

KENYA HOPE



December 2019

Reset Christmas

Several years ago our boys came to us and declared that they didn't want to "do" Christmas. From their perspective it seemed to be a lot of scurrying, stressfulness, purchasing of gifts that people couldn't afford, didn't need and were often disappointed by. Besides, didn't that distract from the true purpose of what Christmas was all about? They were absolutely correct. We had fallen prey to the social norms and dictates of this the most holy of seasons. As a family, we hit the reset button on Christmas. Together we determined what was meaningful and we ditched everything else. We trimmed (no pun intended) our celebrating back to focusing on the birth of Christ. The heart of Christmas is that Christ gave to us the ultimate and most precious gift...his son! It is a lesson to us to give sacrificially and meaningfully. Instead of personal gifts, we pooled our resources and jointly gave the gift of sponsorship to a child in need.



The "Joy" was finally back in Christmas. No frantic shopping, decorating, waiting in long lines or late night wrapping. Our time became a gift itself in serving others in a number of ways. We challenge you to rethink and reset Christmas. How much of what we do is really celebrating the birth of our Savior and how much is about us? Do we really need another sweater, scarf or candle? Need ideas? We have enclosed a Christmas giving brochure with gift ideas that keep giving throughout the year. These are gifts that enrich and improve the lives of individuals and communities as a whole.

God's gift of eternal life through His Son, Jesus Christ came in the simplest and humblest of wrappings. If anything, the simplicity helps us realize the great sacrifice God made for us. He gave that gift when we didn't deserve it. The Bible tells us, "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)



"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

Romans 15:13

Hard on the heels of Christmas comes “end of year.” Daily our mailboxes and inboxes are inundated with requests and pleas for assistance. There is a real danger living in a country with so many comforts and amenities that we forget that this level of living is not the norm for a large percentage of the world. Not only do we want to challenge you to reset how you think about Christmas but we also want to challenge you to give sacrificially as we close out the year of 2019.

It is no secret or surprise that to fulfill the task of reaching the world for Christ requires funding. Without you, there is no us!! Kenya Hope has been blessed with an amazing group of people that believe in our mission and give generously to help us fulfill it. These are just a few of the ways your giving helped us be the hands and feet of Jesus this past year.

CONSTRUCTION

- 4 classrooms
- 1 Pastor’s House
- 1 Triplex Teacher housing unit

WATER

- 2 Catchment ponds dug
- 2 deep wells dug
- 1 5000 gallon water tank built

FAMILIES

- 160 Children sponsored
- 240,000 meals served
- 98 Families and Widows given assistance

COMMUNITIES

- 630 Textbooks provided
- 600 Trees planted
- 410 Audio Bibles Distributed

As you anticipate Christmas and closing out 2019, remember it is not about the gifts under the tree. All of those things will be gone one day. Consider hitting the reset button on Christmas and focus on the greatest gift you or anyone else will ever receive.

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas



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CHRISTMAS GIVING

Shop our Gifts Worth Giving Brochure to discover gifts of meaning and purpose to share with family and friends.



Support Kenya Hope with your holiday on-line shopping.

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In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. We ask that you type in “Kenya Hope” or “Child Refuge Centers International” so that Amazon will direct a donation to us. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price.