

PASTURE VALLEY CHILDREN'S HOME NEWSLETTER



MAY 2013

Matthew 4: 19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you **fishers of men.**"

If you are a boy (and perhaps even if you are not)- this newsletter is for you!

MAKING MEN OUT OF BOYS

You can just imagine the excitement among the boys when we announced that Peter, Ted and Willie would be taking them on a camping trip to the Mkhonta river! What better way to teach boys to put up their own tents, do their own cooking and spend time in the bush away from it all while providing an opportunity to disciple to them too. The boys set camp at a lovely spot at the river where the boys could do some fishing. There were many stories told around the fire place and a mountain to climb the following day just enjoying God's creation.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

An article written in the Swazi Times this week asked: Where are our Fathers? So many children in Swaziland grow up without even knowing their fathers. They run away from their responsibilities, leaving the women and grandmothers to deal single handedly with caring and raising the children.

During another Choose to Wait course run by Leo Baan this holiday at Pasture Valley where 20 children benefitted from this amazing Christian teaching, I asked the children to share with us what their dreams were and what they learnt from the course. All the children said they wanted to get married and have 2 children and stated what they wanted to become, but one of our boys from Pasture Valley stood up and very casually said something that knocked my socks off. He said when he was older, he wanted to have 2 children but also wanted to adopt 3 other children! The mere fact that he wants to help other children one day can only be directed by God and we are so grateful that a small seed has been planted in one heart- a heart big enough to stretch out in turn to help others. You cannot believe the encouragement these small words have been to us.

MAKING SMALL BIG BUSINESS MEN ON A LAND OF MILK AND HONEY

In Swaziland, estimated 66% of those employed are government employees. This leaves only 33% of those



employed to carry the enormous task of keeping the economy going. We have encouraged all our children at Pasture Valley to be employers and not employees. Starting your own business is hard. Some of the boys decided to embark on a honey project and harvested their own honey this last

weekend. We were so proud of them as they braved the nasty stings of the industrious bees. We showed them how to wrap the honey combs and they elected their own manager, bookkeeper and marketer among themselves. Please pray that their business will be blessed.

A NEW OFFICE FOR OUR SOCIAL WORKER AND RECEPTIONIST

This month a new wooden office was erected for our social worker, Princess. With over 150 children in the community to care for, we have people knocking on our doors almost every day for assistance. The office will provide a space where counseling can take place in private and storage of goods to be distributed.



TAIWAN IN ZAMBIA (this is confusing!)

Taiwan (our eldest child) is doing some fishing of her own in Zambia where she is attending a discipleship course. She has made some good friends and learning a lot.

SUCCESSFUL CONCERT IN THE UK



The Vula Amehlo Trust held a fundraising event in the UK to help Pasture Valley Children's home. The concert held in St Peter's Church, Portishead with 'The Croutons' was a huge success. We are grateful for all who helped make it possible.

PRAYERS *** Thankfulness for all volunteers helping at Pasture Valley including Jordan who has just arrived from the States *** For patience and wisdom to deal with the many issues at Zondle Girls orphanage. It has proved to be a great test for all this month *** For health of all the children *** Strength and

perseverance for all housemothers *** For Swaziland's men *** For Taiwan in Zambia *** Thankfulness for all those that support Pasture Valley in so many ways. **With love from the Pasture Valley Family**