



"Raised to Praise"

May 2005



*"If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God.
If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides,
so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.
To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen"
1 Peter 4:11*

Dear Friends of Bethesda,

I greet you in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It truly is a blessing to report to you the wonderful works of God seen in our midst here at Bethesda Outreach Ministries. We can praise God in every breath as we see the work progressing for His honor and glory.

Houseparent Retreat:

This past weekend we had the privilege of having our houseparent retreat with guest speakers Roger and Carol Cryan from Elkhart, Indiana. The theme was "Displaying God's Glory through the Family." Roger and Carol's gift of teaching was used mightily to compel our houseparents to go back into their families and model what it means to display God's glory in their families. We are very thankful for the sacrifice of energy, time, and resources that Roger and Carol made to prepare the lessons and then travel across the ocean to present God's word in a clear and precise manner. It was truly a blessing for all who attended.

Jabulane Christian Academy:

I want to express to you how thankful I am for the work that Ruth Rising is doing in our school. She has made great progress with the application process through the Gauteng Department of Education. You would enjoy coming to Bethesda to observe our two classrooms. God has blessed Bethesda with two wonderful teachers this year whose work with the children is greatly appreciated as they teach the various subjects to those who have been neglected both socially and educationally. Their love in the classroom is shown to each student by the creative ways in which they prepare their lessons as they learn and implement the new curriculum so that they can communicate and teach the children in an understanding way.

We are already looking to make provision to add grade R and grade 7 next year. We will be in need of 3 teachers for those positions. If you know of anyone who might be interested in investing their time to come and teach for two years at Bethesda please have them contact me. We are also looking for individuals who might like to support a national teacher. We will look to God, who is the Great Provider, to supply these needs.

Needs:

On another note, yesterday Lois was in the township and spoke with Suzanne, one of our local township church representatives. She has referred several children to us

in the past. Her ministry in that church is to identify and minister to families who are in desperate need of help. She goes from house to house ministering to the hungry, cold, sick, and dying. Her words were, "Mama Lois, we need help! I have children who are hungry, where the mama has died, and the auntie has the children. The auntie does not want to care for these children. These children are being abused. Can't you take them?" My heart is burdened and challenged because there are so many more orphans who need a place like Bethesda.

Please continue to pray that God will provide the resources to continue in the building process. We praise God for what He has done already in the life of Bethesda Outreach Ministries and we are looking forward to all that He will continue to accomplish in the lives of many more children who will come to Bethesda in the future because of the sacrificial gifts you continue to give. Please pray with us that the Holy Spirit will burden the hearts of many others, who will hear of the great needs and give. I have been challenged many times through a passage of scripture that is so clear to us and a challenge to keep on keeping on. Psalm 78: 6-8 says,

"⁶ That the generation to come might know, [even] the children [yet] to be born, [That] they may arise and tell [them] to their children, ⁷ That they should put their confidence in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments, ⁸ And not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not prepare its heart, And whose spirit was not faithful to God."

May you also be challenged by that passage. I pray that God will richly bless each of you as you pray and give sacrificially to the work of Bethesda Outreach Ministries!

Persevering for His glory,

John Mixon for the Bethesda Team
