



"Raised to Praise"

November 2005

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him and praise his name.
Psalm 100:4*

Dear Friends of Bethesda Outreach Ministries,

Children:

I wish there was a way that each of you could experience what we experience on a daily basis. We are overjoyed to see God working in the hearts and lives of each of our **children** at Bethesda Outreach Ministries.



Busisiwe was a tiny baby lying in her infant crib at Jubilee Hospital when we first saw her in 2003. Newborn babies are abandoned by their mothers nearly every month. Some are adopted and others, less fortunate, spend months or even years in their hospital cribs. The day we met "Busi," she was lying in a plastic bassinette with oozing sores on her face due to lack of proper care. The nurses told us that she was blind, and they had been unable to find a home for her. That day Lois was wearing a brightly colored blouse, and we watched those clear brown eyes focus on the colors as Lois walked around the room. Sure enough, the diagnosis was wrong and now at almost 3 years old, Busi has excellent vision, is completely healthy, and sometimes runs around faster than her mommy and daddy (houseparents Elias and Mamtjje Matjeni) can keep up with her! It is a blessing to see these changes unfold before our eyes in Busi as well as the other children. Their physical growth of course is apparent as their clothing is outgrown, but to see the evidences of the Holy Spirit working and perfecting their lives as He refines them is a **joy** to behold.



School:

The children have enjoyed a couple of field trips as they look forward to the school year coming to an end. Our foundation grades went to Gold Reef City where they were able to go through one of the gold mines in Johannesburg. It was an exciting day of learning for them. Our older children visited the veterinary hospital where our dogs have been giving blood. They learned and experienced a lot on that trip! On December 2nd the children will receive their report cards, have an awards assembly, and be dismissed from school for the year 2005.

We are looking forward to next year when we will add grade R, which is equivalent to the stateside kindergarten where the children are taught to read. Praise the Lord with us that we just hired a South African teacher, Tryphina, for this position.

Unique Opportunity:

Throughout the four years of being in South Africa, God has blessed us with wonderful relationships. Recently I met a world-renowned artist and invited him to visit Bethesda. As he looked around, he became more and more excited while visualizing the possibilities of helping Bethesda grow to reach additional children who are in desperate need. He left that day burdened with how he could help. He phoned me the next morning asking if Lois and I could come and meet with him and his wife.

At that meeting, Kobus Möller began by saying that he knows how desperate the children's situations are in townships all over South Africa because of HIV/AIDS. He continued to explain that God has blessed him and he would like to give back some of what God has given to him. He told us how he wanted to fully support a Bethesda child. As we were thanking him he went on to say that God has also blessed him with talent and he would like to share that talent with Bethesda. Kobus' work is well-known in South Africa and around the world. His work is absolutely magnificent.

Kobus has blessed Bethesda with 2,000 lithographic sets of the "Big Five" animals to help encourage people to give – both to the on-going operational budget which meets the daily needs of raising children and to the construction of two more buildings in the village. One of the buildings will be another duplex house that will house 8 more children as well as providing staff housing. The other building will be an administrative building so we can move our one-room office out of the school to make room for another grade in the school. We are still in need of \$300,000 (R46,200) toward this project.

We are looking for 2,000 people to give a gift of \$200.00 (R1,300.00) or more. This gift will help us succeed in reaching the goal to build the buildings as well as have enough for the operational budget to care for more orphans. With your donation you will receive a set of 5 lithographic prints of the "Big Five" of South Africa. If you would like more information regarding this offer, please send an email to bethesda-temba@boi.org and we will be happy to assist you.

Would you prayerfully consider how you can help the orphans of South Africa? Please know that your on-going support, in both finances and prayer, is helping to provide quality life for children who would otherwise know lives of fear, desperation, and death. Through your partnership, God is using you to move this ministry forward for His glory. As we hear daily of more children in need, we are thankful for those who are sacrificially giving to this ministry for the little ones who are hungry and thirsty - both physically and spiritually - so that they can be 'raised to praise' the King of kings.

We have so much for which to be thankful. Thank you from all the Bethesda family, and it is important for you to know we could not do what we are doing without the support and love you have shared with us.

Pressing ahead for His glory,

John for the Bethesda Team

