



JOURNEYS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2014

APPOLINAIRE KAGERUKA

Appolinaire worked as a teacher in Rwanda. Children have to pay to go to school in Rwanda. One of Appolinaire's students did not have enough money to pay to go to school. Appolinaire helped him even though the boy was different to him: he was a Hutu and Appolinaire was a Tutsi.

One day Appolinaire heard the news that Hutus were going to kill Tutsis because they were different. Hutus and Tutsis can look a little bit different from one another. Some people think Hutus and Tutsis are different because a long time ago their families lived in different places, but they are not sure. Hutus and Tutsis are the same as each other in a lot of ways, but the people who wanted to kill the Tutsis forgot about the similarities.

Appolinaire's mum and dad went with lots of other people to hide in a church because they thought they would be safe there. Hutus found the people hiding in the church and killed them all.

Appolinaire asked Pascal, the father of the student who Appolinaire had paid for, to help him. Pascal said 'you helped me, I will do everything I can to help you'. He hid Appolinaire in his house for over a month. Appolinaire didn't have a bed and he couldn't go outside. One day Hutu men with guns came. Pascal told Appolinaire to run away. Appolinaire hid in the countryside until the men with guns had gone.

All of Appolinaire's family were killed. Appolinaire was so grateful to Pascal for helping him that he gave him his farm. Now Pascal and Appolinaire are very good friends.



This is a picture of Appolinaire now:



All of Appolinaire's family were killed by people who did not like them because they were different to them. Appolinarie is very sad. He has started a new family. He has given his baby the same name as his father so that he can remember the love he had. Appolinaire wants to build a future where people are kind to those who are different to them.

