



**ACTS Ministry**  
**August, 2004**

## **Jesus loves widows and orphans**

During his earthly ministry, Jesus showed compassion on women and children by restoring them to health so they could live productive lives.

In African countries many mothers are unable to provide basic daily necessities for their children because they are widows of the AIDs epidemic. They cannot see a way to help their children.

As Christians, it is vital to share Christ's love in tangible ways to restore their hope and kindle a faith in our loving God.

This is what ACTS ministry is endeavoring to do with widows, orphans and many children in difficult situations.

### **An unexpected visit**

Early in the evening of Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2004, I received a visit from a young Christian widow whose husband died at the age of 40.

Though this woman has been to school and can find a job, she came to me for advice and said, "I know from experience that it is difficult to be a widow, and I worry daily about not being able to get a paying job. My husband died, and I need to find something for the future of my children."

Even though she can eventually find a job, she still feels insecure with the status of being widow.

As the widow talked over her fears with me I thought of the other widows. What about those who have not been to school and are not able to get a paying job because they have always been dependent on a husband for food and other needs?

When widowed they must suddenly find the means to look after themselves and meet the needs of their children; they are the ones who need



help to generate income to support their families.

ACTS is training women in raising of chickens, eggs and vegetables to provide them with food and income for their families.

We covet your prayers and need your gifts for this training to be successful.

### **Water means life in Burkina**



I'm writing about this to remind you why we need a well (the cost is US\$7,000) to help widows grow vegetables and sell them, as well as help the chicken raising to sell eggs.

### **Malaria season becomes deadly in the rainy season**

Here in Burkina Faso it is the rainy season; the time when the frequency of malaria increases. Many children under the age of 10 die of malaria. Recently, a close relative lost an 8-year-old child because of a wrong treatment for malaria; another 9-year-old child died because of high fever.

### **A reason for teaching the basics**

It reminds me when my children were younger; whenever they had malaria I watched over them all night putting wet towels on their bodies to bring their temperature down.

Unfortunately, because of ignorance, all women do not even know to do that. This is why ACTS ministry is teaching mothers how to read and write; this is why we are giving them the basics for health and hygiene.

### **In Thanksgiving to the Lord**

In September children will be going back to school; school fees and books could be a nightmare for some children. Primary school fees for one year are US\$75 and secondary school fees are US\$200.

We are thanking and praising God for a generous friend in the USA whose gift came at the right time to help us face these needs.



This gift will go towards paying the school fees for needy orphans. We will update you with the number of children who have received assistance for their school in the next newsletter.

### **We need your prayers**

These actions are only a small beginning because the needs are very great.

## Prayer Requests & Needs

### 1. Pray for the widows who are in Bible studies

- \$500 100 Bibles in Moore language (each \$5)
- \$100 100 sets of study materials (\$1 for each individual)
- \$250 Reading classes & teacher (6 months, two classes weekly for the women)

### 2. Pray for healing for children during the rainy season and for widows to set aside time for instruction

- \$50 Instruction in hygiene & how to prevent disease
- \$150 Provide malarial treatment for 50 individuals (\$3 - five days for one person)

### 3. Pray for the Lord's provision for food and water for the village

- \$7000 One well to provide water for growing vegetables
- \$500 Vegetable plants for one growing season
- \$700 100 baby chicks to provide food and income for widows and their children

### Proverbs 19:17

**“If you help the poor, you are lending  
to the Lord – and he will repay you!”**

I pray that the Lord will fulfill his Word on your behalf for helping us bring love and hope to widows and orphans in Burkina Faso.

God bless you.



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