

November/December 2018

One of the main reasons we were in Uganda this year was to bring together several of the people Say Yes has helped to start a business. We heard testimonies of what the business accomplished for their families, their ministries and their communities. Every one of the attendees have hearts to help others, even when they themselves are in such need. They have given assistance with food, medication, tuition, shelter, and some are training others in the own kind of business (mechanic, brick making, farming, etc).





So we were delighted that Say Yes could pay for everyone's transportation to Mukono, lodging for one night, and three meals; plus a gift bag to take home – all because of our partners. THANK YOU! Every last person enjoyed the food (very much!), fellowship, and all were encouraged. A few even needed a bit of assistance to figure out some of the bathroom amenities (toilet and shower) as they had not been in such nice facilities before. Imagine that!

A few outcomes of the meeting:

Robert Ssemwanga had been struggling to "find" his own way in life. Many circumstances, not of his own doing, hindered him. We, as in Virgil & Joy, have been personally sponsoring Robert since 2007 through an orphanage and then through vocational school. After hearing of his latest struggles we were impressed to speak to Denis Buyinza (mechanic) to see if he had room where he stayed to take Robert in for a while and be a mentor to him. Denis didn't even hesitate – he immediately replied "of course I can, he's my brother in the Lord!" They are now staying together and Say Yes continues to help with expenses, both business and personal. Robert will benefit greatly being in a healthy environment with someone he can trust.

• Sembuya Samuel Jackson – Sam has a degree in computer engineering but has a business making bricks because he makes more money in the bricks. He stayed for quite some time after the meeting to chat with us. He said he had rented an acre of land to grow tomatoes in



order to pay for the labor and firing of the bricks he was making – his goal was 100,000 bricks. But he needed funds to purchase weekly pesticide spray to insure a healthy tomato crop. We initially thought he wanted assistance to purchase firewood to burn the bricks. But he saw more value in the tomato crop, as the return on investment was much greater. Say Yes is now assisting a very creative and capable young man in his endeavors to provide for his family. And he is preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ to the brick workers in the brickyard and in his tomato garden – at least 5-6 people have received salvation since we left Uganda just through Sam's testimony alone! (*More about Sam in a coming newsletter.*)

• Prossie Male is a longtime friend of Say Yes. Over the years she has had her fair share of challenges. But she was convinced she could raise pigs successfully. Prossie is also a nurse, so making sure the pigs stayed healthy was important to her. Prossie shared her testimony at the meeting. Say Yes purchased the first two sows for Prossie and eventually was able to get her a male pig to "service" the sows. Since that time Prossie has raised more than 70 pigs! She has used the income to pay tuition for her children, start an agriculture project to raise crops to feed the pigs as well as her family, and she helps other women in her community. The proceeds from the pigs allowed her to purchase land to plant eucalyptus trees. These trees will produce enough income to help her pay university fees for her four children. Prossie is an ongoing success story for the goodness of the Lord!



And everyone at the meeting received a water filter and they LOVE it! We have received reports of how much better even tap water tastes! So those who have had to boil their water before drinking it are really very happy! Each family received two filters; they shared the second with others in their community. Happy people!

In His Love,

Virgil & Joy

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Say Yes International is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 non-profit public charity; therefore, all donations are tax deductible.