

The Telmans

Jim, Michelle, Emily, Amanda,
Jocelyn, Alexandria, JT, John, & Peter
Answering God's call to
Uganda, East Africa



June, 2012

Greetings from Uganda! We have been here for a month now, and what a month it has been! We miss our family & friends in the States terribly, yet are in awe that the Lord has chosen to use us in such an amazing place with such incredible people.

Our last Sunday in the States was May 20. That was also Alexandria's 8th birthday. She was delighted when our pastor called her to the platform & the church sang "Happy Birthday" to her. The church also gave us a very emotional & loving sendoff that day. We are so thankful to be representing a church that loves God & loves people the way Bible Baptist Church does.

As you can imagine, the toughest part of our moving was leaving Emily. She stayed with her "2nd family" from our church for two weeks after we left, then moved into an apartment with her friend June 7. We are thankful for the great apartment & sweet roommate God provided for her.



The rest of the children are adjusting very well. Amanda is at the toughest age for such a transition, but she has exceeded our expectations. She has quickly become friends with several of the orphan girls and enjoys going to devotions in their dorm each weekday evening. The orphan girls have been very helpful teaching her Lugandan, and she is trying to help us learn too.

Jocelyn & Alexandria also enjoy spending time with the orphan girls as well as with the Applegate girls. We were surprised when the girls were so excited to pump water from the well & wash clothes by hand. Alexandria lost two teeth in our first few weeks here, & was excited to get 2,000 shillings for each one. Although it equals about the same as she has always received, she felt much richer.

JT & John are enjoying playing with Elijah Applegate on the large mounds of dirt from construction projects here. They were a bit overwhelmed by the orphans that were so intrigued by them at first, but they enjoy being with them now. Peter waves every time someone calls his name. He struggled with the new time zone at first & thought he needed to stay up at night. Overall, each child has done better than we had anticipated.

The majority of our month has involved trying to get adjusted to life in the village. We have had to figure out a new schedule to make sure we accomplish all that needs to be done in a day. Jim has been working with Tony Applegate & Keith Stensaas on making solar panels. They also keep busy with all the work that goes into running a church and school.

Our house is still not done, but continues to progress. They are finishing the painting & should begin tiling the floors soon. We are hoping to move into the house in a month or so. Our container is scheduled to arrive about the same time. We are still praying for good inspectors when our container arrives.



Pictures left to right: 1. Father's Day; 2. Tyra Murphy, the girl from our church who came with us for 6 months & Mbiru Baptist Church in the background; 3. Pastor JJ, the pastor of the church and the overseer of the orphans, teaching JT how to be a good soldier; 4. Frank was a street kid that Pastor JJ was able to reach, and he is now a big help to Pastor JJ & a good buddy to JT & John.

As many of you may have heard, we have already experienced malaria in a drastic way. Jim was sick for several days and finally started malaria medicine in spite of two negative tests. He started feeling better immediately, proving that it actually had been malaria. These tests are not always accurate, especially on people who are not from Africa. JT and John got sick several days after Jim. We were hesitant to give them a test as we didn't want to put them through the pain of it if it wasn't going to give an accurate reading. Their temperatures would go up and down, sometimes reaching temperatures over 104. We finally decided to take them to the local hospital. They told us it was malaria, that both of them were extremely sick, and that they needed to be admitted and put on quinine right away. We had already been strongly advised against this medicine. The doctor insisted this was the only medicine available for such a severe case. We asked for time to pray and discuss. Kristy Applegate was with us, and she contacted a more trustworthy doctor in Kampala. He said to get them out of there & take them to Kampala. When they tested them in Kampala, they found that JT's wasn't as bad as the local hospital had said, but that John's parasite count was over 200 per field. The doctor warned that this was 10%, and cases become fatal after they hit 5%. We were terrified that we were about to lose our precious son. He was admitted and treatment began right away. Even more importantly, we began praying right away! Pleas went out on facebook, and people around the world joined us at the throne of the Almighty. The first 4-12 hours of treatment were critical. We were relieved when the doctor came in and told us that this would be the time he would be crashing, and he was doing well. The Lord had reminded us that He was the same Great Physician in Uganda as He was in the States. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever, and we are so thankful to be living life in His hands! Thank you to all who cared enough to pray for us through this time, and who shared our request with others so that even those we don't know were praying with and for us.

We have been reminded how important it is to have so many of you praying for us. Thank you so much for your prayers. Please keep it up!

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