SIGNS FOR HOPE

4 Signs for Hope Families Bring 6 Deaf Children Home

THE WORRELL FAMILY

"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth his Son,
born of a women, born under the Law, so that he might redeem those who were under the Law,
that we might receive the adoption as sons.
Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,
crying, 'ABBA, Father!'
Therefore you are no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, then an heir through God."
Galatians 4:4-7

The Penlands, Chip and Traci, brought Rosalee and Trey home from China to Eli December 1st. The Worrells, Tom and Tracy, brought Elias and Emma home to Aaron, Luke (adopted from China 2011), Tommy, and Paige, February 1st. The Finks, Gary, Lisa and Chet (adopted from China 2011) brought Sam home February 2nd. The Collicotts, Doug, Lynda, and Katrina brought Andrei home from Bulgaria to four other sisters February 2nd. I had the great pleasure of traveling to Bulgaria to be with the Collicotts!

Pray for these families as they continuing bonding together and transitioning. Continue to pray for the Katic family as they continue to seek God's guidance for their next step in His adoption process for them.

To help you connect with these families as they transition think about these questions, as you pray.

Should I parent my adopted child differently from my biological children? Is my adopted child's misbehavior adoption-related or not? Do they act like this because they are deaf or because they are emotionally and socially behind having been institutionalized for so long or both? Do I have to love my adopted brother, because I don't like him very much? Where should our deaf son/daughter attend school, the public school with an ASL interpreter or a deaf school (if there is one locally) or should we home school? How long will it take my deaf son/daughter to catch up emotionally and socially, or will they? When will he/she feel comfortable hugging me, or never?

There are four new families that have contacted Signs for Hope, since the first of the year, bringing the total number of families to seek advice and counsel about deaf adoptions to 42. Seven SFH families are deep in the adoption process and will probably be traveling within the year to bring their deaf son's and daughter's home.

Adoption...straight from the heart of God to the hearts of man!

THE PENLAND FAMILY

THE FINK FAMILY

THE COLLICOTT FAMILY

Adoption was God's plan from before the foundation of the world!

LIBERIA … HERE WE COME, AGAIN!

In You,
the fatherless find
compassion!
Hosea 14:3

Religion that God accepts as pure and without fault is this: caring for orphans or widows who need help, and keeping yourself free from the world's evil influence. James 1:27

Liberia Mission Trip 2013 is almost here! We have been planning this trip since I was in Liberia last June. God has answered your prayers and we have 3 Deaf team members traveling with us to share Jesus with the deaf and hearing of Liberia… children and adults! This SFH team consists of 7 total team members, which also includes 2 ASL interpreters, 1 signer/interpreter, and one who knows no sign. Only God knows the full plans He has laid out before each of us for this trip and each one we will encounter. We leave Tuesday, February 12th for our 18-day faith-adventure, seeking to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we go.

What will we do? We will celebrate with our Liberian brothers and sisters as they dedicate the new vocational trade school at the Deaf Mission on the 15th. We will take and handout the many sponsor packets the hearing and deaf children's' monthly sponsors have so lovingly packed for them. We will train for better hygiene and health care. We will hug children who have not been hugged enough. We will listen intently to the stories of our brothers and sisters. We will meet the needs God allows us to meet. We will wonder, "How would I survive this life if God had allowed me to be born in Liberia, instead of America." We will share the stories of Jesus from the Bible in action, word, sign and gesture. We will play with the deaf and hearing children. We will distribute clothing, knowing one day these deaf children will be empowered to buy their own clothing. We will do whatever it is God has planned for us to do, only by His power and His grace! We need your prayers to do this!

Please pray for our families as we are away, as well. This trip is challenging for them, as well. May God use this trip to Liberia in ways we could never think or imagine and may all our efforts bring the greatest glory to God alone!

Many of you have helped us raise funds for this trip and gather supplies…the Lord alone will bless each of you, for your obedience. Paul said, "For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere human beings? What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. (1 Cor. 3:4-9). We are still accepting donations for Phillip & Elaine Easterling, for their portion of the trip. They still need about $1,500.

I cannot wait to get back and tell you all that God does in Liberia, but I also cannot wait to tell you more about all God is doing even before we leave.

To God Alone Be the Glory!
Becky

P.S. Kelda Bowers has written the ACFI Newsletter for February, check it out here.