

December 2017 – Carolyn and Doug Koepke

"Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD" (Jeremiah 9:23-24).

Christmas greetings to everyone.

We recently had a visit from our Home Office in Florida. Rafiki Executive Director Karen Elliott visited our Rafiki children who are attending Bingham University.



She went to confirm our memorandum of understanding with the University Vice Chancellor and that was achieved, but even more exciting was meeting up with our ten college students who have grown up at the Rafiki Village in Jos, Nigeria. She shared with us, "They are all on scholarship at the university through the generosity of our donors. In this group are future doctors, accountants, professors, entrepreneurs, economists, public relations officers, and so on! They all live on campus and are studying hard. They are also in leadership roles: Vice President of student body, Head of Sports Activities, and Public Relations Officers. Most of all they have a good reputation at the school and are of good character. May God preserve them! We are so grateful to God for this precious fruit."

Praises:

• In 2018, Carolyn will begin online classes through Covenant College in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Education. This will prepare her to better help with the work in our Rafiki schools. The Rafiki children are growing up and will eventually leave us to attend University or other career training.

- In 2018, Doug is looking forward to the opportunity to travel to other Rafiki Villages a few weeks at a time to assist in plant management and facilitate needed equipment repairs.
- Our daughter Sarah is taking prerequisite classes in preparation for Sonography School.
- Eighteen of our children were baptized this summer. Five of them professed Jesus as their Lord and Savior for the first time!
- Jonah's right leg has been lengthened to the correct length. He will wear a cast for the next month and then continue with physical therapy.

Prayer requests:

- Successful remodeling of empty cottages into classrooms.
- Nine of our children have had chicken pox. Pray for an end to this so our children can visit their extended family for Christmas.

Our love to you this Christmas,

Doug : Carryn

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