

 $Signs \ for \ Hope$ wants to remind you... end-of-the-year giving time is here!

Your donations will help make it possible for us to continue serving the needs of Deaf orphans in Liberia, as well as, providing support services for families here in the states who have answered God's call to adopt Deaf/HOH children, domestically and/or internationally. Deaf adoption and sponsorship (Heart Adoption) are our focus and we are humbled to have been involved in the adoption process of seven families in 2011 and to have helped enlist additional monthly sponsors for the Deaf children living at the Deaf Mission in Liberia.

In Liberia, West Africa Signs for Hope is working alongside Christian Adoption Services (CAS and African Christian's Fellowship International (ACFI). CAS provides adoption services and

humanitarian aid for orphans and indigent children (hearing and Deaf) in Liberia. ACFI is the indigenous Christian Church in Liberia that CAS ministers through. Charles, Vandora Henderson, and I spent two weeks in Liberia this past summer, working closely with those who care for the Deaf children at the Deaf Mission to determine their greatest needs and loving on these precious children, so close to His heart. God has great plans for the continued construction of the Vocational Trade School located at the Deaf Mission and it will be a exciting to see what He has in store for 2012.

When you support *Signs for Hope* you are also supporting Deaf adoption. In 2011, we provided interpreting services for the Christian Alliance for Orphans conference, *Summit VII*, in Louisville, KY in April and the *Empowered to Connect* conference in Nashville, TN in September. Several Deaf and Hard of Hearing couples attended these conferences. Preadoptive training, for these families, better equips them to meet the needs of their Deaf children when they bring them home. We also provided interpreting services for homestudies and interviews for one Deaf family, as well as, financially supported the adoptions of four families who are adopting Deaf children. One of the most important aspects of the *Signs for Hope* ministry is the one-on-one communications I share with these families which gives the opportunity for constant encouragement and prayer support for their specific needs during their adoption journey.

I want to make it perfectly clear, Signs for Hope is doing all that we do with one goal in mind...reach the Deaf peoples around the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ and teach them to obey everything He has commanded. The Deaf are in the top four unreached people groups world-wide. How do sponsorship, adoption, and orphan care fulfill this?

In Liberia, the Deaf children live in a Christian environment, they are taught the Bible, and they are expected to live lives that are obedient to Christ. Add to that the love expressed by monthly sponsors providing much needed encouragement and daily prayer. No doubt, God will use these children's lives to impact the lives of other Liberian Deaf (and hearing) people in the future.

The adoption of Deaf children is such a clear picture of our adoption by our Heavenly Father. I know stories of multiple salvations occurring in China simply because a hearing family from America adopted a Deaf boy from there. There was no verbal mention of the gospel, but the actions of love, sacrifice, and adoption were unmistakably a picture of Christ and what He has done for us. In addition, Christian families raising these Deaf children will help nurture a heart open to His calling. Stories of older Deaf children being adopted, responding to the gospel, and then expressing a desire to return to their homelands to share His good news, is not uncommon. Only God knows the many ways He will use these children to spread His gospel.

Will you pray about your support of *Signs for Hope*? Simply ask God to show you what He would have you do. This is our prayer for each of you; that you would obey His leading, without hesitation, whatever He leads you to do.

Only by His Mercy and His Grace,



Becky Lloyd

Jesus called the children to him and said,

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Luke 18:16

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