



RAFIKI

FOUNDATION
MISSIONARY NEWSLETTER

December 2018 – Martha Newton

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them" (Luke 2:20).

Dear friends and family,

What does it mean to enjoy Christmas? People are so busy. There is so much to do. Is all that busyness enjoyable? It can be. Do we really miss the reason for the season?

Energetic Christmas music is playing while the dining hall is being decorated. We have Christmas music playing while the youth are writing their Merry Christmas greetings to their sponsors and trying their best to include the entire Christmas story on a half sheet of paper just in case their sponsor isn't familiar with the story.

We race to the library every night after dinner to hear the next story in the Jesse Tree saga. The youth are eagerly participating in the suggested activities like writing a note to someone and telling them God loves them. I wrote seven notes and received two. One note told me God loves me. The other note asked to speak to me in private. (I'm pretty sure I didn't do anything wrong.)



The youth are rehearsing to sing at our partner church in Kigali. They are going to sing "Mary, did you know." I told them I'm going to shout out that she did. They begged me to please not embarrass them! They are also learning another Christmas song to sing at our local church.

We will be baking cookies, enjoying a special dinner, and giving them a gift. They will be attending the children's Christmas party at church, getting their fill

of candy, and hearing the story they tried to write on a half sheet of paper.

There is much more happening also. However, even with all the activities, no, we don't miss the reason for the season. Jesus was born.

Merry Christmas!

Martha

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