

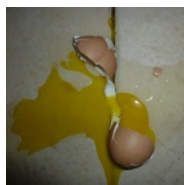
Uganda Update

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have *hope*... (Lamentations 3:21)

Two Down

This past month has been much different than the first. If January could be described as a smiling sunrise, February would be a sunset casting long shadows every which way. I still see light, but it is accented by shades of darkness.

I have had my first taste of pain and hopelessness in a land rife with both. And to be honest,



my issues have been small and petty. A mild malaria scare that turned out to be nothing, an elusive

mouse that leaves little presents in the kitchen; minor annoyances that can build up pressure and destroy what was once a godly attitude.

The Least

Real pain, however, is experienced when my 12-year-old neighbour Thijin asks me for money to go to the doctor because his family has none. He said



he couldn't sleep at night, that he could only lay on one side because it hurt too much when he lay on the other.

Hopelessness is found when I get a ride to school, look out the window into the pouring rain, and see a child walking barefoot the other way. At least he has a school to go to, I think to myself.

"Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." Jesus, [Matthew 25:40](#)

Hope and Healing

In my Grade 6 Bible class, we are currently going through the Beatitudes. Jesus says, *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven... Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted..."* ([Matthew 5:1-12](#))

I really believe that there is healing and hope for the downtrodden. Not in medicine nor infrastructure, not even in education, for they are all temporary. I believe real living hope can come only through the saving grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Ogamba Chi? What's Up?

1. March 3-4 were Parent Teacher Conferences at WoL Academy. It was so encouraging to meet my students' parents. All of them are very supportive of their children's education.
2. I haven't had time on Saturdays to tutor my Sudanese neighbours, but Thijin and Bahn still come over everyday. We hang out and talk about things they're going through in their lives.
3. I had the opportunity a few weeks ago to welcome Tobias to Uganda for his Medicine internship and show him around Kampala. Tobias is from Germany and will work in Mbarare for 5 months.
4. My mentoring meetings with Gregg were postponed for three weeks as he had to go out of the country, which gave me time to meet up more with Helen, Amy, and Grace, three short-termers from the U.K., Canada, and South Korea.

This is my Grade 6 class of twelve wonderful students and Teacher Eddie.



Thank you for partnering with me in this mission to bring hope to a fallen world. My hope is that you are also bringing hope to your part of the world as I am doing here, whether that be at home, at work, or in your community.

Perspective

While it is apparent that many people I see here are 'poor,' this is life for them. For the most part, they are satisfied with what they have, even if what they have is very little compared to our standards.

That is why I think it is so important that we, as people who 'have,' do not look down on the poor, but to see them as equals in the eyes of God.



They need hope more than they need material things. They need love more than they need money.

"...Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life." (Jesus, [John 4:14](#))

Readiness

I hope you are good and well, wherever you are, whatever you are doing. Know that you are in my prayers, and thank you that I am in yours.

May God bless you richly in His wisdom and grace.

Praise & Prayer

1. People!

God has sent amazing people into my life (AIM missionaries, fellow teachers, WoL staff, etc.) to support me in my times of loneliness and sickness.

2. School is Still Cool!

I still love waking up in the morning and going to school.

3. Physical Health

I've had an intense bout of food poisoning, and I seem to be more tired than usual.

4. Bible Study Startup

A couple of other short-termers and I have started up a weekly bible study. Please pray for an openness to encourage one another and to keep each other spiritually accountable.

5. Personal Spiritual Discipline

Pray that I would continue to seek strength and grace from the Word.

Talk to Me!

JOSHUA WONG
AIM SHORT TERM
P.O. Box 4008
Tree Lane, Lubowa, Kampala,
Uganda

TEL: +256 784 844 881

EMAIL: JYCW13@GMAIL.COM

BLOG:
JOSHISINAFRICA.WORDPRESS.COM