

DECEMBER 29, 2015

It started with medical checkup



YOU ARE MY BETTER HALF. James Winston Asasira, a biomedical scientist at China Uganda Hospital, Naguru, met Jackline Masaba, a teacher at Divine High School, Mpererwe in 2010. The two fell in love and wedded on December 29, 2015. They share their story with **Ruth Nakibuule.**

When and how did you meet?

James: I met Jackline in August 2010 at Kiswa Health Centre where she had come for a medical checkup. While at the reception, Jackline Njuba, a student on attachment brought her to me yet we had so many other senior staff. I helped her fill out the medical forms and carried out some checkups.

I left Jackline in the treatment room and took her forms for stamping. On return, I found her playing with a small doll and I could not believe a big university-going woman playing with a doll. I stealthily watched her for about a minute. From there, we started chatting, exchanged contacts but started calling each other in October.

So when did the two of you eventually get close?

James: In October 2010, I found a strange contact in my phone. I called and as we spoke the voice sounded familiar. I remembered the beautiful university girl who had a doll. I was happy like never before and that was the beginning. Every time we talked I felt the urge to go on and also meet her.

Jackline: We exchanged phone contacts and started communicating, however, being too closer to each other started around September.

And how did you get to visit each other?

James: One day, she called me at midday saying she was coming by to check on me at 1pm. My house was dirty yet I had to be at church at 2pm. I panicked. I really wanted to see her for longer than a few minutes but had to go to church. My golden moment came, before I knew it she was outside my house. My heart pumped fast and I almost fainted. I was in a dilemma on whether to ask her to go back or to stay and I abandon going to church.

I opened for her and went speechless. I served her a glass of water and I asked her to excuse me because I had to go to church.

As I got ready for church, I heard some simmers from the kitchen but didn't get bothered only to find that she had prepared for me a meal. To date I wonder how she found where the food was kept and all that she needed to use. I ate and went to church. I didn't say a word to her because I was amazed at her actions.

I left her in the house and when I returned from church, everything was perfect, she had cleaned and organised my place. I was thankful and astonished but did not know how to express it. On her part she looked calm like nothing had happened. I was so excited.

Did you propose to her?

James: Yes, on September 12, her birthday. I took her out with my friends to Sports View Hotel, Kireka. We went, and we had a good time, as we were leaving the venue, I knelt down, picked a ring and asked her to marry me. She fell silent for a few minutes and later said yes. My heart just "melted".

What was her reaction?

James: She could not believe, she was so excited, I think it was the best day ever in her life. She liked the ring; I made sure it was unique and very expensive.

Jackline: While at Sports View Hotel, Kireka, there was a band performing and I was enjoying the music before I knew it was James on his knees when I turned to ask what was going on he asked me, "Will you marry me?". I was in shock for a while, however, after some seconds I said yes, I was surprised, I could not believe it.

What attracted you to each other?

James: Jackline is a bright and innovative. She thinks big, she is hospitable but most importantly God fearing. She is so patient and understanding. Trust me; she is all I ever asked God for and to sum it up, she is self-contained.

Jackline: James is God-fearing, loving and caring.

What was your wedding budget and how did you raise the money?