



"Raised to Praise"

April 2005



*"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all generations.
The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made."
Ps 145:13*

Greetings to our Bethesda Friends,

Thank you for your faithfulness in praying for this ministry. I stand in awe of God's goodness and power over this ministry. God has used the generosity of individuals like you who take time to pray and financially sacrifice for the ministry of Bethesda. As noted in the verse above, "The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made." Isn't it wonderful to know that we are serving a *faithful* God who has made this ministry what it is today.

Construction:

The month of March flew by as much of our energies were spent on working with contractors who are refurbishing the Team and Training Center. In a land filled with diverse cultures it is sometimes interesting and challenging to accomplish all that you want to accomplish within a certain time frame. However, the TTC is coming along nicely and we look forward to having it complete and ready for our teams and guests who will arrive in June.

Houseparents:

Please be praying for an up-coming houseparent retreat, May 6, 7, and 8. Roger and Carol Cryan, from First Baptist Church in Elkhart, Indiana will be joining us to do the teaching for this special event. Roger and Carol are long-time friends and come with a wealth of experience, teaching ability, and knowledge. We look forward to all that God will do in and through them.

Children:

Our children enjoyed a two week break from school for the first-term holidays. School resumed on April 4th and it was exciting to see the children and teachers greet one another. Since the office is right next to the classrooms I have the privilege of hearing them sing and recite the Scripture verses that they are working on together. It is a blessing to know that they are being taught daily from the Word of God as well as being equipped to someday go out from Bethesda, "raised to praise" our Redeemer.

Jim, Siphwe, and Njabulo are old enough to be working part-time. When Grandpa Teed was here the boys enjoyed working alongside of him on different projects around the property. We have now established a work and training program where the older children can earn a little extra cash from their labors. In addition to learning to work they are being taught the biblical principles of finances. We believe it is imperative for the children to learn the responsibility that comes even when given just a little.

Next Monday, the Administrative team will be challenging the school children to a game of Ultimate Frisbee. The children enjoy participating in many different sports in on their recess and in gym class - soccer, jump rope, relay races, and kick ball to name a few. The Administrative Team who meet on Mondays to study, pray together and coordinate our schedules for the coming week will also plan a few times a year to do something fun and out of the ordinary. Next week is one of those times. We will let you know who ends up being the champion of this exciting event.

Prayer Concerns for Bethesda:

- **Houseparents:**
 1. That the fathers will be spiritual leaders and guide their homes according to the Truth of the Word of God.
 2. That the mothers will love their husbands and be submissive to them, will love their children, be sensible, pure, workers at home, and kind to those around them.
- **Children:**
 1. That the children will learn joyful obedience to the King of kings and their parents. That they would come to know their maker with all of their hearts to enable them to serve him faithfully all of the days of their lives.
- **The Bethesda Team:**
 1. That the leadership team would be godly leaders that are growing in the likeness of Christ on a daily basis according to the Truth of the Word of God that will enable them to carry out the mission of Bethesda, promote the ministry, and cause unity among the staff.
 2. That the support staff would grow spiritually and carry out the tremendous mission of Bethesda.
- **Staff needs:**
 1. 2 teachers for the next school year 2006
 2. Social worker
 3. Maintenance supervisor
- **Finances:**
 1. That God will provide the needs for the daily operational budget.
 2. That God will provide the funds to house more children.
 3. That God will bless our supporters in great ways.
 4. That God will bless us with more individuals for our support a child and family endeavors.

Thank You:

Thank you again for your continued support. Your prayers and gifts are imperative to the continuing work of Bethesda as we persevere in the vision God has laid on our hearts to see disciples of Christ emerge from a desperate situation caused by AIDS. We praise God for the opportunity He has given us and praise Him for each of you who have helped us in so many ways. He is doing GREAT things in our midst!

To God be the Glory!

John Mixon for the Bethesda Team
