

March 30, 2010

Yes, the work of Hope for Grieving Children-Africa continues to serve and grow....

Our mission is to equip pastors, leaders and caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to alleviate the grief and suffering of orphan children, due to parental loss, in Africa and other countries.

**With your help in the past six months we have:**

1. Trained 150 pastors and leading laypersons in five sessions and four locations in Zambia. These leaders will teach those persons in their congregations and villages who are caring for orphans. The training gives a detailed explanation of:

- Why and how children grieve;
- The various symptoms they display;
- How these symptoms vary according to age; and
- How symptoms change as children pass through the typical phases of grief.

The training also presents recommended strategies for helping children overcome the emotional impact of parental loss.



Some of the students in training in Lusaka, Zambia - March 2010

The cost to train each pastor was \$200. Each pastor is reported to have at least 50 orphans in their congregation, which means we are able to impact each child during this critical period in their lives for \$5.00 or less.

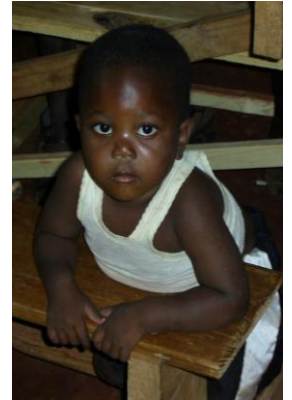
What have trainees said about their experience in "How to Love a Grieving Child"?

*"I have found this course to be very helpful to me because I am working as a project coordinator with the Hearts of Compassion Ministries working with widows and orphans and vulnerable children. At church I also deal with children. This will be helpful to me."*

*"It is very practical course. Please could we have this course again?"*



*"Continue visiting us to see how we shall be doing afterwards; it is so awesome because I have a heart to see kids transform for the better. Three quarters of young members in my church are orphans."*

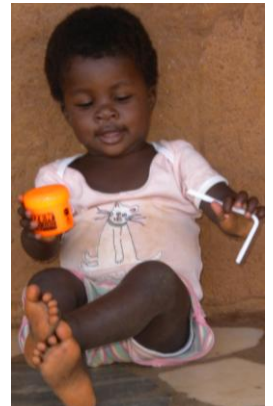


*"The resource material is very helpful and interesting. Presentation was marvelous."*

2. Completed and trialed a curriculum called **How to Love a Grieving Child**. The training materials include the following content:

- Book One: The Symptoms of Grief in Children
- Book Two: The Phases of Grief
- Book Three: Growing up with Grief
- Book Four: Small Groups for Grieving Children
- Book Five: Teaching *How to Love a Grieving Child* (nearly completed)

3. Adopted and provided funds in partnership with Grace Lutheran Church of River Forest, Illinois for a ministry to street orphans in Zambia. The ministry, called **ARISE!**, provides 350 homeless orphans with meals, education, counseling, and religious training.



### **What we plan to do next:**

In November, 2010, we will provide training for another 150 pastors and leading laypersons in Zambia.

We have received requests from a variety of organizations to provide training in Kenya, South Africa, Sierra Leone, and Haiti. Our priority is to deliver the training to the staff of "Kids Alive", operating orphanages in Haiti and the Dominican Republic

We also intend to make this curriculum available to qualified organizations that have the capacity to deliver the training to pastors, leaders and caregivers in other countries.

Our project is ambitious. The need is great. The future well-being of the population of more than a dozen countries literally depends on having mentally and spiritually healthy orphan children, who are healed of the debilitating impact of grief.

## How You Can Help

We need your on-going support. Kindly consider a generous donation to Hope for Grieving Children-Africa. Please use the enclosed return form and envelope to share with us your thoughts about this work and, if you are so moved, to help us with a financial contribution.

We also ask for your prayers for the pastors, leaders, and caregivers who provide grief counseling, understanding and love, and for the orphans to ease their grief and suffering due to parental loss.

Thank you again for your prayers and partnership,

Dick Matteson  
U.S. Program Director

Tony Stephens  
for the Board of Trustees

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**Please Help Us!**

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**\*\* Please return this portion with your contribution \*\***

Yes! I want to help Hope for Grieving Children - Africa.

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$100.00       \$250.00       \$500.00       \$1,000.00       Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **Hope for Grieving Children – Africa** and return it with this reply form in the envelope provided. Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.

Thank you!