

# BETHESDA CHILD OF THE MONTH

May 2007

## Olinda -

After being rejected by her mother, a small 5-year-old girl found herself in the home of an uncaring relative where she suffered at the hands of an abusive and neglectful man. When the situation was brought to the attention of the authorities, little Olinda was removed from this place of torment to enter a temporary place-of-safety. But the Muslim home that she was to live in for the next two years offered abuse in other forms, causing Olinda's social worker to search further for a healthy home for this little girl.

In February of 2007, the social worker heard of a Christian ministry an hour north of her community that offered warm, loving homes for children; by God's grace, 7-year-old Olinda was brought to her new home at Bethesda in March.

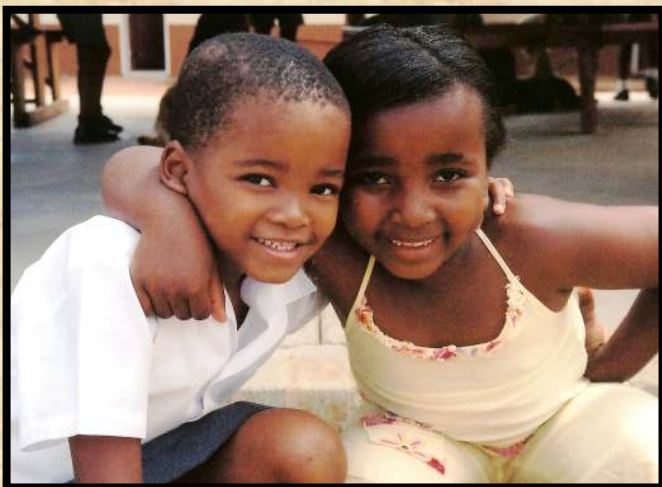
Olinda has settled in very well to her new home with houseparents Jones & Lenah Phago. She is



**Olinda**  
(Oh-LIN-da)

a bright, bubbly girl who knows no stranger, and her high energy level keeps her busy from morning until night. Her parents say that she enjoys singing, playing with dolls, and writing letters in her Grade 1 school classroom. She is good at comforting people but also enjoys being in the lead position in any activity.

Please pray for Olinda, who struggles with selfishness and has a hard time focusing. Pray that she will progress well in her school work, as she is a few months behind the other Grade 1 children. Pray also that she will learn to understand the truth of the Word of God as she is introduced to it, and realize the error of the Muslim training she has received in the past.



**Olinda with classmate Joanna**

### \* Pray for Olinda \*

- That she will begin to think of others before herself, and learn to concentrate on tasks
- That she will understand the Truth of God's Word and apply it to her life