



February 2018

## Pastor David Ssebagereka and Family Kigoogwa Town – Wakiso District



*Daughter at home recovering*

You've heard us say many times that "life is hard in Uganda" – it's a frequent lament among many in Uganda. Unfortunately, there is much truth in that statement. Last month we mentioned Pastor David Ssebagereka – Say Yes sent funds to pay for medical treatment for two of his daughters with malaria and typhoid. Thankfully they are fully recovered. We thought you would be interested in the family's back story.

David's wife, Beatrice, passed away in October 2017 – apparently she had gone undiagnosed with diabetes for quite some time and by the time it was found she was too weak and sick to overcome. She left David with ten children in the home – seven of their own and three from South Sudan. A few years ago Beatrice went to South Sudan (just north of Uganda and not a safe country!) by herself to retrieve children of relatives who were in danger. The ages of this "blended" family are: two 3-yr olds; one 7-yr old; one 8-yr old; one 10-yr old; one 11-yr old; two 15-yr olds; one 16-yr old; and one 19-yr old. It's a constant source of amazement to us how those with so little are so willing to take on responsibility for others who have even less! Wow – just wow....



*David with some of his family in front of his new house*

As if that wasn't enough stress, the place where his home, church and small school was located in Kawempe was under a three phase cable line (whatever that is!) and the government was going to force people under that line to move away from it without paying them for their land or structures. So David was advised to sell the land and move to another place. He used the proceeds to purchase a plot and build a brick house and to relocate the church. It doesn't look like the house is fully finished as they typically plaster over the bricks inside and out, which hasn't been done yet. And windows were not installed, which makes the family susceptible to malaria carrying mosquitos. WE found out it would take less than



\$300 to purchase the windows and have them installed. Say Yes was able to send that money to him. We sent some extra funds so he could purchase mosquito nets, too. David was able to get the windows installed within days and says the family is now warm...yay!

The town where the family relocated is predominantly Muslim but David said they are safe and loved by the community. The plot is 100 by 100 – enough room to have a good size garden and maybe have some small animals eventually (chickens or goats).

Here's a sampling of some things we have helped David with financially. This will give you an idea of how much certain things cost in Uganda – amazing small amounts in our economy but almost insurmountable in the Ugandan economy (these are estimates only):

	Ugandan Schillings	USD Dollars
Doctor visit & medicine (for 2)	391,000	\$110
Transport (taxi van) & fluids	61,000	\$17
Malaria check	10,000	\$3
Typhoid check	8,000	\$2
Mosquito netting	10,000 +/-	\$3
Hospital stay (if it is needed)	50,000/night	\$14

Of course, this does not reflect the daily needs such as food, clothing, transport, etc.

A few years ago we helped David & Beatrice start a second-hand clothing business in a busy area. However, David said he needed to use all the money from the business for Beatrice's treatment so it is no longer in operation.

Since they have moved the church location they have come against some resistance from a Muslim neighbor so the local municipal council has closed the church. David has some people in the community who are helping to resolve whatever the issues are and open the church again. Until then, they have church outside. And get this –David receives maybe \$10 a week!

When you think of Pastor David and his family please take a moment to pray for them. They face many needs each and every day. But they are survivors and trust God for their needs.

And keep in mind that joining the **Say Yes \$25 Club** helps us have those extra dollars available to help folks like David when they face similar challenges. The **Club** is a great way to invest your love in another life.

We look forward to sharing more of what God is doing through Say Yes in Uganda, East Africa. We hope you are able to share these newsletters with your family and friends. An easy way to do that is to point them to this link on our website, where each newsletter can be found - [Say Yes Newsletters](#)

Thank you again for standing with us as together we reach out in the love of Christ.

With grateful hearts,

*Virgil & Joy*

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