

*O love the Lord, all you His saints! The Lord preserves the **faithful**, and plentifully pays back him who deals haughtily. (Ps 31:23 AMP)*

Everyone would probably agree that faithful people should be honored. Faithful people can be depended on in good times and challenging times. They are a blessing to everyone they meet. And that is why the above verse is so poignant – “...The Lord preserves the **faithful**,...”

If we were to give you a picture of a faithful man it would be Mukisa Paul Evans, our Ugandan son. Paul has been going through some very challenging times lately but has not faltered in what he had to do. Here's what's going on.

First of all, we remind you that Paul is married to Leticia and they have a beautiful daughter, Triny. Leticia's mom, Annet, is a widow and has four other children. Jenifer is 17 in Senior 5 class; Peter is 15 and should be in Primary 7 but is not attending school for lack of school fees. Bonitah is 12 in Primary 6; and Cynthia age 8 in nursery class – she has been delayed in attending school due to lack of school fees.

A week or more ago Annet became very sick, to the point of being unconscious. Somehow she was taken to the hospital, which is where Leticia went to take care of her. (Hospitals don't provide food or beverage – that's up to family/friends to do.) Annet was diagnosed with high blood pressure, early stages of diabetes and a blood clot in the brain. One of the kids said a large piece of debris from inside the mud house they live in had fallen and hit Annet on the neck and head, resulting in severe headaches. (Apparently, things fall frequently...ugh).



This is Annet in front of her house where she sells charcoal – she barely makes enough to feed her children and pay the rent (for a mud hut!) and tuition when she can; but certainly not enough for hospital fees and medications. Paul has taken on this responsibility – paying for the medicine, brain scan, and as much of the hospital fees as he can. He has also been paying for the food and beverage for Annet and Leticia.

At the present time, the doctors want Annet to stay in the hospital for further observation due to continuing headaches and memory issues. They are treating the blood clot with medicine.

While Leticia has been taking care of her mom in the hospital, neighbors have been taking care of the baby, Triny. So now Triny has been exposed to sickness and has the flu (which is likely a bad cold). This is because the neighborhood where Annet lives is a slum, with little to no sanitation.

To add insult to injury, so to speak, Annet's oldest daughter, Jenifer, and her youngest daughter, Cynthia, were sent home from school for lack of tuition payment. However, Jenifer was allowed to finish her scheduled exams. Paul & Leticia have been paying the tuition for Bonitah but are not able to pay for the other children.

As if all that wasn't enough, some of Paul's pigs started looking sickly, which required a vet's attention ...more money for the vet visit and medications. Ahhh...the life of a farmer, eh?

Paul is extremely thankful for the assistance he has received from Say Yes over the years. It is because Say Yes has helped Paul start a business (farming) that he has been able to tend to these challenges for his wife's family. He has used all his savings to pay for Annet's treatment and for her food and beverage while in the hospital. He has also sold 10 roosters to raise enough funds to pay for ongoing hospital expenses as well as getting loans from his friends.

We truly are not trying to pull at your heart strings! We just want to paint a true and current picture of what it's like for the majority of people in Uganda and many face much worse situations daily. Paul could have quite easily been one of those had it not been for Say Yes donors. We are seriously thankful for every dollar we receive – every donation helps to make a difference in so many ways in Uganda life!

We know things will improve and these life stories will be testimonies to be shared many times over. God promised never to leave them or forsake them! That promise is good for each and every one of us!

Thank you for every prayer and thank you for every donation! We pray God's mighty presence and abundant love will overcome you always.

*Virgil & Joy*

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