



And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick

Luke 9:2

Dear Praying Friends,

December 2020

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support as we continue in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ here in Soroti, Uganda.

Ministry: The government of Uganda finally opened churches and schools in October. On October 4th we held our first service since March! The government has limited the numbers to seventy persons in the church building. We had forty-seven persons attend the first service and it has steadily risen to around seventy for the past few weeks. Masks and distancing are not so comfortable or convenient, but it is good to worship together as a church again.

Two weeks ago, I asked Ebiru Joseph, one of our graduate orphans who is in Bible college, to witness to our guard's brother, Isaac. For over two hours, Ebiru shared the Gospel with him and Isaac made a profession of faith that very day! Ebiru has a heart for sharing God's word and this is exactly what I want to see in our older boys and girls: having a heart to serve the Lord even after they have left their home at SOAP to begin their lives elsewhere. This is one of the chief reasons why SOAP exists, to instill a passion for souls in these orphans so they can make a difference in Uganda for the Lord Jesus Christ! Please pray for Ebiru to continue to demonstrate this passion and for his further spiritual growth in Bible college.

In our last letter I spoke of bringing back the older orphans from the village for SOAP's discipleship study program. In October nine girls were brought back to SOAP and went through all eighteen lessons in our *Discipleship 1* book, from "What Happened when I got Saved," to "Reaching the World." Not only were the girls attentive and studious with their lessons they also had forty verses to learn and they memorized them all. Upon completion of the program they were awarded discipleship certificates. The boys will be brought back for their discipleship in early 2021. **Mt 28:20** *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:*

Life in Uganda: Schools reopened on October 15th for "candidate" students who will take exams in early 2021. These exams determine their eligibility to continue their education. We have four students (P7) and we brought back five teachers to teach their classes. They'll have two weeks off for Christmas and then return to classes and take the exam in late March. We anticipate the return of the remaining students (P1-6) sometime in February or March.

Prayer Requests:

- Spiritual growth for Isaac, newly saved.
- Healing for two young girls, Martha and Josephine, from rheumatic heart disease.
- That our P7 students will be prepared and do well on their exams in March.
- That we may continue to reach souls for Christ in spite of pandemic challenges.

May the Lord bless you greatly and do have a very merry Christmas! **Matthew 1:21** *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

Your Fellow Servants for Souls,

Alan and Elena Sutphen
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MISSIONARIES TO
UGANDA **THE SUTPHENS**



Ebiru and Isaac



Our Discipleship Grads