



“Lord, you know the hopes of the helpless. Surely you will hear their cries and comfort them.”

Psalm 10:17

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Isaiah 58 in Action

~Lisa Kjeldgaard

Have you ever read a portion of scripture you thought you knew, only to discover upon re-reading it, that the Holy Spirit allowed you to see it in a new light? I was reading through Isaiah 58, when it struck me how the precepts Isaiah gave us so closely mirror how Agape is already ministering in Kenya.

Isaiah 58:6-7 says:

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, [every week Agape is rescuing children being held at the Remand Children's Centre]

to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? [every day our Agape missionaries and staff share with hurting children that true freedom comes from their relationship with Christ]

Is it not to share your food with the hungry [daily we provide meals for the boys living at Agape, but also for more than 60 children who attend school from our neighborhood]

and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— [weekly boys wandering the streets are brought under the shelter of Agape]

when you see the naked, to clothe them, [our Agape boys have good clothes, as well as school uniforms, PE clothes, and some even have Boy Scout uniforms!]

and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? [many times each week, the Reintegration Team encourages and helps family members learn to take responsibility for their own flesh and blood]

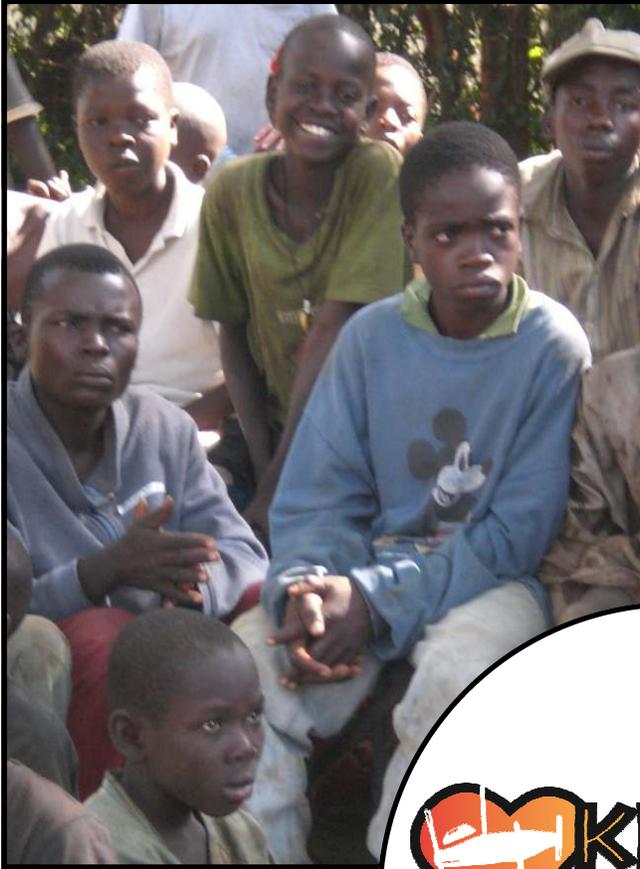
Isn't it exciting to see that the work Agape is doing in Kenya so closely parallels the Lord's description of fasting that is pleasing to Him? The rest of Isaiah 58 goes on to promise great things to those who practice this type of fasting—promises to answer our cries for help, to protect us, and to guide us always.

Inside you're going to find descriptions of our two new sponsorship programs that give you the opportunity to join right in with what we're doing in Kenya. I know that many of you are already faithful supporters of our work and we're incredibly thankful for your gifts. For those of you who are looking to get more involved in the work we're doing, please prayerfully consider sponsoring a bed through our Kitanda Project and, "Praying Home" one of our boys, or join us as we care for children back in their villages and in our neighborhood through our Partners for Hope program.

"God is behind every success that we are seeing in our work at Agape..."

The work that our Kenyan staff and missionaries are doing can't happen without the prayers and financial assistance of supporters like you. I asked some of our Kenyan staff what it meant to them to know that they had the support of Christians in the United States. Raymond, who oversees the children living on the Agape campus said, "The work with street kids has lots of challenges. Some of the problems with the children are spiritual, demonic, and behavior problems. God is behind every success that we are seeing in our work at Agape...I appreciate the prayers and it is an encouragement to know that somebody has taken a burden to pray for us." Njeri, our Kenyan bookkeeper, had this to add, "Ministry work cannot continue without prayers...to receive financial support means that God has my needs and knows where my help will come from!"

Please consider becoming even more involved in the work the Lord is doing through Agape Children's Ministry!



The Facts

- Approximately 1,000 children spend their nights on the streets of Kisumu, Kenya. Many are addicted to sniffing glue to dull the pain of hunger and cold.
- Another 148 children are being held in the local Remand Centre.
- Agape is uniquely positioned to rescue and care for these children until they can return home.
- To date, 320 children have been reunited with their families and the gospel is being spread to their villages!



Pray Me Home!

Agape offers a unique solution to the problem of street children in Kenya. We build relationships with kids on the streets and invite them to live on our campus while we work to heal them through one-on-one discipleship, counseling, and academics. We also give them the chance to safely be children again! While this healing is taking place, we try and identify a family member that will welcome the child back home to his community, allowing us to help restore and reunite the family.

The Solution

You, or a group, can help in this exciting work by sponsoring a "Kitanda" (bed) that one of these former street kids is now sleeping safely in! For \$200 per month, Agape can provide everything this child needs. You will receive a display highlighting the child currently sleeping in your sponsored bed. His photo will ask you to, "Pray Me Home!" Once home, we'll send a "Prayed Home" poster, which can be displayed along with the story of the new boy who is sleeping safely in your sponsored bed!

You Can Help!

The Facts

- The children that we've returned home need to be visited on a regular basis. Some are returning to situations where extreme poverty is a grim reality.
- Many hurting, scared children are being held in the local juvenile detention center and need to hear of the hope that Jesus offers.
- Agape's campus is in a neighborhood of severe poverty. Many of the families cannot provide meals and schooling for their family.

The Solution

- Our staff regularly visits children who have returned home. When needed, we provide supplemental food, school fees, and uniforms.
- Every week our outreach team ministers at the Remand Centre and shares the gospel with hurting children. Daily our staff has a presence there, helping as needed.
 - More than 60 children from our neighborhood—who otherwise wouldn't be able to attend school—are welcomed, fed, and clothed.

Partners
for HOPE

Help us as we minister to these hurting children. Join our Partners for Hope program with a minimum monthly donation of just \$30. Your support will help us continue this work and allow our ministry to grow as the Lord leads. Each month you'll receive a letter with the story of a child Agape is helping, and a photo sticker of the child to put on your Partners for Hope "Stories of Hope" poster. Partner with us as we proclaim Christ to children and their families in Kenya!

You Can Help!





Help us spread the word by passing this newsletter on to a friend who doesn't know about Agape!

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Incredible Praise Highlights!

- Our Kitchen Remodel Project, our Bible Project, and our Water Collection Project are all fully funded, thanks to many generous donations! Thank you!
- How well our boys are doing on our main campus and at The Farm
- Bringing the Page family to Agape and for enabling them to adjust so quickly to their new lives as Agape missionaries
- The progress on our many facilities projects
- His faithful and generous provision for our needs

Please Join Us in Prayer:

- That God will bring us many new Partners for Hope and supporters of the Kitanda Project
- God will continue to meet Agape's growing financial needs
- Provision for the Kjeldgaard family's monthly financial support and it will be smooth for them as they move to Kenya to minister with Agape in December
- God will help us bring Him honor and glory in all that we do and say

In Closing—from Blake and Esther Gibbs, Director



We have just returned from The Farm, Agape's Vocational Training Center. It was

such a joy to see how the Lord is working in the lives of our boys there. The place is filled with an atmosphere of joy and happiness. They are learning masonry, carpentry, or auto-mechanics, but more than that, they are learning more and more about walking with the Lord. They are learning to trust Him, to make Him truly Lord of their lives.

Reflecting on how the Lord is at work at The Farm reminds us how wonderfully He is changing lives and hearts through every arm of Agape's ministry. Through His gentle guiding and faithful provision, the Lord is enabling us to minister not only to those at The Farm, but to children on our main campus, to children at the Remand Center (Kenya's version of Juvenile Hall), to community children attending our Primary School, to children who remain on the streets,

and to children we have been able to reintegrate. In all, we are privileged to be ministering to more than 600 children.

Fighting the spiritual battles for these children's lives and providing the help and assistance that we do can only be done as the Lord provides and enables. But He usually does that through people like you.

We hope you will prayerfully consider becoming one of our Partners for Hope or joining our Kitanda Project. They are both wonderful ways for you to become more connected to what the Lord is doing through Agape. We want you to be able to share our joy as one of our children is "Prayed Home" through the Kitanda Project. We want you to experience the privilege of praying for a new child each month as one of our Partners for Hope.

The Lord is doing amazing things. If you are not already a regular prayer or financial partner, I pray you will become a part of what He is doing through Agape today.



FALL 2011

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Phone: 209-543-9255
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Mailing Address:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please see reverse side of this form for automatic donation information.



- I want to help pray a child home and sponsor a bed for \$200/month! I'd like my display frame to be:

Free standing (8x10) Magnetic (11x17) Wall mount (11x17)



- I'd like to join Partners for Hope! Each month I'll receive a letter and photo sticker highlighting the story of a child Agape is ministering to.

\$30/month \$60/month \$90/month Other _____

General Fund \$ _____ Other _____ \$ _____

Automatic Bank Debit (ACH)

Bank Name: _____ Branch: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Transit/ABA No. _____ Account No. _____

Please deduct \$ _____ monthly on 5th / 20th (circle one) Effective date: _____

****Please attach a check marked VOID with this completed form****

I (we) hereby authorize Agape Children's Ministry to initiate charges and to initiate, if necessary, adjustment entries for any errors to my (our) card/bank account listed here. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Agape Children's Ministry has received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford Agape Children's Ministry and me (us) a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

Credit/Debit Card Authorization

Visa Mastercard

Name on Card: _____

Number: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ V Code: _____

Signature: _____

Please deduct: _____ monthly

Recurrence:

Monthly on the 5th or 20th (circle one)

For _____ months

Until I contact you to discontinue

Effective date: _____