



SPRINGTIME SOWING

It was a joy to return to my motherland in May, to do the work of the LORD. If you were to ask me to give you one word to describe this trip, I would say 'constructive'. I felt the small team achieved in one week what many may not have achieved in one year, if we dragged our feet. Due to faith, favour and focus, we have set the ball rolling for the registration of the new orphanage in Abuja, Nigeria. It should take approximately 2 to 3 months for the process to be complete. We would remind our supporters that our vision is to set up a new orphanage from scratch in collaboration with New Life Assemblies Church (RCCG), Abuja. This is a long-term project, with a view to initially taking in 50 orphans.

The project will develop in phases, with the registration certificate being the first phase. Phase 2 will be the purchase of premises to accommodate the orphans and workers. Pastor Dave Mba (Senior Pastor of New Life Assemblies Church) and I viewed some buildings but there was one in particular which caught his eye and we were able to look at in great detail. Please see below some photos showing the inside and outside of this ideal building with proper secu-

The cost of this 4 bed duplex house is N70m (280,000 pounds). Prices in Abuja (The Federal Capital Territory) are sharply increasing due to an influx of international investors and returnees/expatriates. This is due to the fears of the Boko Haram terrorist group in the Northern parts of Nigeria. The thought of these prices concerned us, however, we prayed over the building and I sensed the LORD reminding me of His word: 'IT IS NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER BUT BY MY SPIRIT'. Whether it is this building or another, I trust it is all in the LORD's hands. Your prayers and donations would be much appreciated. We are trying to encourage more supporters to give by regular Standing Order (S/O). Even if you can only donate a small amount on a monthly basis for a fixed period, please request a S/O form by emailing us your contact details at: info@preciousfoundation.org.uk



Our objective is also to help existing orphanages in their efforts. Many orphanages, registered or not, receive little or no help from the Nigerian Government. Most depend on kind hearted individual donors like yourselves.



We, as a charity, were able to donate children's clothes, shoes, toys, books and DVDs to the 3 different orphanages we visited during May, namely City of Refuge Orphanage, Victorine Foster Home and Abuja Childrens Home (ACH). NB: The ACH is the very first orphanage I visited back in 2009. As you can imagine, my heart was excited as I expected to see Precious, the little girl who touched my heart in 2009, a little more grown up. However, I was told she has been adopted by a family. Although I was sad not to see her, I was happy to learn she has been placed into a family who can care for her specifically. It is now the job of the social worker to follow up her case. I was comforted to learn they have strict policies on child adoption. God will always be her precious covering. I hope one day when she is older she will come to learn that a UK charity and soon to be new orphanages around the world have been set up and named after her. I hope she will visit them herself. May God use her to be a blessing to many other lives.



The small team had a great time playing with the orphans in each of the 3 homes. Many of the orphans were very lively. One orphan in particular named Na-ima, a 4 year old beautiful girl, caught my attention within the ACH. The bones in her feet and knees were twisted, causing her to be lame. Her mother left her father to bring her up singlehandedly. Her father was called into the military and could not cope. So the orphanage took her in. We took compassion on her and I played with her the most. She is a very bright energetic girl.



The children out of the blue started singing a song I had never heard before. Lyrics: "I Love Jesus, He's my friend (x2), I will never leave Him (x2), He's my friend (x2). I was very moved when Na-ima joined in running up and down happily on her hands and knees. She would look at me then laugh and shoot off again. She was such a joy to be with. We prayed for all the orphans and workers;



I thought on my return to UK, in one of TPF prayer meetings, that Na-ima could grow up into a beautiful woman, get married and have equally beautiful children. Then Alice Brew, TPF Prayer Coordinator mentioned a good orthopedic hospital in Ghana which had helped someone she knew in the past. This compelled me to speak to Mr Suleman, ACH's manager. He explained they could see someone had made a failed attempt to correct her legs before she was brought to them. The staff had enquired to see if they could help and were quoted N900,000 (3,600 pounds) by consultants who could carry out the operation in an Abuja Hospital. The sad thing is, they said that due to the past error, despite an operation she will still require crutches to walk. So far the ACH have received no donations to pay for the operation. If you would like to make a difference in Na-ima's future, please make a special donation by cheque, **quoting ref no. Na-ima/2012OP** and post to our address below.

In conclusion, there are things in this world we will never understand. Just because we planted seeds in the soil with our own hands, the rain was enabled by God. Invisible forces cause something to happen within the soil to produce a harvest. I was sent to SOW good seed in Nigeria. God will send those to water (you and others) and He Himself, whether we are asleep or awake, will give the increase. So in everything, only He gets the glory and proves Himself Sovereign over all creation.

May God bless you as you give.

A special thanks to all those who supported this mission 2012, especially Ajay, Alice, Olu, Jibike and Pastor Dave.

Tope Teniola

***Please pray for an appropriate Patron for
The Precious Foundation.***



Tope & Na-ima (May 2012)



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