

# 2025: We distribute over 200 bags

## **Encounters, help and lots of emotions**



A lot had to be organised in the last few weeks - both in Austria and in Uganda. Godfrey and I organised 200 Bibles, had over 200 bags and the clothing sewn, took care of flyers and children's booklets, and had to get in touch with local people in charge. And finally, in mid-May 2025, we were allowed to go into action on site...

We started with a special shopping tour around Lake Victoria. The aim was not only to buy beautiful things, but above all to support local craftspeople. One of them is Ibrahim, a young potter from Kikondo. He and his team produced some fantastic pieces - even more than ordered - and the best of them were allowed to go with us. Esther in Jinja also had handmade souvenirs, from jewellery to oil paintings and postcards. The proceeds from her shop go to a school - impressive! Unfortunately, the space in my suitcase was limited.



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After travelling across Uganda - from Jinja at the source of the Nile to near the Rwenzori Mountains in the west - it was time to get down to business: final preparations for the big distribution campaign in Njamuamba East Village near Kasese. First we had to get some cash - not so easy, because not every bank card works everywhere. In the end it worked, and then over 1000kg of food and hygiene products were bought in small shops. A lorry also had to be organised for the big event - and of course a team to cook. Plates were borrowed, also for environmental reasons.





A full programme awaited us: packing bags, cooking, playing, distributing. Many children were already on site, curious and full of anticipation. Some mums helped with the cooking, others lent a hand. The clothes had to be dried quickly in the sun - despite being well packed, they had become wet from the rain on the bus roof.

Then football was played - with two balls for around 200 children! The girls played freely, while the boys had real teams and playing times. A real challenge in the midday heat, but everyone was enthusiastic. Afterwards there was a big lunch, planned for 200 - 300 to 350 turned up! Nevertheless, nobody had to go hungry.

The bag distribution was a bit chaotic. There were more children than bags, which led to disappointment. Some begged, others understood the situation. A few Bibles were taken away, but could be retrieved. In the end, the atmosphere was still good - also thanks to Godfrey and our great team.

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In a second village near Fort Portal, things were more organised: there were lists of names and the helpers knew exactly what to do. Here too: Packing bags, telling stories - and lots of gratitude. What was particularly nice was that many orphans could be helped.

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Finally, the journey continued towards Murchison Falls National Park. There was a lot to see on the way: Forests, fields, Ugandan roads and towns - and then finally pure nature on the first game drive.

All in all: an intense, moving journey with many wonderful moments, new experiences and many thanks to everyone who made it possible. Especially to my Father in heaven!

## Kind regards!

Alex