

"Shamba"

Perhaps the biggest challenge in raising the fifty-eight orphans in the Congo for Christ orphanage is providing enough daily food for them. Every month we send \$1,800, and more when funds are available, just for food. This money only provides rice and beans, cooking oil and salt, for the two meals a day the children normally receive. It has been an ongoing concern for Pastor Jeremiah and Global Outreach as to how we could improve the quantity and quality of food for the children.



Plates of food are ready for the children: rice, beans, cassava

Several months ago we were able to provide enough funds to begin the "shamba" which is Swahili for garden. The largest expense was to fence in an approximately 4,000 square meter area to protect it from the goats and other animals that roam freely. After much hard work, they were able to plant several varieties of vegetables. Daniel, Pastor Jeremiah's son who works at CCC, has recently sent pictures and a report of the progress of the garden. He writes;

Cassava: this plant has grown and the children are now taking the vegetables. Maize corn: grew but much of it got destroyed due to pests. The kids are enjoying eating the boiled and roasted corn

so much. Groundnuts: (peanuts) the harvesting season for this is not yet. ...we shall be able to use it for feeding for two months till we grow more. Potatoes: is a very good meal for the kids, then the potato leaves



Cheka, one of the cooks, prepares leaves to boil for children

are used as a vegetable and the kids like this vegetable so much. Cabbage: it didn't succeed due to much weeds and pests. This is because we didn't have enough money to buy the pesticides. This also happened to kale, spinach and the carrots.

Daniel is very encouraged with the success of the shamba and now desires to cultivate a much larger area and work to grow enough food that some can be

Congo for Christ workers and orphans gather corn to roast



Garden in Congo, cont'd from page 1

sold and used to help sustain the expenses of the garden. Daniel has outlined expenses that would allow this expansion:

Fencing compound: \$2,385

Pipes for water: \$150

Garden tools and equipment: \$120

Insecticide for four months: \$240

Seed: \$185

Daniel concluded his very thorough report and request for more funds with this plea:

The agricultural project that we have at the moment is small; if we can expand on the project it can be fine. Mama Renee, our prayer is to get such amount of money that we shall have a maintained garden and shall have crops instead of weeds.

Despite the setbacks with some of the crops, we are excited and thankful to hear of the progress that has been made. This is the type of project we really need to support and encourage. In addition to



Area currently under cultivation. Lots of room to expand!

benefitting nutrition for the children, the garden encourages everyone involved with Congo for Christ to see what can be accomplished when they work together and invest their own time and energy. Please pray with us that God will provide the resources to expand the “shamba” and produce a bountiful harvest to feed our hungry and rapidly growing children.

“We Named Her Mary”

We recently received email from Reverend Thomas in India which began “*We named her Mary*” He then proceeded to share her story, or as much of it as he knows.

Mary tells how Jesus healed her



Earlier this year Thomas’s son, Thomas Jr., went into one of the tribal areas with Pastor Paul, a rural pastor with Feed My People, to distribute rice to those in need. They found a little five year old girl living in the mountainous wilderness area of Regulagunta. Since she was sick, Pastor Paul brought her to the

Regulagunta orphanage he and his wife run as a part of the local church. They learned that her father had died after being bitten by a cobra. Her mother then married another man and moved to another village abandoning little Lakshmi, named for one of the wives of a Hindu god, to survive on her own. During the day she would beg for food, and at night she would sleep in a chicken coop. After

Pastor Paul brought her to the orphanage and church, he and Thomas Jr. prayed for her. God miraculously healed her that same night. The next day she gave a testimony of Jesus’ healing power during the church service. Now she has a new life in Christ, a new name, and the opportunity to be raised in a loving, Christian home. Her mother abandoned her, but God never will! Your faithful giving makes the rescue of so many orphans like Lakshmi, (now Mary,) possible. Thank you!



We visited the Regulagunta orphanage and church in February 2012. Rev. Thomas is requesting \$500 to build a much needed restroom and shower room.