

"With my mouth I will give great thanks to the LORD; I will praise Him in the midst of the throng. For He stands at the right hand of the needy one, to save him from those who condemn his soul to death."
Psalm 109:30,31

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The Ministry Came to Her Bedside

South Sudan

Pain confined Vicky Waraka to bed, but it could not close the door God has opened through her life.

When **Vicky Waraka** sent me this photograph, both knees were tightly wrapped. She had been confined to bed since May 19 after dislocating them. For three weeks, pain kept her from sleeping. By the fourth week, she could finally sit beneath the mango tree on her compound.

Yet the first thing Vicky told me was not how badly she was hurting.

"I have seen the hand of God," she wrote.

Her words brought Psalm 108 to mind: "For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds." Psalm 108:4

That is the hope Vicky holds before the hurting people of South Sudan. Their troubles are real, but they are not greater than the mercy and faithfulness of God.

Vicky lives in **Juba**, where the ground of her compound is dry, hard-baked dirt.

She grows what crops and vegetables she can. She has never married or had biological children, yet she has spent

much of her life becoming a mother to children who needed one.

A handful of orphans live with her. She feeds them, helps them attend school, teaches them God's Word, and gives them stability their families could not provide.

She owns no vehicle. She normally walks, uses crowded taxi vans, or rides a boda boda motorcycle taxi.

With both knees injured, none was safe.

One Sunday, an evangelist helped Vicky get to church. Like the friends who carried the paralyzed man to Jesus, fellow believers made a way for her to worship, hear God's Word, and be refreshed.

Yet even when Vicky could not leave her bed, the ministry came to her.

Before Vicky's knees kept her bedridden, she sought our **Kiden**, a 50-year-old widow, carrying layer upon layer of disappointment. Separated from her children and unable to provide for them in the city of Juba, her children were left in a village to live with her in-laws while she tried to support them by growing vegetables.

A clothing effort requested by her daughters, at great sacrifice to Kiden, failed miserably; random and uncontrolled cattle destroyed her meager garden, and a devious woman collecting



their shared community savings disappeared with the funds just when it was Kiden's turn to receive her share.

By the time she reached Vicky, Kiden was bitter, exhausted, and thinking about doing "something bad" to herself and ending the hurt and pain.

Vicky listened. Vicky spoke truth.

She reminded Kiden that her children still needed her. She spoke about Joseph and Ruth, urged her to place her pain before God, forgive those who had hurt her, and become involved in a nearby church.



Vicky shares, “Kiden (shown above) listened and accepted to forgive all those who had hurt her. We prayed together for her, her children, and the family at large. Then she confessed that after forgiving, she feels much better and relieved. She thanked me for giving her the listening ear and for the ‘advice’ that has changed her life. We thank GOD for Kiden.”

Kiden has tasted hope again. Much Biblical truth is needed in Kiden’s life, and Vicky is able and willing to be God’s messenger.

Regina came with a different wound. At 16, she left school and eloped despite her parents’ warnings.

Vicky states, “She was young and naïve, and she feels that her husband had taken advantage of this to pursue her. After eloping with her lover, she then saw the other side of him. He was a womanizer, and in these 4 years together, he brought in many different women and married 2 more wives after her.”

Yes, four years later, she was hungry, raising a young daughter, grieving a baby who died during delivery, and living with a husband who could not provide steadily for her, much less the other wives.

“Now that she is suffering and has been disappointed, she is ashamed to go back home and ask for help from her parents, with whom they have not yet reconciled. Regina confessed that she regrets and misses her family, but she is too stubborn and proud. She is also scared of rejection, and because of this she prefers to suffer in silence.”

“I canceled Regina first, talking to her about repenting. First, she has to accept that she sinned [in the South Sudanese culture] against her parents by not respecting them. Then I asked her to go seek forgiveness from her parents. I also asked Regina to forgive her husband for all he has made her go through. We prayed with Regina, and she was ready for a new chapter in her life.”

Then **Linda** came.

She is a widow caring for her children and a granddaughter whose mother died. After more than 20 years in Khartoum, conflict forced the family back to Juba.

When Vicky offered Linda tea, she refused because her children were hungry at home.

Vicky prayed with her and gave from the little she had so Linda would not return empty-handed.

These are not unusual stories in South Sudan.

Conflict, displacement, rising prices, and hunger keep pressing families beyond what they can manage. A 2026 United Nations-backed assessment warned that 7.8 million people would face high levels of acute food insecurity between April and July. By the end of November 2025, nearly 1.3 million refugees and returnees had entered South Sudan since war broke out in neighboring Sudan, adding further pressure to already fragile communities. (OCHA)



This is where Vicky serves.

ITMI has partnered with Vicky in her Gospel counseling, teaching, discipleship, and prayer ministry among suffering South Sudanese. Her ministry has repeatedly placed her beside people carrying grief, rejection, hunger, violence, and deep spiritual need.

In 2025, Vicky reported that she was elected to a leadership role within the **Pan African Christian Women Alliance**, serving women connected with **Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Djibouti**.

PACWA is the women’s commission of the Association of Evangelicals in Africa. Its stated purpose is to help evangelical Christian women grow in their faith in Jesus Christ and in ministry to other women throughout Africa. (LGV)

Yet Vicky’s leadership is not first seen in an office or title.

It is seen beside a widow who has lost hope. It is seen in a cup of tea shared with a hungry mother. It is seen in children sleeping safely beneath her roof. And now it is seen in a



woman with two injured knees still receiving people who need prayer, Biblical truth, and someone who will listen.

And then comes the cry that so fittingly expresses Vicky's dependence: "Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy." - Psalm 109:26

Vicky is not able to replace every destroyed garden, feed every hungry family, reconcile every broken home, or remove every sorrow carried by those who sit beside her.

She knows human help has limits. But she believes Psalm 108: "Give us help from trouble: for vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies." - Psalm 108:12-13

That is what Vicky is trying to help South Sudan's hopeless understand and hold on to. Their deepest hope is not in governments, possessions, human strength, or even in Vicky herself.

Their deepest hope is in the Lord.

Please pray that God will heal Vicky's knees, restore her mobility, and strengthen her for the work He has placed before her. Pray for the children she is raising and for the many hurting people who continue coming to her.

Please also consider helping ITMI place carefully stewarded resources in Vicky's hands—for her recovery and household, for the orphans entrusted to her, and for urgent needs God brings to her door.

Her knees may keep her from walking through Juba for a season. But her heart remains steadfast.

The message she continues giving to South Sudan is clear: "Help me, O LORD my God."

-Vicky Waraka, Steve Evers



Because of your generous response, meaningful help has reached Pastor Kamboyi and other families who lost nearly everything. Your gifts have provided practical assistance as they begin the long process of rebuilding their homes and lives. Just as importantly, your compassion has reminded them that fellow believers—although separated by many miles—are standing beside them.

There has also been encouraging news. The stolen cattle have been recovered, returning an important source of livelihood to the affected families. Authorities have made progress in their investigation. Some sad news also of the four suspects identified, one has been captured, two were killed during police operations, and one remains at large.

While we are thankful for this progress, we recognize that recovering possessions and apprehending suspects cannot restore the loved ones who were lost. Pastor Kamboyi, his wife, their two children, and the bereaved families still need our prayers. Please ask the Father of compassion to comfort them, heal the wounds within their community, and draw many hearts to Christ through this tragedy.

Your response has also prompted a larger conversation.

Johan Leach and I have begun discussing how the many Zambian pastors Johan and his team have trained might become more intentionally involved in caring for one another during times of crisis. We are exploring the possibility of establishing a locally administered relief fund or care network within Zambia's ministry districts.

The vision is not limited to collecting money. One pastor may be able to contribute a few vegetables from his garden. Another may bring fish from the river. Some may provide poles, bricks, or roofing materials. Others may offer several days of labor to help rebuild a burned home. No gift of Christian love is too small when it is placed in the Lord's hands.

Scripture teaches:

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

—Galatians 6:10

Zambia

When the Body of Christ... Becomes a Family

Last month, we shared the heartbreaking story of **Pastor Kamboyi, his family** (shown above), and the people of Kamboyi Village in Zambia's Lukulu District. Their community had suffered a brutal attack that left homes burned, families displaced, and seven precious lives lost. Six people died when their homes were set on fire, and a baby was also tragically killed.

The sorrow caused by such violence does not quickly disappear. Yet, even among the ashes, God has been reminding this grieving community that they have not been forgotten.

“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” —1 John 3:18

“But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.” —Hebrews 13:16

Friends in America, South Africa, and elsewhere may continue to carry much of the financial burden. But we also want Zambian Christian leaders to experience the joy and responsibility of helping care for their own brothers and sisters.

This is not merely a relief program. It is discipleship made visible—the Body of Christ becoming a family in someone’s darkest hour.

Thank you for standing with Pastor Kamboyi. Your compassion brought more than material assistance. It carried a simple but powerful message across the miles:

“You are not alone. Your Christian family remembers you.”

Romania

A Boiler—and Another Answer to Prayer

Last month, one small line on the back page of the ITMI newsletter shared an urgent need: **Casa Dorca’s wood boiler** had to be replaced before Romania’s cold weather returned. The cost was \$7,000.

Within days, the ITMI partners - you provided the entire amount.

Thank you for responding so quickly and generously.

Because the funds arrived much sooner –than expected, **Casa Dorca Director Ionel Lovescu** was able to order the boiler early enough for it to be shipped, installed, and fully tested before winter.

Ionel told me that this provision greatly blessed him, did not surprise him.

Through the years, he has repeatedly

watched God use ITMI supporters to meet specific needs—sometimes before Casa Dorca had even publicly shared them. That is faith building 101.

Your faithfulness not only encourages, but expands God’s understanding into the lives of Ionel, his family, the staff, their church, and the vulnerable children and teenagers who have found a loving Christian family at Casa Dorca.

There is still a practical way to have a part in this project and protect this precious investment.

Purchasing firewood one season early.

This allows the wood to sit out in the sun for one year and to dry properly, producing better heat while reducing moisture, corrosion, and damage inside the boiler.

Any extra funds, above the final cost of the boiler, will be added to the “Dry Firewood Fund”.

Thank you for listening to the Holy Spirit and helping keep the Casa Dorca family warm. —Steve Evers

FOR PRAISE

1. India - David and Taru Kumar - Taru’s continued expansion of caring for the forgotten children and women in another Bangalor slum.
2. South Sudan - Vicky Waraka - Serving Christ’s call to evangelize and disciple while laying on her back recovering from bad knees.
3. Zambia - Johan Leach - Life changing provision for Pastor Kamboyi, his family and those who lost everything in the fire.
4. Romania - Casa Dorca Children’s Home - God’s provision and care - provision of necessary hot water boiler.
5. Angola - Johan Leach - Provision of fund for first boreholes in Angola and the clearing of roads/paths allowing drillers access.

FOR PRAYER

1. Angola - Johan Leach - Godly provision for the driller team - safety, equipment, health, fruitful locations for drilling, lots of fresh water.
2. India - David Raj Kumar - Provision, health, much needed strength as he travels to remote and difficult communities to disciple pastors.
3. South Africa - Gerhard Le Roux- Provision of wisdom and God’s will to navigate ministry in a very dark and hopeless community.
4. All ITMI - wisdom, guidance, integrity, strength, and clarity for our partners making weighty decisions around the world.
5. ITMI USA - Continued faithfulness for all of us as this world groans from the heavy burden of sin and separation from God.



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