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Serve the Children News

Why Go to Liberia? Written by Joella Langford

Why would you go to Liberia? I have learned to simply respond, because God led me there. It was difficult to explain to others before I went exactly why I was going. All of my team members seemed to have at least an idea of what they wanted to do there, and I simply felt I needed to go. It is only now that I have returned from Liberia that the experience makes sense.

"I simply felt I needed to go."



Joella

God called upon me to share his love with those children. I found it impossible to look into a Liberian child's eyes and not see the glaring hope and faith that fills every fiber of their hearts, souls, and minds.

It was Monday June 25, 2007 at 7:48 AM that I stepped outside my bedroom to hear happy little voices echoing the halls of the cement school. Though I could not quite make out words, I was shocked to hear such joyful giggles throughout the school. As I walked down stairs they seemed to multiply and build until I heard only the sound of an entire schoolyard lined with playful children. The kids lined up and sang songs of praise and said their prayers. It was that moment exactly that my trip to Liberia made sense. I felt I had found conviction, purpose and belonging; all of those satisfying feelings most of us in America search for, all in one simple moment surrounded by extreme poverty. It seemed as though God himself had placed me there and all of my life experiences fit like puzzle pieces and aligned to create evidence that I have followed the correct path all along.

"It was that moment exactly when my trip to Liberia made sense. I had found conviction . . ."



Kids in Liberia

Every day I spent in Liberia I was completely relying on God. Liberians live everyday in the moment and in their faith. I don't know that I ever truly understood faith until I was in a country with fourteen people I didn't know, surrounded by poverty. This trip has changed me in so many ways, and I cannot wait to return. I thank God each day that I was able to step out of my comfortable way of life. I have become proud to say, after following God to Liberia, I will never be the same.

"I will never be the same."

Serve the Children

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