

Children in Africa for the most part are like children in other nations. They are sponges, gathering up all the experiences and information around them all day celebrating life without much care or worry. However, there are some who are passing through life with great difficulty. One such child (now a young man) recently returned to Agape after being in his home area for a year. He came back because he had been sick for several months. He, like so many others here, has AIDS. He appeared outside the gate, countenance downcast, in a word, hopeless. The rain was falling just like in that scene in "Les Miserables"... What should we do?

But let's back up for a minute so you know that while at Agape a foundation was laid upon which to build. He came off the street to Agape for help and found love, a home, food and shelter, and best of all, the Savior of the world the Lord Jesus Christ. He grew to understand who Jesus really is. He fit in quite well, memorized key verses, and was well liked by other boys. However, when he left to be at home, it became apparent that he was avoiding our attempts to follow up... that is until now.

We pulled out the Green Bag, our counseling tool to get at the trauma, and his story started to unfold. We shared God's word that spoke directly into his situation and you could literally see the life come back into his body as he soaked in the truths that he had let slip. It was a literal transformation before our very eyes.



Hope returned, his focus shifted off his problem to Christ! Just as in John Bunyan's story when Christian had fallen into the Deep Dungeon of Doubting Castle where

Giant Despair came every day to whip him; Light entered the dungeon and he stood up and said, "Fool that I am, I have a key in my pocket, which name is Promise, that will open every door in Doubting Castle" and with that he escaped!

It was a different young man that went out the gate; after medical care and advice from our nurse, his one request was for a Bible, which we gladly gave! "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 "You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving." Amy Carmichael

The Lord Jesus Christ, the Word of God, is the only true foundation on which to build a life of faith and trust that



Boys in the new Dining Hall

enables us to continue celebrating His life over the years.

Speaking of difficulties through which they pass:

This week while Dianne was making homemade play dough for the boys, another visitor from the past stopped by to say hi. He, too, was rescued off the street by Agape, trusted Christ, and went on to become a fine witness for the Lord Jesus Christ. He completed the program at Agape's Farm and then moved to Uganda where we lost track of him these past four years. We were happy to hear that he now has a lovely Christian wife and is back living in Kenya, active in the leadership of his church!



Dianne and her play dough

But it shocked us to learn how he had made his way back. (We know nothing of hardship) When his father died, he knew he had to return home and since he had no money or any other means, he simply put his wife on the back of his bicycle (with no padded seat) and he peddled all the way! He continued to share how his wife had given birth to their first child but the baby died. He referenced Psalm 27:10 "when my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up," "I now have a Father who will never die!" (Sounds like another life of faith and trust in the Lord.) Praise to the Everlasting Father.

We truly thank the Lord for the gift of being in His vineyard serving and for all of you who pray and give to His work here in Africa. We can't say enough about the

**They have arrived!** Agape's 2012 calendars are here! These beautiful 12-month calendars feature the transformation the Lord brings about when boys come off the street, and begin to accept Christ's love for them as they make their home at Agape. Agape is using the calendars to raise funds for the ministry; they cost just \$10 per calendar. If you would like to order your calendar, please indicate on the response card how many you would like to receive and Agape will promptly mail the calendar(s) to you  
 \*Due to IRS regulations, the purchase of a calendar is not tax-deductible.\*



great results we're seeing in those our prayer team upholds! Thank you, all for your partnership in the gospel.

We rejoice in the Lord! (especially now that we have both recovered from our recent bout of malaria and infection!). "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for an eternal glory that far outweighs them all" (2 Corinthians 4:17).



How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
 Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
 What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
 You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

In every condition, in sickness, in health;  
 In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;  
 At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,  
 As thy days may demand, shall thy strength ever be.

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
 For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
 I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand  
 Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
 The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
 For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
 And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,  
 My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
 The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
 Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Even down to old age all My people shall prove  
 My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
 And when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
 Like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
 I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
 That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
 I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

Have a great Christmas! We wish each and everyone the strength and encouragement expressed in this beautiful hymn.

*Steve and Dianne Warn*



May Your part of the Vineyard be Fruitful



With our good friend Ashley Davis

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# Agape's 2012 Calendar!



**Agape**  
*Children's Ministry*

**Mailing Address:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Calendars (\$10.00 each)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Calendars x \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Type**

Cash

Check Please make checks payable to:

**Agape Children's Ministry**  
PO Box 5062  
Modesto, CA 95352-5062

Credit Card

Visa     Mastercard

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ V Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_