 days, during which they were only able to bathe once (Faith came back covered in rashes). We provided them with money to buy food to feed all the mourners at the funeral, and to cover other funeral expenses.

Kanuti transitioned from boy to man during this time away (he is 17 now) and made many good

decisions regarding his property, and also decided not to follow the lengthy traditional ways which involve slaughtering goats, and various rituals, but instead returned to Arusha early to continue his schooling.

Meanwhile, we continue with additional activities with the children to help expand their thinking and hope. Music lessons continue well – we now have 2 keyboards, 2 child-size guitars, and are starting to assemble a drum kit. It is exciting to see the changes in the children as they grow and explore new ideas.



music lesson...

What are we praying for?...

In our last newsletter we asked for prayer for a solar power system for our 2nd children's house, and also for a 2nd keyboard for our kids music lessons – both of these requests were filled right away!!

The solar power system has been such a huge blessing, and a real help, especially as the children like to study in the evenings. THANK YOU!!!

We still have some needs that maybe you could join us in praying for:

Land (10+ acres)...for our children's work so we can build housing and a community centre.

Volunteers...to come for 3-6 months or more to help!! A visit here will change your life forever...

