

July 20, 2011

**DON:** God 's timing is perfect. We have arrived safe & sound at Canaan Children's Home in Jinja, Uganda (Wed). Our timing was to leave NC on Friday as our tickets indicated. However, God's plan was for us to return to Fayetteville Friday night and provide an opportunity for Roger to share the gospel with our driver, prayers answered and she prayed to accept Christ.

**BECKY:** I have had the blessing of spending time with the Dorm Moms. We are discussing the 5 love languages for children. These women come from many situations in their lives that have brought them to Canaan. They have suffered the loss of a child, being abandoned by a husband, being rejected by muslim parents for accepting Christ, and raising children as single parents. All have found a home at Canaan for this season of their lives. Only one remains since my last trip here in 2008. The children have seen many adults come and go through their young lives. My prayer is that these moms will love these children as their own seeing this opportunity as a ministry as well as a job.

The children are great. The youngest ones cling and want to sit in your lap all the time. The older ones are a little more reserved and wait for their turn to have time with you.

**ROGER:** While I'm writing this I am hearing the squeals of happy children playing. Surrounded by mud huts and the poorest of shacks, CCH is an oasis in an otherwise barren land. Here children get 3 meals a day, are shown love, get an education, and most importantly are shown that there is a God who loves them. Unfortunately the ratio of children to adults is about 50:1. So when a bunch of "muzungus" walk in, you are immediately surrounded by 6-8 happy albeit dirty faces, which all want to hold your hand, be picked up, or grab your legs. They are starving for adult attention. When I first walked in, one little girl about 2-3 made a beeline for me and jumped into my arms soon followed by about 6 others. These children have never learned to be wary of strange adults. They are so innocent and trusting. I never thought I was a "little people person" but these kids have stolen my heart. I also finally got to meet the two children the quartet is sponsoring, Ruth, 3, and Morris, 15 or 16 (there is some disagreement on his exact age.)

Oh if we all could be so innocent and trusting of our God as are these little children as it tells us to be in Matthew 18:3.

**AMANDA:** My heart has hungered for this mission trip ever since my mom went in '04 and I finally got my chance to physically be here and see it all with my own eyes. I thought I was mentally prepared to handle everything I had heard about these past years. But I wasn't prepared to have my heart stolen so easily. These big brown eyes clearly hungering for recognition, or a friendly touch, an available lap or a shoulder to lay on. I never thought these precious angels would have stolen my heart so easily. It is amazing to me that these children have nothing but are able to love so much. Although I have come to help them, they have made an even bigger impact on me. Yesterday, I was sitting with a group of 3-5 year olds and a little boy looked up and

said, "Jesus loves me" to hear this little boy... a baby... a three year-old already have an understanding of God's love touched my heart and brought tears for my eyes. I have a hard time trying to be okay with the fact that I cannot help and hold and love them all but they have a far greater understanding of true love and comfort from their Savior, Jesus Christ.



Amanda with her new boy friend. Jajja being comforted by a 2 yr old.

Roger & Amanda by original "Raid on Entebbe" plane.