



**"I Am" hath sent me unto you.**

Ex.3:14

*Project Africa*

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## Heartbreak and Joy All Gone

On one of our earlier trips to Nigeria last year, we met a woman named Maria. She had just lost her husband and then gave birth to a set of twins. We were able to supply her with a small place to live in with her five children. The twins were beautiful girls until coming down with an illness, something like dysentery. The situation got bad for one girl and she was taken to the hospital. They discovered she had a blood disorder, possibly anemia, and she died. The second one died on Feb. 16 in the evening. This is just one example of the many deaths of children in Nigeria caused by malnutrition and lack of access to medical care due to poverty.

Maria's experience of losing not only her husband but also her twin babies has brought compounded trauma and psychological torture.

The plight of widows in Nigeria is pathetic and heartbreaking. At the death of her husband, a woman is seen as unclean and impure. The customs she must observe in the weeks following the death of her husband can undermine her health. If she has no male adult children, she may be ejected from her husband's house. In most cases, the husband's kin do not provide the widow with any economic support. Under Igbo customary law, if she will not accept the status of being an additional wife to one of her husband's brothers, the woman does not have inheritance rights. They are considered "property" of the late



husband's estate, and as a result, are considered an "object of inheritance themselves". Among the Yoruba, a brother or son of the deceased Igbo husband—but not the son of the woman—was traditionally allowed to inherit the widow as a wife. In Igbo land, a young widow who refuses to marry from her late husband's kindred faces persecution. However, she may likely escape the persecution if she has a grown son who can speak up for her and defend her rights.

There has been a steady improvement in Nigeria as western education and government intervention continue to influence traditional practices.

*"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4*

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## Cataract Surgeries

One of the ladies, Patrica Oreke, had her cataract surgery done and it was successful! The other lady is still going through tests because of high blood pressure, an existing condition. We wait for the results and the upcoming date.

*"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." Hebrews 12:2*



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***Our mission is to reach the world for God and point then to Jesus***

from the desk of  
Reverend John



A lot of work is going on. The construction of the access road is being developed, the land is being cleared, and finally the blocks are being moved for the boundary/corner markers. I go there every day, and I ask you to keep me in your prayers.

Sometimes when the widows come to me, I ask them who directed them to me. I am beginning to see why God brought me to this place and made me to pass through hard times before doing what He is doing now. I know God has ordained it that we do what we are doing now. Remember God makes provisions for every vision He has given. One day if Jesus tarries, all the visions of **"I AM"** will become a service to our generation.

Four days ago, a woman walked into my house crying because her 27-year-old daughter was terribly sick and asked that I come and pray for her. When I got to her house, I prayed for her and went on to interview the daughter about the symptoms of the sickness she had. After hearing from her, I decided to send her for a laboratory test and the result showed she had HIV 1. She could not get treatment fast enough, and this morning I got the news that she has died. There are many cases like this in this area. I am getting more concerned about all of this and what God has in store for **"I AM"**.

*"...that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding..." Colossians 1:9*

## Upcoming Trip March, 2012

On March 13, 2012, Roy Wanta and Douglas Christie will be leaving for Nigeria. They will be meeting with the widows to discuss possible employment opportunities which would help them be self-sustaining. Roy and Doug also will be observing the land site development for the school and other projects.

Roy and Doug will also discuss Rev. John's upcoming trip to the United States in April, 2012.

*"...be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."*

*I Corinthians 15:58*



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