

SUNDAY LINE AND WORLD MINISTRIES



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Caring for children around the world

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WATOTO CHILDREN GROW IN LEADERSHIP

Kampala and Gulu, Uganda, Africa



If you have ever heard the Watoto Children's Choir singing with enthusiasm, meaning and celebration of life you will not forget their name! But what does Watoto mean? In Swahili it means "children". Watoto is a holistic care program that was initiated in Uganda as a response to the overwhelming number of orphaned and vulnerable children and women. Its purpose is to rescue an individual, raise each one as a leader in their chosen sphere of life so that they in turn will rebuild their nation. Today, Watoto is impacting the lives of nearly 3,000 children who have been orphaned or abandoned.

In October 2012, 39 girls and 42 boys were welcomed to the Watoto family. The children, aged

6-10 years, were mainly from the surrounding community and were identified as vulnerable children needing to be rescued from dire situations. They can now look forward to the prospect of a new and better life. It is our prayer that these children will find the love, purpose and acceptance they long for as they start a new chapter of their lives.

A group of Watoto students participated in the 2012 "International Day of the African Child" celebrations – a day set aside to raise global awareness for the need to continue to improve the standard of education provided to African children. As part of Kampala International

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WAITING UPON GOD

Key Scripture: Isaiah 40:31

“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength!”

The Hebrew word translated “wait” in this passage is *qavah* and is only used in other places in a strong sense of being gathered together onto God. Therefore, this verse could read: “For those who are gathered onto God”.

Other examples where the word ‘wait’ is used are:

Psalm 62:1: **“Truly my soul waits upon God.”** The literal translation of this is *“Truly my soul is silent upon God.”* The particular word as used in this Psalm is not prayer and it is not worship. It is the soul which is in utter hush and quietness, casting itself upon God.

Psalm 104:27: **“They all wait for You to give them their food in due season.”** Here the word is the same, but it implies trust, dependence and expectation, a faith that silently reaches out to take hold upon God, and which has its expectation from God.

Then in Proverbs 8:34: **“Blessed is the man that hears me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.”** The thought here is of a servant and his master. The servant has no service to perform at that moment, but ‘waits’ at the door, knowing that at any moment the door may swing back and the master may say, “Go; do this or that.” It is the attitude of readiness, of obedience.

Taking all these passages together we get this definition of what waiting upon God means. To wait upon God is to be gathered onto God, to be silent that He may speak, while we are expecting, and being girded for service.

It is not the waiting of an idle person nor of a dreamer. It is the quiet waiting of a soldier, girded, who is ready for service that has one master from whom alone he expects anything. This is

what waiting upon God means according to the Scriptures.

But why is Isaiah 40:31 so glorious? Because glorious blessings are promised from God!

Are you waiting? Are you silent upon God? Is your expectation from Him, or from yourself, or from the world? If your expectation is truly from Him, then these four blessings must follow:

1. **“They shall renew their strength.”**

One aspect of the word ‘renew’ is that of re-inforcement. All structural engineers will tell you that before building anything they have to calculate the stress and strain that the building will go through and will add extra steel for strength. In the same way God’s people need extra restructuring into their spirit to be able to deal with added stress.

Where do we get that extra strength? **Waiting on God!** That is the first thing that takes place. That is not renewal yet.

The second thing that takes place is ‘renew’. The Hebrew word for renew is *kalak* meaning to exchange. The word means that you exchange your strength for God’s strength. That is why the word in Isa. 40:31 tells us **they shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint.** Why? Because they are not going by ordinary strength! Even the young run and are weary. But if you exchange your strength for the Lord’s strength you will run and never be weary because God’s strength never runs out.

Let me give some scriptures for the word ‘exchange’. In Gen. 35:2 Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, **“Put away the foreign gods that are among you, and purify yourselves and change (*kalak*) your garments.”** Jacob was having a spiritual household cleaning. He told all of them, “if there are any idols in your house get rid of them. Change your clothes, clean yourselves up and put on new clothes”. That is *kalak*. That is what the word renew or *kalak* means in Isa. 40:31. Take off your strength and put on God’s strength.

So, how does God provide us with this change of garments?

Zechariah 4:6 **“Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit says the LORD!”**

Exchange in a very special way is where God gives you a special new garment. There is one species of eagle that has to change its feathers as a snake changes its skin in cycle. What the eagle does is that it usually flies up the mountain and with its beak pulls off his own feathers. He will do that until he looks like a turkey ready for cooking. Then he will rest and he will wait. Then, through time, a new set of feathers will grow. These are not just old feathers being washed and cleaned. These are brand new feathers and he will take off with new wings.

That is what it's like. You exchange old strength for new strength. You don't just refresh yourself with the waiting on God. You exchange your weaknesses for His strength. You exchange your old ways for His new ways. You exchange your old thoughts for His new thoughts. You exchange your old vision for His new vision. You exchange all your weariness for His supernatural power. You exchange your limitation for His super abundance.

Thirdly the word kalak means 'to go forward'. You are able to go forward with new vigor.

The promise of God is: They shall, not might or could, but **"They shall renew their strength!"**

The whole 40th chapter of Isaiah is a series of contrasts between the frailty and feebleness of man and the strength and greatness of God. Man utterly breaks down in the sphere of Christian life as he tries to live as perfectly as he can. The problem is to rid ourselves of self-strength, that God may clothe us with His own strength; and this is the first blessing promised to those who "wait upon the LORD."

We now come to that great second blessing promised to the waiters upon the Lord:

2. **"They shall mount up with wings as eagles."**

What does that mean? An eagle can launch out over the abyss and go higher and higher, until he is lost to sight; and all day, on balanced wing, he is there in the vast upper realm of light, above all storms, in the great tranquility of the upper spaces.

That is 'mounting up with wings as eagles'. No Christian ever comes into God's presence on an even plane. In order to get to God it means climbing up higher and higher to the God-ward side of one's life, learning to crawl, then to walk, then gallop, then run and finally to fly. God wants us to soar

like eagles ...not to be chickens with our heads in the dirt.

Moses had been educated and learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, but in spite of all his worldly education he had to spend forty years in the desert to be alone with God. Paul sat at the feet of Gamaliel but had to go into Arabia into the desert life to be alone with God. Before God can use a man or woman greatly He first must isolate them from what they had learned so that they are no longer dependent upon the world's way of doing things.

As we mount up with wings as eagles we shall often grieve and even offend some of our friends because we count the closeness of God more valuable than the things which the world offers. That is precisely our calling. Stretch the pinions of your soul, remember that you belong up there, and beat the lower air and rise and rise until you are with the enthroned One.

Blessing number 3: **"They shall run, and not be weary."** That seems like an anti-climax, as does the fourth blessing: **"They shall walk, and not faint."**

Yes, we must run down here, and walk down here. ***But the people who have the Spirit of God will never be in want because when we rely on God's strength we will always have a reservoir of sweetness, quietness and power that can only come from God.***

On behalf of the Sunday Line team, thank you for your faithful giving as we help the children.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Roman



We've Grown . . .

The SUNDAY LINE FELLOWSHIP has grown and now meets as the "Church in the Park" each Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the Sunnyside Community Hall, Bakerview Park, 1845 154 Street, South Surrey, BC.



University, the Watoto students started a community outreach program, directing their efforts to a primary school for disabled children about 173 miles from Kampala. They raised support from fellow students, university staff and the community in Kampala in the form of cash contributions, scholastic material, clothes and shoes. They also established a children's church in the school, which has been operational

since July 2012.

During this year's celebrations, these young leaders set up a small computer laboratory for the school and also equipped the children's church. "We were once rescued from a life of desperation and given a chance to do something with our lives. All we want to do is help others get a similar chance," says Francis Mubiru, a Watoto student.

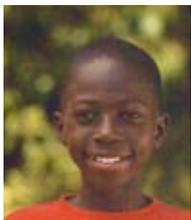


Notes from our Sunday Line Watoto sponsored family:

Lydia, house mother writes: In Uganda we are doing well because God loves and He is still protecting us. I want to thank God who has given me strength and blessing throughout each day so that I can do everything I plan before the next. I am here all the time with my children and, as a mother, I am teaching them how to work at home. Here in Uganda we have much rain and I have my garden where I can plant some maize and beans and greens for my children. God is gracious. It is He who makes things right. I wish you courage and endurance and the wisdom you need.



17 year old Sarah writes: It's so good to know Jesus and love Him and get to know his purpose for my life. Greetings from my family in the house; we are all okay and doing great. School began and I am in my vocational training. Everything is good because of God's great work.



12 year old Shafik writes: This year was good. In the class we have a new teacher. I am very happy that we have a new teacher this year. My best subject is science, social studies and math. When I grow up I will be a doctor.



Sadat writes: I am 9 years old now. We have new children in our school. Our school is interesting and I enjoy being in school. I study English, literacy, reading, handwriting, religious education. I love praying, singing and playing games.

