

The Significance of the Insignificant

Spreading the love of Christ to children in Uganda



In January 2014, Terri Harrison, International Liaison of Memory Books for Children, traveled to Uganda where she spent 3 1/2 weeks serving in two orphanages that we support. Below, she tells her story:

It was a great pleasure this last January to have traveled to Uganda alongside a multi-church team from Abundant Life Church in Oregon. We spent 3 1/2 weeks at two orphanages. Almost 1,000 children received a Memory Book and participated in the Memory Book Club.



As we taught the lessons and did the crafts, the children began to give voice to their stories. Most of the children we encountered were from the Acholi tribe that suffered horrible atrocities at the hands of Joseph Kony, leader of the Lord's Resistance Army. Many of the children told us how they watched rebels kill their families. The Memory Books were a vital tool in bringing healing from the past and hope for the future to many.

My involvement with Memory Books started six years ago when my daughter took a mission trip to an orphanage in Mexico. Tamara Faris,

founder of Memory Books, offered to donate 100 Memory Books in Spanish if we would help assemble them. I can still remember a prayer Tamara offered the night of assembly. She said, "Lord, we take this simple paper, plastic, and cardboard that means nothing and we offer it to You. Take what we've done tonight and use it for Your glory in the lives of the children."

I was hooked! I began volunteering two hours a week helping with the ministry in whatever way I could, gradually assisting more with administrative needs and eventually joining the Board.



...helping children preserve and tell their stories...

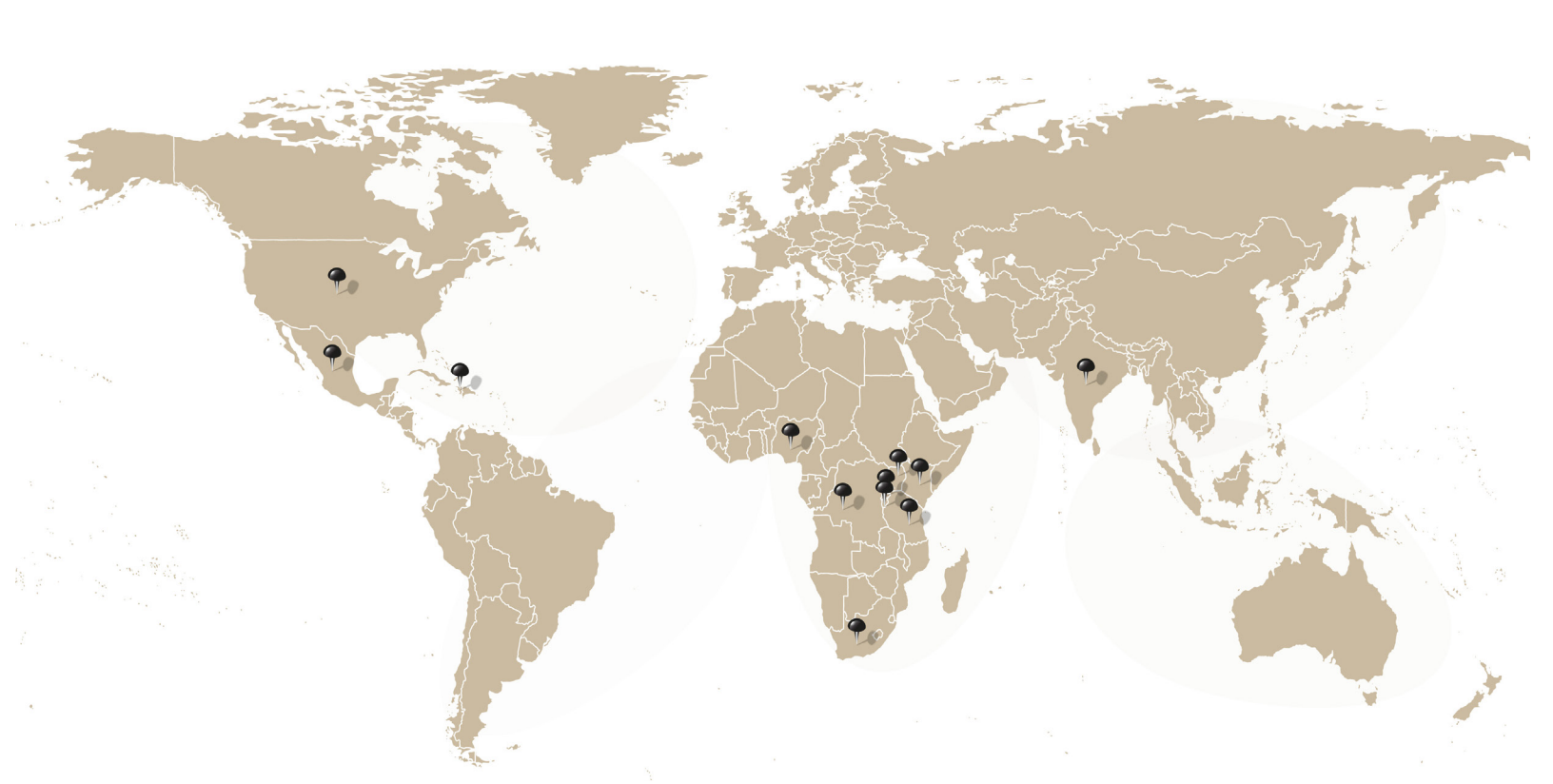
When the opportunity came to visit Uganda, I jumped at it. Landing on Africa's plains covered in the red dirt of Uganda was a moment when God poured into my heart the significance of the insignificant. As I unpacked the boxes of Memory Books and craft kits to give to the children, I was reminded of the work that went into each item to make such a ministry possible. I had spent years making books, cutting yarn, counting scissors, and packing boxes. Now I was on the other end seeing those efforts impacting the heart of a child.

Though this was my first time traveling internationally to serve the less fortunate, I realized then that I had in many ways entered the mission field a long time ago. I had touched hearts and lives around the world when I donated clothes or supplies. Any money I had given entered into the kingdom of God and became a weapon of love on the front lines. When I prayed, others were helped. Nothing was too small, nothing was insignificant. So many times we look for the big fanfare or fireworks in our actions. Yet it's the choices in my daily routine that came together and made me an international missionary.

When it was time to get back on the plane, I realized that I'm not done with Uganda, or maybe Uganda isn't done with me. Either way, I am looking forward to returning in the near future. I look forward to visiting more orphanages in other countries, bringing Memory Books and God's love with me so that every child will know that they are somebody significant.



...leading children to know grace through Jesus Christ...



Where We Serve

We currently serve in five countries, bringing Memory Books and Memory Book Clubs to 25,000 disadvantaged and vulnerable children living in refugee camps and orphanages. We are continually expanding our reach so that thousands more children may have the opportunity to preserve and tell their unique stories.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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WE WANT TO KNOW!

We want to know how best to communicate with you. If you would prefer newsletters via e-mail, or would like to limit communications to our annual Christmas update, please email: info@memorybooks4children.com



...teaching children the truth that "I am somebody!"...

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Memory Books For Children



Teaching children the truth that God has a loving plan and purpose for their lives

Dear Friends,

In the following pages, it is my pleasure to introduce you to Terri Harrison, our International Liaison, who recently took a trip overseas to bring Memory Books to children. Thank you, Terri, for your courage and heart to follow God anywhere!

With the arrival of 2014, we continue to receive requests for Memory Books from around the world. Recently, a Christian pastor in India learned about Memory Books and requested materials for 300 children living in an increasingly hostile environment. Meanwhile opportunities to reach children are developing in Sierra Leone, Namibia,

Ghana, and Ecuador.

Excitement surrounds the design of a new Memory Book, projected to be introduced in early 2015! It will feature the themes of re-establishing self-identity, developing purpose, and fostering hope for a bright future. Thank you, Jon Sittko, of Clean Fun Promotions for the generous donation of graphic design.

We are also looking forward to the upcoming publication of our research paper 'Evaluation of Use of Memory Books by Children Orphaned in South Africa.' The outcomes are to be celebrated! Thank you Dr. Kaye

Anderson and Dr. Barb Braband, professors at University of Portland, School of Nursing, for your expertise and courage.

Thank YOU for being a part of this amazing step of faith. Please continue to pray for the direction and provision of our efforts to touch the lives of children, the caregivers who offer to bear witness to a child's story, and the children, whom God loves and offers to call His own.

With Deep Appreciation,

Tamara Faris, Founder
Memory Books for Children



...gifting vulnerable children worldwide through Memory Books...