



What if? What if Say Yes had not been around when Deborah needed an operation to remove a growth in her mouth that was taking over her whole face? What if Say Yes had not been around when Robert didn't have a place to live? What if Say Yes did not help many students with tuition? What if Say Yes was not able to help people start business to provide for their families? Would others have stepped in? Maybe. Would they have somehow figured out another way to survive? Maybe. Would they live with a certainty that God loves them? Hmm...not so sure about that one. BUT, praises be to God, we don't live in the land of "what ifs" – we live in the awe and wonder of a loving and faithful God who knows very well what each and every one of us needs at any given time. He is more than able to search the hearts to match the cry He hears from His kids. We believe that is why He has Say Yes in the right place at the right time for the right person. Say Yes is not one person or one couple – it's a gathering of like-minded people who God found to have hearts to match the cry...

After going over the lengthy list of "what ifs," this old hymn came to mind to swallow up all the negative banter: **Count Your Blessings** – here are the words to the chorus:

Count your blessings, name them one by one
Count your blessings, see what God has done
Count your blessings, name them one by one
Count your many blessings, see what God has done

Super simple, easy to remember when put to song, and extremely important to do. We often have the joy of rehearsing what God has done through the many people who have given to Say Yes to help so many others. That list is much longer than the "what if" list! It's a great testimony! Now for some progress reports, eh?

The building projects we told you about last month are coming along nicely. The roof trusses are in place for the Colins house and should be complete in the next few days. The



workers are also doing the ceiling boards at the same time. In Uganda the builders do not use sheetrock for a ceiling. Instead they install wire mesh between the rafters and then....well it's hard to explain but see if you can envision this: the builders mix up cement in a bucket, send the bucket up to the worker in the rafters, and he

layers the cement in the wire mesh, which causes a huge mess on the floor below! Apparently, they just gather up what falls to the floor and throw it back into the bucket and keep going. Eventually the cement hardens and you have a ceiling board. It's a whole lot of hard work that creates the base for a beautifully painted decorative ceiling, which can be done at a later time. The next phase for the Colins house is getting the electrical wiring

done. Denis and Sarah say they are “excited to shift to the “Canaan Land” with a new chapter in our lives.” As for the Colins fish ponds - the fish are doing very well. He expects them to be re-producing in the next month, which will require shifting the fingerlings to their own pond.



We have been talking to KD Buyinza, the auto mechanic in Entebbe. We mentioned the compressor he needs to supplement the work in his garage – some wonderful SYI Friends have already raised \$350 towards the total cost of the \$700! He also needs to increase the inventory for his kiosk to better serve his customers, which will take about \$850 to get that done. We will help him reach his goal as we are able, “slowly-by-slowly,” as the Ugandans often say. KD also told us about his biological grandmother (his father’s mother). Apparently her husband and children have all passed away. She is alone and KD has taken it upon himself to pay her rent as he is able. He is thinking he would like to put a room on the acre he received from SYI in Nkokonjeru, which is adjacent to the Development Team land. She would have plenty of room to grow food and have a secure space to live and sleep. It would be good to have someone staying on the property just to let the neighbors know it’s actively occupied. KD has a huge heart to help others, much as he has been helped by Say Yes. This is a blessing to us – he is walking in the ways of his Father God. We want to come alongside and help build this room for his jajja...what an honor to sow into the life of a widow who has the eye of God on her!

Upcoming: life stories! We have asked Paul to begin interviewing the widows Say Yes has helped this past year. Many, if not all, of these ladies probably lived through the terrible years of Idi Amin. To have lived through that era took courage and a clear sense of hope that things would change. Their stories are sure to encourage each of us. We ask you to pray for these ladies, as Holy Spirit leads; certainly knowing their stories will give you a greater understanding about how to pray. We hope to get a picture of each widow so you will have a visual of who you’re praying for.

Until next time, don’t forget to count your blessings and name them one by one – we definitely count each one who reads the SayYes newsletters to be a huge blessing to us and to Uganda!

Giving God all the glory,

Virgil & Joy

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