



## Success Amidst the Challenges

This year was a challenge as we made our plans for camp. We had no teams coming from other countries to help, our budget was cut in half, and we had to find a new venue due to decreased finances and the unsafe location of last year's venue. We were also hit with the devastating news of the death of our Jr. Camp leader's wife. After all our struggle to make camp happen, this news knocked us all off our feet. We were all grieving, but we had to join together and take over the jobs the leader was responsible for to continue to make camp happen.



There was another change in the plans for camp this year as well. In the past, the missionaries and teams coming from USA and Ireland would do a lot of the planning along with bringing in crafts and other activities. This year there was only a small number of missionaries involved in camp and we decided to take on a more supervisory role and let the Nigerian staff plan and execute the camp. We had to sit back and bite our tongues a few times and tell ourselves not to get frustrated, as camp was getting closer and many things were still not planned or fully arranged. This was supposed to be a learning experience for the Nigerian staff, so we had to let them work things out and not try to take over or get frustrated. I think it was a learning experience for us missionaries as well. Ha!

Camp this year was from August 14-20. The first three days were Jr. Camp and the last three days were Sr. Camp. Our theme was Ephesians 2:10 "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." The first lesson was on temptation and how we deal with them using the example of Jesus when he was tempted in the desert. The second lesson was on the character of Christ and how we are to strive to be like Christ. God has given us many gifts that we can use to be a tool for His good works. The third lesson was on good works and commitment to God. What is your commitment to God? What are you going to do with the good works He has prepared for you to do?



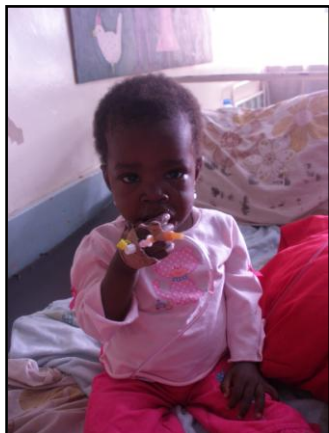
My hut was Love Hut



I think I had the most fun as I was teaching the preschool kids. They were all so cute. There were ten preschool kids and I had a Nigerian helper who could translate for me when needed. We had fun playing games, fishing true and not true characteristics of Jesus out of the bucket and coloring pictures.

The afternoons were filled with fun activities of rotating games and sports. In the evenings the children had fun with variety night-showing off their own talents, film night, and then a night of dance, dance, and dance. We had lots of rain and our dirt road turned to mush, so we were splashing through lots of mud, but the kids managed well. The last night all the staff stood, laid hands on the children, and prayed over them. We have seen amazing things happen in the lives of the children and who knows what God will do through them in the future.

## A Life Saved



It was just another day at the brothel, as the ministry team went in to talk with the women and share the Gospel. They saw the little girl sitting in the corner with no expression on her face and not making a sound. That is how they would see her every time they came and many times she was sitting in her own poop. It looked as though she was drunk and they figured the grandmother, owner of the brothel, gave her beer to keep her quiet, so she would not disturb people. Missy, the leader of the team, many times would jokingly say to the grandmother, "When are you going to let me take that girl?" This time when she asked, she received a surprisingly different response. As the team was leaving, the grandmother said that they could take the girl. They were shocked, but wasted no time in bundling up the little girl and taking her with them. She was dirty, wearing soiled clothing and appeared to have some labored breathing. What do we do now was the next thought, but at that time it was overshadowed by the wonderful realization that she was free and saved from that horrible environment.

Missy called our compound because we had a visiting doctor staying with us. She wanted to see if the doctor could check on the girl who's named we found out to be Nansik. After giving the little girl a bath and changing her clothes, the overall decision was that she needed to go to the hospital. I traveled with them to the hospital, since I know the place so well. The doctor ran several tests and said she needed to be admitted. They took a chest x-ray because they suspected a chest infection or pneumonia. So I left them at the hospital and returned home for the night. I saw her again at the hospital the next day and after the IV drip and medication, she was looking a bit better. Missy had a meeting the next morning so I volunteered to watch Nansik for her. When I arrived, I was shocked to see how much better she was doing. She was moving all around on the bed, smiled once or twice and actually cried and made some babbling sounds. What a difference good food, loving care and no alcohol can do!

Nansik is now out of the hospital and living with Missy and her family. What are the plans for Nansik? We are not sure at the moment. Missy and her husband will be foster parents right now and will look at the options for future care. On a side note, the team went back to the same brothel a few days later and there were two kids there that cried and begged Missy to take them with her. So, she went back the next day and picked them up. Wow! That is three lives saved. They are staying at the half-way house that has been set up to house women who want to leave prostitution and start a new life. We praise God for this ministry and continue to pray for the lives of these three children.

### Praise:

- Wonderful way God is working through the brothel ministry.
- The three children saved from the brothel.
- Positive responses from the hospitals about the burn garments.
- A fun time at camp for all the kids in the King's Kids ministry.

### Prayer Request:

- Pray for City Ministries as we seek a new leader for Transition House, our children's care center in Jos.
- Pray for me as I continue with awareness for the burn garment clinic.
- Pray for the women in the brothels that they would come out of that life and seek a new life in Christ.
- Pray for me as I am looking for direction from God on what ministries to focus most of my time.
- We are looking to start up a support group for families with handicapped children. Pray for us as we make all the needed preparations.

*Gay Lynn McCrady*

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