

Bob Hayes

From: <BHayes409@aol.com>
To: <Bob@ugandamission.net>
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Subject: Saturday, March 7, Uganda Update

We have been in Uganda eight days now and this is the first opportunity I have had to get out a report and this will be a short one.

I got a new laptop for these Uganda updates only to find that my USB Modem that allows me to buy time and get on the Internet was not compatible with the new laptop. Of course, by the time we figured this out, we were in the village and could do nothing about it. We got back to the guest house on Wednesday night late and on Thursday went to the mobile Internet company where we were told they could update my modem and it would work. After two hours of trying, we finally gave up and I bought a new modem that is compatible.

We did not get back to guest house on Thursday until late so no report then. On Friday, we went to another village, leaving at 8:30 a.m. and not getting back until 9:00 p.m., so no report on Friday either.

Today we had activities in the morning and planned to dedicate the afternoon to ministry updates. When we finally got the computer started, we discovered while the folks at the mobile Internet were trying to make the old modem work, plugging things in and out, a large number of unwanted programs and pop-ups were added to the computer and it took Michael all afternoon to clean all that off. Good news, computer is now working fine, so is modem and we are thankful.

I am only going to share two stories in this update, both are heartbreakers.

The first one was discovered last Sunday at church when we found a two year old baby that was hardly larger than a newborn. Everyone agrees nutrition is the issue, but the parents do not have the means to travel to Kampala, spend one to three months there while the baby is treated in the Malago hospital unit for babies that have failed to thrive. We are working on funding for this but as of yet, do not even have a reasonable idea of what it will cost.

The second is a young boy who can neither hear nor talk. For a while his parents had him attending a school for the deaf in Kampala, but can no longer afford it. We learned about this on the day we were leaving Kyamagemule to return to the guest house. He showed up with his best clothes on and the idea we were going to take him back to the school in Kampala. It was heart breaking to drive off and leave him standing there. This was the first I had ever heard of the situation and we are seeking to help get him back in school.



The two year old baby and her parents



The deaf boy