

Full Circle

Have you ever had a flashback? I'm not talking about the drug induced kind...but the kind that comes to us during a major event in life: a graduation, marriage, or some significant accomplishment. At that moment in time things seem to stand still and you see that one as they were when they began and remember a bit of the "long road" or process through which they've come.

This was our experience this past week when we visited Agape's vocational farm, where several of the boys we helped rescue off the streets are learning a trade. Several of them came off the streets five years ago when they were about 12 years old. Others came later but now they are growing into strong young men who are discovering what life is all about. In fact they have come to walk with the ONE that gives Real Life.

I felt overwhelmed as my eyes moved from one face to another and my mind flashed back to another time. I saw a little boy sitting on the pavement, tears streaming down his face as we tried to treat the huge soars on his legs. Another one I could see a small face peering up at me with a frightened look in his eyes as

we asked what we could do for him, the answer came, "You could love me and take me home with you and I could wash your dishes." In

another boy I saw the trouble maker that led others astray, but now here he was leading his peers in devotions and helping them grow spiritually. Each boy with his story and each boy a work in process (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Our hearts were filled with thanksgiving for what the Lord has done, is doing, and will continue to do. We're not naive enough to think that they have arrived or that there aren't still obstacles to



overcome, but for that moment, we were enjoying and celebrating with them the progress that has been made!

The week after we were there, 16 of those boys followed Christ into the waters of baptism and made their public profession of faith! Our joy is complete!

Unicycle



We've discovered that anything with wheels and rolls is a real hit here in Africa. Life is simple here; it doesn't take much to draw a crowd.

One of Steve's fond childhood memories is of his grandfather's creative use of old bicycle parts to weld interesting versions of bikes.



That has carried over into his desire to share that experience with our Agape boys. True to form, boys and bicycles go together. Steve felt led to bring back three unicycles to use with the boys without realizing how handy they would be. We carried a couple of them down to The

Farm with us and in short order, several of the boys mastered the technique.

For the last two weekends they have ridden them to draw large crowds in the surrounding town centers, and like Peter and Paul of old, several boys have seized the moment to give their testimonies of how Christ has changed their lives!

Discipleship/Play

We have a great job because we get to play with the children. It's been said that play is a child's work. They learn so much



Coming Soon! Agape's 2012 calendars will be here in a few weeks! 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 pre-order your calendar, please indicate on the response card how many you would like to receive. Agape will mail the calendars to you by the beginning of December. *Due to IRS regulations, the purchase of a calendar is not tax-deductible.*



about life through their play. We find this so true; it's a healing suave to many of their hurting hearts and lightens their burdens. And for us as grandparents, it's great fun just to enjoy these

children. It opens their hearts to the true disciple maker. So not all of our work is serious; we're grateful for the balance.

Deeper Still

Pastor Joel shook his head as he exclaimed, "I've really been challenged, I thought we knew these boys but I'm realizing now that we haven't scratched the surface."



He made this comment after doing a spiritual and emotional inventory with some of our more troubled boys. "The abuse, rejection and darkness from the demonic and the occult go deeper into their lives than we realized. Several of them broke when they told me told their stories, I'm deeply touched."

Corrie Ten Boon said, "There is no pit so deep that Jesus isn't deeper still." I John 4:4 says "...for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world."

Praise God for His victory on the cross over Satan. Praise Him that "The weapons we fight with are not

the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds" (2 Corinthians 10:4).

"Then you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free" (John 8:32).

We have already started teaching them their Identity in Christ (a series of 10 lessons), and we have just begun the process to take them through Neil Anderson's "Steps to Freedom in Christ." Please pray for them as they walk through the process of confessing, renouncing and forgiving. Pray for God's healing. We are infringing on Satan's territory so please join us in raising up the standard against him.



We couldn't be here without your investment. Thank you for prayers, support and love you give these boys and us.

May His thanksgiving fill your hearts,

Steve and Dianne Warn

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Agape's 2012 Calendar!



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: _____