



I am sure you have all seen and heard about the destruction in our town. Our shopping centres had been looted, infrastructure destroyed, and we had no idea when we would be able to get food again. People were in a state of shock.

This all took place last week Monday. By Wednesday over 200 people had come together to clean the streets. On Thursday taxis and buses were running again, and people were assessing the damage. There were long queues at the shops that still had food (the community had protected them from looters) and petrol was scarce. Eric and the mothers queued for 10 hours to buy food and came away with nothing. After another 6 hours the next day they were able to buy food. The home now has food for 3 weeks.

Over the weekend people from homesteads came to the children's home asking for food. On Monday, the men at the home had a meeting and identified 13 homesteads who were now in need of food. In 6 of these the men had lost their jobs as their place of work was burnt in the looting. One man could not face seeing his children starve and was contemplating suicide. We did not know how we were

we going to help them, as we had already given out the food, we had to the 15 homesteads we already are supporting. We were trying to think this through.

BUT God was not caught out by this - He had a plan. It was not up to us to come up with one, all we had to do was be obedient to Him.

While Eric was telling us about the needs, Colin had a call saying there was food to collect. He went to get it then I had a call from another source saying there was food. We were able to feed all 13 homesteads. Yesterday evening we had calls to collect more food.

God moved people to give at this difficult time and families and homesteads have been fed. We have been overwhelmed by the amount of food given. It has been so encouraging to see God working. The NGOs are also working together to get food to where it is really needed and we plan to work together in future.

It has been great to see people respond but next month and the months that will follow will be hard months. Food donations will stop when the crisis is over, but these people will be hungry each month. We need long term plans.

Food is a great need, but their greatest need is to hear the Gospel. Baba Jobe went to deliver the food parcels and the plan is that he builds a relationship with the men so that he can share the Gospel with them.

Colin joined Musa with the aim being that he would head up a skills training centre. For various reasons (COVID being the major one) this has not happened. These people need a skill so that they can either find a job or be entrepreneurial. After

finances our greatest need is manpower.

We need people who have skills to teach, people who can share the Gospel (or be willing to learn how to), people who can motivate and encourage people, people who can do menial tasks such as shopping, people who can do data capturing. Please pray for people to come forward.

Missionaries always say the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few, this is true now more so than in the last 20 years.

Please pray as people's eternity hangs in the balance.

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