



ACTS Ministry  
December 2005

Dear friends and Partners,

***“Right now, I’m incredibly excited about my work in South Africa. I’m going to change the future for thousands and thousands of girls because I’m going to give them an education. I’m going to go out into the villages, into the rural areas, the forgotten places, and find the girls who have the potential to excel and be leaders in the world...I believe that the future of Africa depends upon the future of its girls and women”.***

This is a declaration of Oprah Winfrey in the October 24, 2005 Newsweek issue.

These words go into the same line with ACTS Ministry Burkina Faso mission which to bring love and hope to mother and child, restoring human dignity through holistic activities. The organisation is carrying out activities which build self esteem in young girls and women lives, empowering them through basic education and income generating activities; giving hope for the future to orphans in particular those are AIDS victims.

It is important to build up self- esteem because low self esteem is one of the main reasons why young girls leave home to live on the streets – where they are likely to become involved in commercial sex work with the following consequences: become HIV positive, pregnant, commit suicide or give birth to babies who are left in bushes without care to die or be eaten by pigs when they are found by anyone.

ACTS works to restore widows’ self-esteem and self-image, as women with opportunities, skills and goals for the future. We try to empower them and strengthen their leadership skills through teachings sessions in small group or seminars and conferences. We encourage a healthy expression of their feelings, emotions and thoughts, because we believe both men and women can bring about change in our society; therefore ACTS ministry works against cultural stereotypes about gender teachings women and children to know their rights are human beings.

You have been part of this enterprise and we would like to express our deep gratitude to you for your prayers, your generous gifts which enable us to care for orphans and widows in the village of Saonré.

We would like to extend our assistance to many other orphans, giving them at least a meal each day, housing them, sponsoring their education to give them a future. Our hearts still cry for the many widows who come to us for support as they cannot afford at time to feed their children.

Since we will soon enter into a new year we would like you to consider prayerfully all these needs and continue to support us because your prayers and financial assistance can help us give love and hope and restore human dignity into many orphans and widows lives in Burkina. We are then sure that

your work will be recorded in the heaven and one day the Lord will say to each one of you: ***“Come, you who are blessed by my father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me, I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink... I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!”***

As you read and meditate on this newsletter, we pray the Lord’s blessing upon your lives!

May the Lord bless you and protect you during the coming new year!

May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord show you his favour and give you His peace.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joanna Ilboudo', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joanna Ilboudo

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