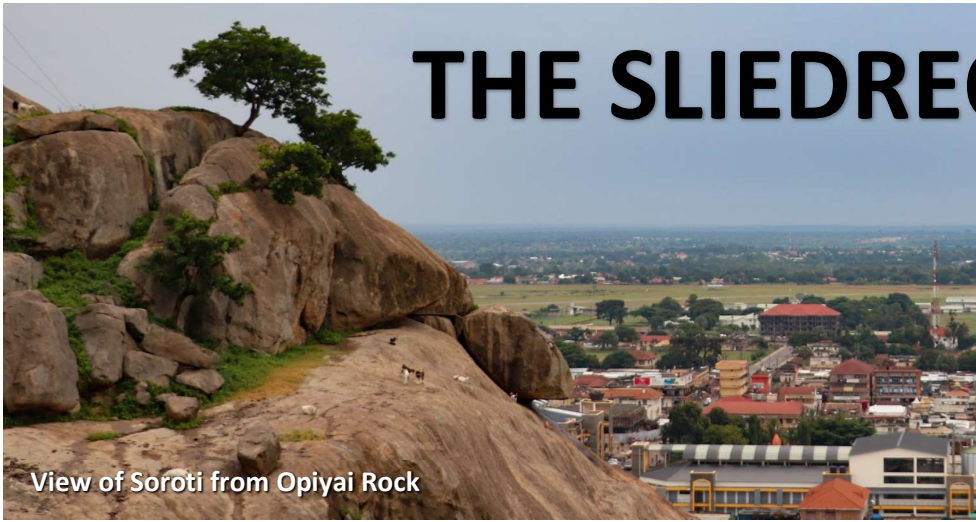


THE SLIEDRECHT FAMILY

April 2023



View of Soroti from Opiyai Rock

Meet “Agora”. He is 14 years old.



Abandoned by his parents, he lived with his grandmother. However, she was unable to provide for his basic needs, so he went to live on the streets of Soroti. For two years, “Agora” suffered from exposure, sleeping outside on the hard ground, constant sickness, hunger, abuse and bullying by older “street boys”, police

beatings and imprisonment, loneliness, and so much more. He resorted to solvent sniffing to cover his pain and misery. For the first couple months at the Freedom Boys Rehabilitation Home, “Agora” continually struggled with thoughts of why his parents abandoned him and with nightmares of someone chasing him with a machete.



The Sliedrecht kids, including Bol, Miriam's fiancé



Sniffing solvents



Collecting bottles and scrap metal to sell for food



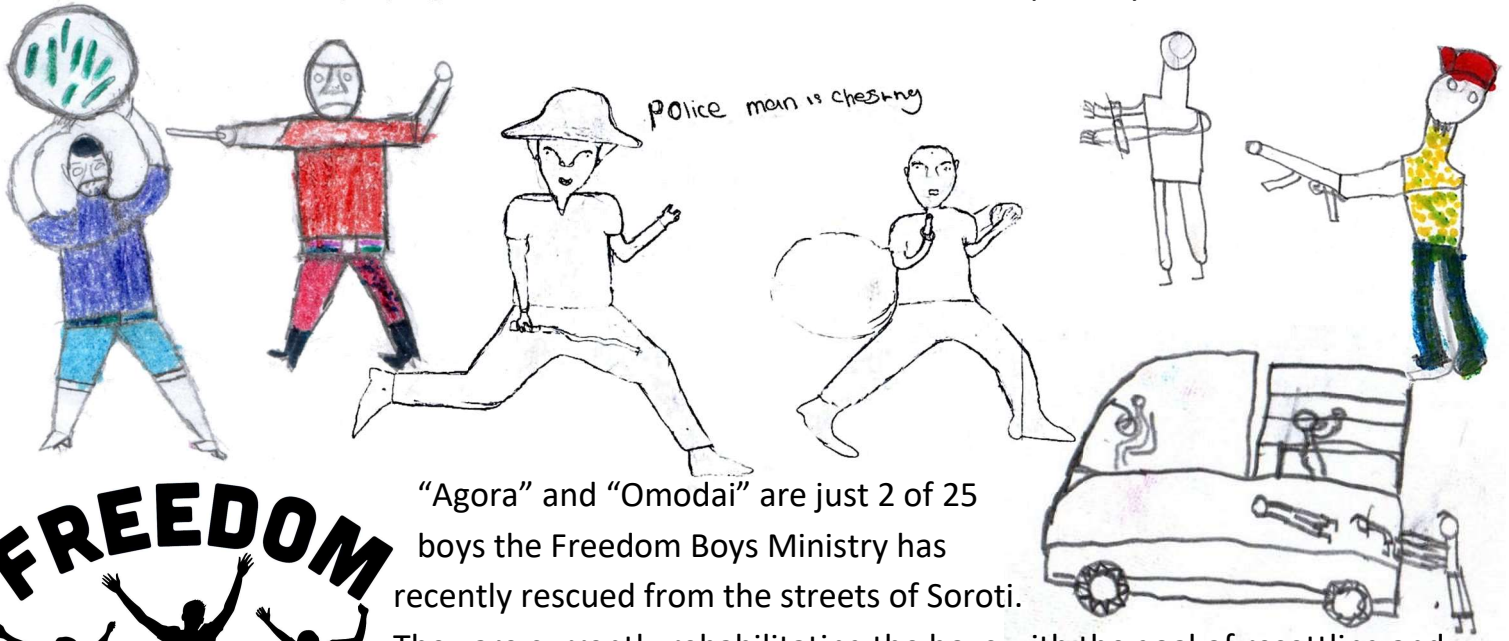
Sleeping on a porch with no mattress or sheets

Meet “Omodai”. He is 12 years old.

When he was young, his parents separated and got remarried. His step-mother treated him like a slave, forcing him to do heavy work around the house and farm and regularly beating him. She made him drop out of school in primary/grade 3 to take care of her children. Fed up, at the age of 10, he ran away from home to live on the streets of Soroti, where life wasn't any better. People took advantage of him by giving him hard labor for little pay/food. The older street



boys regularly beat him and took his money and food. On many occasions, the police beat and arrested him. He loves playing football/soccer and wants to become a primary school teacher.



FREEDOM BOYS

“Agora” and “Omodai” are just 2 of 25 boys the Freedom Boys Ministry has recently rescued from the streets of Soroti. They are currently rehabilitating the boys with the goal of resettling and reintegrating them back into their communities. The ministry has rented a home where the boys are cared for, counselled, tutored, and trained in skills. They have 3 meals a day, running water and electricity, beds with pillows and bedsheets, clean clothes and shoes, games and sports equipment – all of which they have never had. Where they felt insecure, rejected, and insignificant, they now feel safe, loved, and special. Where they felt hopeless, they now have hope, and not just temporal, material hope in this physical world, but eternal, spiritual hope in Jesus Christ. All 25 have decided to follow Jesus and are being disciplined to stand in their identity in Christ as God’s children, free from guilt, shame, and fear, and free to be fruitful by the power of the Spirit at work in each one of them. Praise the Lord!



CAN YOU HELP THE FREEDOM BOYS?

It costs \$5,000 USD per month for the Freedom Boys Ministry to operate, which comes to \$200 USD per month per boy. This includes full provision and care for the boys, the salaries of 7 full-time staff, and the extensive process to effectively resettle & reintegrate the boys back into their communities. **Would you prayerfully consider partnering financially with the Freedom Boys Ministry? You can give monthly/yearly/one-time by:**

- **Check/Bill Pay** to Global Outreach International, P.O. Box 1, Tupelo, MS 38802
In the memo, write “5632”

- **Credit Card/EFT** at <http://tinyurl.com/FreedomBoysMinistry>

In Canada or the Netherlands? Please contact us for info on how to give at sliedrechts@globaloutreach.org.

