



There once were two brothers living a bad, sad adventure on the streets. Home was too far away for them to reach. Dangerous things were surrounding them. One day they met our social workers. They gained trust and offered home tracing help to these little ones. Together they hunted high and low! The road was so bad! They travelled by mini bus and motorbike but then they ran out of road! They walked for 6.5 kilometers before seeing a little house emerge in the distance. "HOME!" This journey is now taken every 2 weeks by our life changing social workers to support this newly united family.

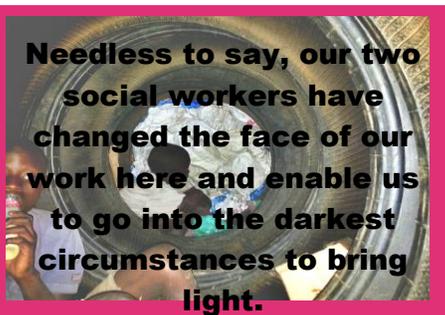
THE CAVELL NEWS

TESTIMONY TIME!

September The Ninth 2016

RECONCILIATION LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING...

Below is the face of a boy who knows how it feels to be a prodigal Son and we had the great privilege of watching his story unfold. Let's go back 6 months... "Marvin! We love having you in our lesson but if you continue to punch Robert under the table, we will be assuming that you have made the decision to leave for the day and will be coming back tomorrow as the wonderfully behaved child that we know you are!" (In all honesty, that was a lie. God had not graced us with the knowledge of Marvin's good behavior yet, and this was more a desperation at prophetic hope!) Yes folks, grace givers come in all shapes and sizes. This particular one was 11 years old, a little skinny, head to toe covered in scabies lumps and had a mischievous smile that had us questioning our entire calling on a regular basis! Not only was Marvin a grace giver, he had made it a personal challenge to sabotage the home process for any of the children that we were working with. Not good! We started praying that God would intervene and allow us to continue our work with no obstacles. He answered our prayers but in the most unexpected of ways! Marvin began showing an interest in going back home himself, our two social workers set out on a mission to find his home. When they got there, they found nothing but rejection from the hearts of the family. As it happens..



(Children are found asleep in tyres as a desperate attempt to keep warm)

... Marvin wasn't just our grace giver! The problem was, the grace had run out. The community had turned their backs on him and it seemed his family didn't care. It was a sad day when our staff had to leave their business card and travel back to town with him, but this is not the end of his story. That little business card found its way into the hands of a local health worker. She had been looking for Marvin for many months. You see, Marvin had a very big secret he was hiding in his little body. Marvin was a very sick boy and he knew it. He needed to take daily medication to keep him well but life on the streets had prevented this. The shame associated with his illness caused him to carry this secret on his own, each day becoming more prone to infection and disease. He knew that his life was not rosy and had made a decision to ensure that others weren't either. It turned out that this boy was just a boy, seeking to understand life and searching to find love... **LOVE WAS COMING!**

Following the news, our team searched the town for Marvin but he was nowhere to be seen. He was a very poorly boy and we feared the worst. Our staff had to check places that we prayed he would never be found. Then the miraculous happened, the bit that only Jesus could orchestrate, Marvin's Father joined the search! In the bible it talks of the journey home for a lost Son, it also talks of a Father who ran to meet him half way. Marvin was found, Marvin went home, Marvin is being given the specialist care that he needs both emotionally and medically and most importantly Marvin has found the love and acceptance that he was searching for. Marvin is due to start school in a few weeks and has this week decided that he wants to become a social worker, so that he can help others like him to find home.

This is the start of a different journey for this family, one of forgiveness, persistence and trust but this is a family that God chose. This is a family with a hope and a future. This week we are celebrating the lives of 12 Prodigal families that once were lost but have now found each other.



“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. Luke 15:11-32 NIV

EXCITING TIMES AHEAD!

TRAINING FOCUS | **IN 2 WEEKS WE WILL BE HEADING HOME TO KENYA. WE WILL BE HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING AND HAVE A LOT TO FIT IN BEFORE CHRISTMAS! WE ARE HEAVILY FOCUSING ON STAFF TRAINING THROUGHOUT BUT WE ARE PARTICULARLY EXCITED TO HAVE THE VERY TALENTED AND EXPERIENCED LAURA NOTT OF LMN TRAINING LTD VISITING US AT THE KENYAN CHILDREN'S PROJECT, TO INVEST IN STAFF TRAINING ON TOPICS SUCH AS: FAMILY AND BEHAVIOUAL** *Street social worker Ursula teaching.*
THERAPIES, UNHEALTHY BOUNDARIES AND SAFEGUARDING FOR CHILDREN. THE QUALITY OF CARE AT HOME, WITHIN STREET OUTREACH, PREVENTION, MENTORING AND STREET SCHOOL PLACES AND KEEPS FAMILIES TOGETHER. WE CANNOT WAIT TO EXPAND ON THIS! KARIBU (WELCOME TO) KENYA LAURA!





FAMILY DAY | On November

19th we will be holding our first ever family day! This event will bring together the families of each reconciled street child that we have been working with over the last 19 months. This will be a day full of fun and activities, as well as a day to create a safe space to talk. Each of these families share street life as a common theme within their stories, each family has a special ability to express compassion and support to one another. Our morning session will be split activities for parents and children. The parent's forum will create a safe space to discuss issues together, as well as provide pastoral care and educational activities. The children's sessions will be using hands on activities, games and icebreakers, focused on supporting the overcoming of trials they each face at home. We will then be coming together for the very important activity that is LUNCH! During the afternoon the families will be getting hands on together in role play, games, team building exercises and lots of fun, as we celebrate the unity that God has given them, as well as commissioning them out 'till next time!



each prodigal family. This will be full of every day essentials such as flour, oil, sugar, soap etc. We want to remember the new life of our King Jesus by celebrating the new life of each family around us.

If you would like to support any of these coming projects or the reconciliation process of these children, get in touch ☺

SELF-SUSTAINABILITY |

Wheelbarrows are a beautiful thing!

This is just one of the family initiatives that we will be looking into during our next trip out to Kenya. Each family we work with has different home environments, land status and levels of skill. There is no one size fits all solution for poverty but whether it is through provision of seeds, a vocational training course or a start-up business pack, every willing family can be helped in helping themselves to have a better future! When we return to Kenya 3 families within the Mariko's Place slum community, as well as 1 street connected mother will be provided with a wheel barrow fruit stall start up business pack. Please join us in prayer for these amazing families as they embark on a journey of self-sustainability. We are returning to Kenya with 16 sealed money tins in our cases, to support our education plans on budgeting and saving within families.



CHRISTMAS PACKS | Sorry!!!

We know it's early but we are going to be putting together a Christmas parcel for



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A BIT ABOUT US

THE CARTERS CAME TO KENYA!

Back in June Lucy's parents came to visit. They had almost 4 weeks of, well EVERYTHING! They have now been to Lake Victoria, trekked through the rainforest, swam in waterfalls, been driven through the mountains. They visited villages, loud Kenyan church, the slum community and the markets. They have eaten chai, mandazi, chicken and ugali. They have spoken the language and travelled by plane, boat, tuktuk, piki motorbikes, horse and land rover. They have seen African sunsets and felt Kenyan rain. They have seen monkeys, birds, hippos, lions, millipedes, elephants and warthogs and.....the rest of the African arc! They have prayed for our wonderful friends and have hung out in a lot of hot homes!! They helped us teach at street school, seen the lows of streets life and they

have met the team. They were involved in birthdays, BBQ's and a football match that included a cow!

Seeing how poverty, faith, hopes and expectations work together in the lives of those we met has left me with much to think about. I wonder how much that experience can teach me to listen and understand the lives of the poor who live nearer to home, with their hope and expectations and capacity for faith – Stuart Carter



WE'VE BEEN CAMPING! And lots of other lovely things! We have been back in England for a few weeks now. We have been incredibly blessed with good food, fun, friends and family time. Being back in England doesn't come without it's complications and heading up a team from 4,184 miles away is one of the more frustrating ones. We thank the Lord every day for Whatsapp and Skype! (and of course there is the missing Travis the cat part too!) Coming back to England gives us incredible opportunities to process all that we have seen and vision with a greater prospective for the exciting plans that we feel God has instore for the future. We fly back to Kenya on the 19th of September. It is always hard getting our hearts to balance the sad goodbye for now's with the excitement of awaiting greetings in Kenya. Thank you for all who have loved us, hosted us and sewn into us during our time back in England. We will be back with the new tittles of Auntie and Uncle over Christmas, as Mark's sister is due to have a baby woohoo! Thank you for joining us on all aspects of our crazy life.



Be blessed and be a blessing, *Mark and Lucy Cavell x*