

september

2014 edition



Lisa
O'Brien

Living' life back in the States . . .

Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:3

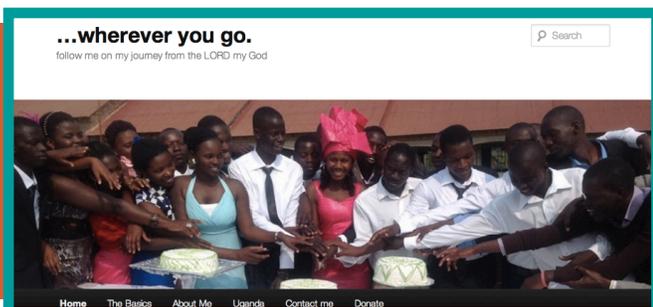
I arrived back "home" in the middle of July and feel like I've been busy ever since! I have participated in Vacation Bible School, spoken at a few churches, met with a missions team, organized a huge 3-day garage sale, sold Ugandan crafts, shared about the ministry in peoples' homes, and so much more. It has been a whirlwind of activity, but it has been good to sense the support of people all around me--from people I've known my entire life, to others I'm just meeting, and everyone in between.

While here, I am mainly focused on support-raising for my return to Uganda with Juna Amagara Ministries. My hope and prayer is to be able to return in the beginning of January, to be back for the

next group of students. As I wait on God to bring in the funds to send me back to the job that I love, and that He has clearly been preparing me for, I have two basic goals. The first goal is to raise \$2,000/month to cover all of my living expenses. The second goal is to raise an additional \$2,000/month that will go directly to help fund the ABIDE program. This will be a great blessing for the growing program, making it possible to continue the work of God transforming students in Christian faith, character, and leadership. Ultimately, I am trusting God to use people like you to bring in \$4,000/month. It seems like a big task, but I know God can do it. After all, He owns *the cattle on a thousand hills*, and so much more! Certainly He can manage gathering this from His people in order to further His Kingdom. In fact, He has already brought in 31% of that goal!

Not long ago, I would have told you that I would never become a full-time missionary. The main reason I wouldn't consider it was because of support-raising. Yet my eyes have been opened to a new perspective on it. First of all, I love telling people about the ministry I have become so passionate about. Plus, I have come to realize that giving is an incredible way for people to be a part of ABIDE. The blessings just keep multiplying: I am blessed, my students and coworkers are blessed, multiple Ugandan communities are blessed, and the giver is also blessed. So really, I'm offering people an opportunity to be blessed and be a blessing to so many others.

Above all, I want to see God glorified. Whether it is sharing with small children, selling old furniture, displaying African crafts, or having new partners join my support team, to God be the glory!



Please check out my website: golisaobrien.com.

Take a look around the different pages to find out a little bit more about me and Uganda.

Don't forget to **Follow** me as well so that you are kept up-to-date when I publish new blog posts!



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When do you plan to return to Uganda?

A: I hope to go back the first week of January. This is because the ABIDE program will begin in mid-January. Arriving in the beginning of the month gives me a couple weeks to get settled and attend staff meetings before the new students arrive.

Q: How has God prepared you for your position with ABIDE?

A: As I look back on my life, there are several experiences that stand out as clear preparation for this job. I have been mentoring younger girls since I was still in high school. I have been on a dozen or so short-term mission trips (as a team member or a leader). I learned management and business skills from selling shoes for over four years. I taught in a public high school for seven years. (Not to mention, all my tutoring and teaching jobs for over a decade have involved students of various cultures.) I lived/worked in a Mexican orphanage for six months. I was involved in a student-leadership program across school districts.

Q: What is something you missed while living in Uganda?

A: Reese's Peanutbutter Cup flurries!

Q: How long are you planning to stay this time?

A: Indefinitely! I am going to stay in Uganda until God calls me elsewhere. I am not putting an end date on it this time. So, this is a big step of faith for me, and why monthly partners are so crucial in my long-term success.

Q: Do you encounter many bugs in Uganda?

A: Sure, there are bugs...but I don't really notice them too much (other than the typical ants, flies, mosquitos, etc.). But what I do have are geckos. They live on the walls, typically hiding out behind curtains during the day, and coming out to eat the insects in the evening. Some people don't like them, but I'd rather have them than the bugs!

Q: How do I give towards your ministry?

A: The easiest way is to visit my website: www.golisaobrien.com/donate where you will find instructions and a link to Juna Amagara's donation page. Just write my name next to *Missionary Support* as you indicate your contribution. It is quite easy to set up recurring gifts. OR you can fill out the enclosed form and mail it to the Juna Amagara office.

Thanks for your support!
~Lisa O'Brien

REASONS TO PRAISE:

1. I've had many opportunities to share about God's calling on my life.
2. My monthly support is at 31% of my goal.
3. God made the Garage Sale a huge success.

WAYS TO PRAY:

1. Pray that God brings in the funds I need in order to return to Uganda in January.
2. Pray for the recent ABIDE graduates: that they would continue to grow & apply what they've learned wherever they are now (school, work, home, etc.).
3. Pray for ABIDE staff as we continue to work and prepare for the next group of students that God has for the program in 2015.



WONDERING WHAT YOU CAN DO TO GET INVOLVED?

1. Pray for me and the requests above.
2. Set up monthly contributions to help me reach my goal of \$4,000/month. No gift is too small to make an impact on that total!
3. Host or attend an event with your friends, family, church, etc. for me to come share about what God is doing in and through me and this ministry in Uganda.
4. Purchase some Ugandan handcrafts to help support the ministry. (They could make great gifts for the Christmas season that is approaching!)
5. Share the link to my website on social media to spread the word. www.golisaobrien.com