

Grace's Home – January 2010

Ravi Stocks

This is an update of how Grace and the girls are doing.

The girls from oldest to youngest are Stephanie, Sarah, Jennifer, Asha, Faith, Ruth, Joyce, Christina, Mercy, Mahima, Horchak and Esther who has just joined the girls. Grace, her sister Rinwan, cousin Ashun are the main caregivers.

They continue to live in the large house in a peaceful neighborhood. The rent has gone up considerably over the time they have been there. They have filled the garden with flowers and have a huge vegetable garden.

School

The girls continue to go to the Moravian School where they have been supported d tremendously. The girls study very hard and are doing extremely well. They range from grades one to eight. Ruth and Joyce aspire to be doctors; Asha wants to be a missionary; Stephanie loves to cook and wants to run a restaurant.

Sarah's mum death after complications during childbirth

For a long time now, Sarah's mum had been asking to see her. Sarah has been terrified at the prospect of being taken away by her family as they had troubled her greatly. A few weeks ago, Grace received a call summoning Sarah as the mother was dying.. Sarah was reluctant to go but Grace explained to her that she would never be able to see her ever again – it was to be a goodbye – so that there would be no regrets later on in her life.. Grace promised Sarah that she would protect her and that no one could take her away.

Sarah went to the hospital and saw her birth mother for the last time. She died half an hour later. When told of the mother's death, the girls burst into tears and the house became a house of mourning. Grace took Sarah to the funeral with a basket of flowers. After the ceremony, Grace gave an open invitation to the father and family to say goodbye to Sarah. This day would be the last and only day when they could see Sarah unless she chose to do so herself.. The father embraced her and one by one the relatives did the same..

"I only want to give them the very best." Grace

Esther, the latest addition to the family, needs facial repair for her chin and nose. This can only be done when she is 16, as it will involve an operation to remove part of her rib to use as a bridge for her nose.

Ashun and Mercy need extensive dental work done. The dentist has been very helpful and has waived fees but Grace was told that the total bill would be 50,000 Rupees (\$1250). On the way home, sitting in an auto rickshaw, Grace heard the Lord speak to her clearly. The Lord said to Grace: *"One day they will stand before others to testify about Me. How beautiful they look will bring glory to My Name!"*

Needless to say, by faith, Grace has given the dentist the go ahead!

Momo treat

Grace decided to give the girls a momo treat for working so hard for their exams. Even though this meal would cost four times as much as a meal at home, she felt that they deserved it and wanted to bless them. She arranged for Ashun to bring them to Lhasa, a Tibetan restaurant, after their exam. She went on ahead of them and ordered momos for 17 people. As she sat there waiting for the girls to arrive, a man from the local Christian bookshop also sat having a meal with his wife. When he saw the girls, he got up and paid their bill in full!

Divine provision

A few weeks ago, there was no money for groceries. At their prayer time that morning, Grace made a list of their needs and they prayed for them. She left the house to visit a friend.

In the afternoon, over at the Cheshire Home for the elderly, a friend of Grace's sat talking to a 90 year old Hindu man. She was telling him about her friend Grace. The man said: *"I want to meet these girls. Take me there now!"* They went – he was all bent over and could barely walk with the help of a walker.

As the girls sang, he broke down and wept. He took out 5000 rupees (\$125) and gave it to Ashun who gave him their list and told him that she would prefer it if he bought what they needed. He went out and bought everything that was on their list!

10 years!

Grace does not remember her life before the girls came into her life anymore. It will be 10 years soon! The Lord has been teaching them all many things.. There are no regrets or complaints. Though there are some anxieties and concerns- God is faithful and brings them through.

Garden potential

Grace and I discussed the viability of growing herb, exotic plants and vegetables for sale. Additionally they could make pesto, pickles and relishes. One of the women accompanying us in February is an excellent chef and runs a B & B and conference venue. We will explore business opportunities using Kate's expertise.

CHRISTMAS 2009

L to R Front row - Horchak, Grace's dad and Mahima

Second Row – Joyce, Ling (Grace's niece), Ruth, Esther, Christina, Mercy

Third row - Sarah, Stephanie, Jennifer, Asha, Faith, Grace

Fourth row - Rinwan & Ashun

