

Hello dear friends and family,

Stephen Kirya is from Uganda. He waited for more than 11 years to receive his visa after very serious political trouble stemming out of the Idi Amin regime and various scandals that ensued in Ugandan presidential politics that followed. Six months ago we welcomed his wife and one of their five sons. We are working now to bring the other four sons to Glasgow.

Stephen has been part of the Upper Room Church since its inception and was part of the small group that became URC before that. He is ardent in the prayer ministry, which is, of course, central to what we do.

A good number of weeks ago, Stephen was taken by a Christian couple to a high-end shoe store as he was in desperate need of new shoes. When he entered the store he immediately ran into a Pakistani Muslim young man (26 years old) whom he had previously befriended and with whom he had engaged in numerous discussions about Jesus and Christian distinctives. The young man had only recently found employment in this very story. For some reason, he was ready right then to follow the way of Jesus. Stephen stepped back behind the counter and spent an hour talking to him about Scripture and leading him in prayer. He actually asked the young man to kneel with him as they prayed together (Africans are bold!) and the young man invited Jesus Christ to become the Lord of his life.

Pray for **Yousaf**. He has been coming to Upper Room Church with Stephen ever since. He is growing in faith and will be baptized with a few others early in the new year. And join us in *giving thanks* for people like Stephen. He is a joy to us all.

Epilogue: The owner of the store is a Christian. He knew what was happening with Stephen and Yousaf behind the counter while he and other staff were taking care of other customers. He was thrilled when he learned that Yousaf had given his life to Christ. So much so that he forced Stephen to pick out not one, but three pairs of shoes. He refused to charge him a single pence!

Bless you all. Have a very meaningful day of GIVING THANKS to God who is so good. Send us ways that we can be praying for you.

Thank you for your faithful prayer and financial support.

Wesley (for Cindy too)

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