UGANDA SUTPHENS



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Serving With:

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Dear Praying Friends,

June 2022

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

LIFE IN UGANDA: As missionaries, we typically want to share good news, positive stories of salvation testimonies, baptisms, and nationals enthusiastically involved in discipleship. This is especially so with our supporting churches and individuals. But at times there are many disappointments and discouraging stories of seeing few people saved, baptized, or wishing to be discipled. At other times we see people who seemingly have strong faith in Christ and a great testimony suddenly go astray for reasons that we cannot fully understand.

This is the story of a young lady we will call 'Enid,' a local pastor's daughter, who had such a genuine testimony of faith in Christ. She was one of the hardest workers we have seen, had attended a year of Bible College, and was the dorm supervisor of our orphan girls. Enid failed to show up the day after a school break. Phone calls to her parents brought further anxiety to us as they also did not know where she was. Days later, we had learned she had run off with a Ugandan soldier to the far western region of the country and was no longer answering her father's phone calls. We thought she must have been forcibly taken, but this was not the case. She apparently went on her own and now is living with this soldier and will not communicate with her parents. To say that we were stunned and disappointed is a gross understatement. She was so thoroughly grounded in God's word, always interested, and consistently asking questions about the Bible as she was being discipled by Elena. We hope and pray she will come to her senses as the prodigal son did and return home to her parents. Please pray for Enid!

MINISTRY: I recently reviewed the principles of baptism in a nearby village to new believers who want to be baptized next month. I understand that in the Scriptures many people were baptized the same day they made professions of faith in Christ; but in the culture in which we serve the Lord there are too many false professions made, so we take a little time to see evidence of the new creature in Christ. This is, at times, the reality of modern-day missions in Africa.

Lillian, a 17-year-old with sickle cell disease continues to confound me with her highly labile health condition. Just a couple months ago we thought we had stabilized her with a red blood cell exchange when she recently collapsed with a critically low red blood cell count. She remains in the hospital requiring multiple blood transfusions. Please pray for Lillian!

Though ministry has its challenges, we thank the Lord Jesus Christ for the opportunity and privilege to serve Him on the field of Uganda, East Africa no matter what the future may bring us.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Further salvation of souls through the SOAP ministry.
- Conviction, repentance, and the return of Enid to her family.
- Recovery for Lillian, with sickle cell disease.
- Healing for one of our teachers, Catherine, who has Neuroendocrine tumor (cancer).

Your Fellow Servants for Souls,

ALAN AND ELENA SUTPHEN UGANDA, EAST AFRICA

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NEW CHURCH CONSTRUCTION MAY 2022



LILLIAN JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO



LILLIAN SEMI-CONSCIOUS, AWAITING TREATMENT