

# Writebol's Writings



**Brian and Esther Writebol—MAF missionaries in Kinshasa, DRC**

**August 2009**

Have you ever felt truly humbled by the circumstances around you? We are reminded daily of how blessed we are and yet how much we take for granted. We would like you to meet our guard, Rifin. He has 7 children, ages 5 through 19, and is a hard worker. Although he has very little earthly possessions, Rifin is rich in character and has a huge heart.

One night a couple months ago, while he was here on duty, we had an amazing thunderstorm and downpour all night long. While we were inside, warm and cozy, enjoying the sounds of rain pelting our rooftop, Rifin was out in his guard shack, unable to sleep for the anxious thoughts of his family at home in their mud hut and for their safety.



Brian and Anna with Papa Rifin

When he came back for his next work day, he told us that he found his house and the few possessions they had were washed away. His neighbor's home also collapsed that night, causing the death of a child and serious injury to the wife. We asked how his family was, and he told us his wife had feared the house was not going to make it through the storm, so she gathered the children and forged the rain to go to a local church and sleep for the night. The church did not want them to stay long-term, but allowed them to stay there for two nights. He spent three days searching for a new home, with the objective that it be closer to work and that it not be built with the same poor quality mud bricks like his previous house.

These incidences are common during rainy season...many people lose their homes and have to start from scratch again and many of them just have no resources to do it with. The people we see on a daily basis are not sure where they will get their next meal, how they will care for their sick children, or where they will get the money for school fees.

We are humbled when we see the daily struggles the Congolese people face. Although our ministry here is primarily keeping the MAF aircraft maintained, as we live in this city of 10 million people our eyes are opening to the desperate needs, both physically and spiritually, of the people here in Kinshasa. Pray that Jesus will shine through us as we are in constant contact with the Congolese and for wisdom in how to help and be an encouragement.

## How You can Pray

- Pray for Esther as she prepares to teach NILD this coming school year, and for child care for Anna during these times (twice a week).
- Pray for wisdom as we learn how and when to help our national workers.
- Pray for Anna, that her young heart would be tender to our instruction, and that we would be godly parents to her.
- Praise the Lord for safety, rest and rejuvenation during our trip to South Africa this past month.



***"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.... For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hand I sing for joy."*** Psalm 92:1-2,4 (ESV)



### Car Project

As we mentioned in our previous newsletter, we are in need of a personal vehicle here in DRC. There is no safe public transportation in this city of 10 million. This vehicle must be 4-wheel drive due to the extremely poor conditions of the roads, as well as frequent flooding during the rainy season. MAF set up a Congo Car Fund to purchase this vehicle and we are only \$3000 dollars short of our \$12,000 need. Unfortunately, used vehicles here cost almost double what you would pay for them in the USA. Would you be willing to pray and consider helping out with this special project? Tax-deductible donations can be sent to MAF US with a note stating it is to go to Congo Car Fund #4923. Thank you!

### Anna's Journal

Guess what? I turned two in June! Mommy and Daddy threw me a lady-bug themed birthday party, and I had several friends come! It was a lot of fun!

While I was in South Africa, Daddy took me on several fun trips! I got to go to the zoo, butterfly farm, world of birds, aquarium and several little parks (I even got to ride a train!). At the zoo I got to see lots of cool animals, but my favorite animal was the wild pigs! They were funny to watch play in the dirt! There was also a really big white lion there.

At the end of August, I get to see my Grammy and Papa Writebol. They are going to stop and see us on their way back to Zambia, where they work! I am excited to see them!!



Opening gifts at my birthday party!

### South Africa Trip

At the end of June we had the opportunity to travel to South Africa. Esther was taking a course with the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD). She had started her training in 2005, but never had the chance to use it. A MAF missionary kid here in DRC is needing the help that this course offers, so Esther retook the course in order work with him. We enjoyed our time there. Anna and Brian visited a few kid-friendly tourist attractions while Esther was in class. When Esther wasn't in her training, we were able to do some other exploring. It's really amazing how different South Africa is from Congo. We often felt like we were back in the USA. It was a refreshing break, but we were glad to get home after three weeks away!



### Support Update

We have been blessed to see our ministry support rise since we have been in Congo. We appreciate all those who support us financially and through prayer. We currently need \$200 in monthly support gifts in order to be fully funded.

In Christ,

Brian, Esther  
& Anna

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