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Subject: Loving and Leading News Update - Ethiopia
Date: February 19, 2022 at 11:56 PM
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L&L News Update

Greetings from Ethiopia,

It has been three weeks already since I arrived with the children and a good friend of mine, Janice Kruse. Thank you for your prayer and covering us with the blood of Jesus. Janice has been the greatest blessing for us. She has so much love and grace for my children and the women. Rudy joined two weeks after and having him with us has been tremendously great for everyone.

We came to Ethiopia to accomplish a few things: to connect and rekindle with different groups of women and search for a resource center. Most of all, we came to celebrate women who have been effectively training and making leather goods for the last nine months. Graduation is Saturday, February 26, 2022

So far, we have accomplished all of our goals with the exception of negotiation housing. Below is a list of what we are accomplishing.

- Connection with women who have been in the program since we started Loving and Leading Others.
- An entrepreneur woman we got to know in the past and want to partner with.
- Our key contact that facilitates our program (our team).
- Searching for a resource center.

Throughout the week, we invite women from our program to the guest house that we are staying and connect and share a meal with them. Although we want to see all women as often, we can only have so many of them in the guest house. Many of them surprisingly have lost so much weight and it was hard to recognize them.







We also have been meeting with women that we knew in the past that have a heart for mission. These women will be playing a key factor moving forward in our ministry. They are willing to volunteer and come alongside] with Loving and Leading Others. Each one of them have a different skills and education background that can play a huge part in the ministry.





We are strategically creating a link amongst these different groups of women so resources could be effectively shared within. Our goal is to continue equipping women and children who have been outcasted by society. We want to continue providing training that restore their identity through Christ and create an opportunity that breaks the poverty cycle they are facing everyday. However, we recognize the need to have a safe place, a resource and a healing center where women and children come freely and build relationships.

We have been praying and looking for a resource center in the same area where most of our women are living. Although it was time and energy consuming, we are grateful to be able to find an unfinished house in the new development area. In Ethiopia, whenever you buy property, you have to pay it up front. However, with God's grace and through our connection, we have been given two years to pay off.



Rudy and I are committed to purchase the house for ministry and make it a healing and a resource center for our women. The house is surrounded by Muslim community. We are praying the resource center becomes a light in the community. Please pray as we have one last meeting with the real estate people to make the final decision next week.

Would you consider partnering with financial support, click [here](#) to donate.

With Love,
Rudy and Elsa

