



## The Recovery of Classical Education in Africa with Karen Elliot and Erica Robertson of the Rafiki Foundation

Presentation 2: The History of Rafiki – God’s Word at Work in Africa Pt. 2

### Outline:

How did the Rafiki Foundation end up with classical, Christian Education?

- The HIV/AIDS crisis swept through Africa, leaving behind a multitude of orphans.
- In 1992, the First Lady of Uganda asks Rosemary Jensen for help with the orphan problem. Rosemary agreed to pray, and this planted the seed for orphanages.
- In 2001, the first orphanage opened.
- By 2009, the beginnings of all 10 Rafiki villages were built.
- There was a need to educate the children in the Rafiki villages. Missionaries in the field wrote the curriculum.
- The Rafiki Foundation was challenged to do classical, Christian education by the influence of the Geneva School and R.C. Sproul.
- We now have pre-k to grade 11 curriculum, with grade 12 curriculum anticipated to be written this year.

The need for qualified teachers

- We needed to develop our own teacher’s colleges.
- In 2011, we began to write our own curriculum for the Rafiki Institute of Classical Education (RICE).
- We have finished writing the RICE curriculum. Every student gets a practicum in our own schools teaching. They get content knowledge and a model of what good teaching looks like. There are courses in classical pedagogy.
- We demonstrate a different way of education (integration, discussion, and debate).
- There is time for scholé where students can read and rest for a moment. There is an area for them to sketch flowers.
- Why not bring the best education to the least of these?
- Our teachers from our RICE program are just starting to go into church schools.
- Acts 5:25-39
  - If it is of God there is no stopping it.