



Greetings

from Sudan

Changing lives...bringing hope

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PURPOSE



Greetings from Harvesters,

I am always so happy when I return to Sudan. Every time I come home, I am greeted by all the children and staff who always seem to be doing well while I am away!

Do you remember when I shared a couple of months ago about going to a convention focused on orphans and the care of orphans? Dennis and I had the opportunity to attend and we absolutely loved it. We learned so much and met some wonderful Christian people. Since the convention, I have decided to try my best to spend more time with the kids and staff members while I am here in Yei. This is the first year where I actually have time to do this as we have Mr. Mourice as our Director along with many other good staff members to help when needed. I am so encouraged about what I learned at the convention that I brought some workbooks and lessons back with me. They focus on orphans and the church's role in their lives.

Once I returned to Yei, I started meeting with the kids to visit with them and encourage them to open up to me. I began my meetings with a group of younger kids and was so moved by what I learned. They started opening up with some very deep disappointments and experiences as I had them write out some of the good and bad times they experienced when they were with their families before they came to Harvesters. Some of the children did not have any good memories and most

of them shared their bad experiences rather than their good ones.

One of our girls shared that during the war, her mother, who was a drunkard, made her walk to get food from a neighbor during the night. Sadly, she did not find any food and her brother had become sick from starvation. To this day, she has carried the guilt of not finding food for her family. As she talked about her feelings, I shared with her that it was not her responsibility to provide for her family as she was a child herself. We both cried and prayed together.

After the first child shared, another one opened up about her past. She said that after her parents died from HIV, her uncle cared for her and her brother. He was wonderful to them and did his best to take care of them, however, someone killed him and they were taken to live with another uncle. Their uncle's wife was so mean to them, treated them like slaves and gave them very little food. As she told me her story, she wept, as this was the first time she had shared this with anyone.

After I met with the younger children, I brought the older boys together and some of them shared that while staying with relatives after their parents died, their auntie would pick leaves from tress and boil them for food to try and feed her nieces and nephews. She could barely feed her own family much less adding more mouths to her table. My heart broke as I thought of that poor aunt and how she must have felt terrible not having any food for these children.

Another child shared that he had never been told "I love you" until he arrived at Harvesters. He told me that hearing those words and knowing they were sincere, changed his life.

As we discussed their lives prior to Harvesters, I shared that God never intended for this world to be fatherless.

(continued on page 2)

To loosen the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke...to divide your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into thy house; when you see the naked, cover him...Then your light will break out like the dawn...

ISAIAH 58:6-8



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UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PURPOSE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

He created everything in the beginning, perfect and beautiful, but because of sin we now have hurt, pain and orphans. I told them that the people who treated them badly in the past were most likely treated that way themselves and had a lot of hurt inside of them as well.

I then proceeded to ask the kids if they felt like Harvesters Orphanage was a big institution and not a family. I explained that in a family, you are cared for; you can share anything and not be judged for how you feel or what you think. I was so happy to hear that they feel that Harvesters is their family and this prompted them to start sharing a lot more from their hearts.

I must say that I am a little embarrassed that it has been years since my eyes have been opened and felt such hurt for some of the orphans as I have witnessed this past month. Please continue to pray for healing to break forth in these precious lives. I look to the book of Psalms 107:19-20 for prayer and for hope.

"Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress. He sent forth His word and healed them; He rescued them from the grave."

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for Harvesters! We all sincerely appreciate your presence in our lives.



From the heart of Mama Lilly & Dennis

JESUS' PRESENCE IN TEREKEKA BY KIM KLEPP

Lance and I love that the Mundari people of Terekeka are one of those tribes who have demonstrated what scripture says in Psalms 86:9. "All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name." We recently had the privilege of hosting a team from e3 Partners on our compound in Terekeka. It was a daunting task to host such a large team with so many facets: medical work, veterinary work, well drilling, and evangelism. They went in many different directions each day, and would return in the evening to share some stories from their day. I always looked forward to hearing stories of people who gave their lives to Christ. A new church was planted on the other side of Terekeka thanks to the e3 team. Praise to the Lord as He is so good to His people.

I have been reflecting on the verses where Jesus said that if He would be lifted up, He would draw men to Himself. I think about our kids and how they love to sing praises to our Lord. It seems like singing and dancing for the Lord are two of their favorite things to do. We believe this will change the atmosphere of Terekeka, and Jesus will draw men closer to Himself, either through teams, our pastors, our kids, or even through their visions and dreams. We believe there is such purpose for the Mundari people and are so thankful to have a small part in their journey towards a life with Christ.



Some of the e3 Partners Team who ministered to villagers in Terekeka.

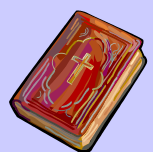
UPDATE ON OUR ALS CANDIDATES

With heavy hearts, we are sad to report that Nunas, Alex and Aaron did not get into the African Leadership Academy in South Africa. Despite this, we are very proud of them for making it this far. They competed with thousands of children throughout the continent of Africa to reach the finalist stage and we are so proud of them. They will all be candidates for college level work when they complete secondary school in Sudan and we look forward to seeing their achievements in the future.

Please pray that these three do not get discouraged with this news and remain determined to continue their education.

OUR PRAYER NEEDS...

- Please pray for the team from City Church of San Francisco who will be coming to serve in Yei and Terekeka this month.
- Please continue to pray that the funds for our new medical facility continue to come in and we can continue to build the center to help with the medical needs of our children and neighbors.
- Please pray that God sends another strong missionary couple to serve with Lance and Kim in Terekeka.
- Please continue to pray for Caleb's U.S. adoption as it is moving forward and hopefully will be finalized soon.



GOD HAS BLESSED ME

BY AARON OSMAN

Hello, my name is Aaron Osman and I live in Yei, Sudan. My parents were devout Christians who were greatly involved in church ministry. However, even though we were rich in the Lord's blessings, we were very poor financially.



Aaron Osman

In 1997, while attending the school in my village, a group of unfriendly Arabs came in and looted everything of value, therefore closing the school permanently. Since we did not have a school in the village anymore, my brother brought me to Yei for an education. I was separated from my parents which became the starting point of my sadness and suffering. At times, we would go for two to three days without food. I didn't think things could get worse, however, I was deeply saddened when I found out that my mother had died in 2006. That same year, my brother got married, so he left my younger brother and I alone in Yei. In order for us to survive, we had to work several jobs after school. We would take any work we could find which usually included digging, washing latrines and fetching water. Unfortunately, our older brother did not care about us and did not want to help us. However, as I faced all these difficulties, I knew God was with me. As you know, His plans for us always go beyond human imagination.

When I came to Harvesters' School in 2004, I experienced many changes in my life. The anger I had always felt about my mother's death was washed away as I fed myself on God's Word daily. The Word helped me realize that God knew about and understood what I was going through.

I really don't understand why people would leave their own country, family and civilized life to live in a nation filled with war, bloodshed, hatred and evil, only for the sake of a simple person like me, but truly speaking, Mama Lilly and Pastor Dennis' love for God and for all of us is beyond what my parents could ever have given me. It is amazing that we are foreigners to one another, however, God brought us together as part of His plan.

I don't have the words to express how thankful and happy I am being at Harvesters' School. I know that God will bless Mama Lilly and Pastor Dennis in many ways throughout their lives for all the good they have done for us here in Sudan. I pray that the Lord liberates my life through their ministry and guidance. Harvesters is a channel through which God's love and compassion can be shared among the decaying society of Sudan, so that we may become Godly people.

I never thought I would be where I am at today in life or in my education. Mama Lilly and Pastor Dennis, you have wiped off my tears and helped me through my grievances. Thank you very much for allowing God to use you to help me in my life.

Since Harvesters' has laid the first brick as the foundation of my life through moral and academic support, I am determined to work hard and complete my earthly and spiritual education. May the Lord be with you always.

Your son, Aaron

WOMEN LEADERS BEING RAISED TO A LIFE WITH CHRIST

We are so proud to be a part of all of God's work here in Sudan. I would like to share some photos with you of our Women's Cell Group. Please keep them in your prayers.

We are blessed to have Mama Kasara come and share the Word each week to our Women's Cell Group which consists primarily of widows. She has been one of the very faithful women we have disciplined over the years and it is very encouraging to see her being used as a vessel of the Lord! She encourages and teaches not only at the compound but also in the different homes in the village. In addition to this she has a regular cell group in the community. Each time you talk to her, her lips are always in praise of the Savior and Lord.

Praise the Lord for Mama Kasara and all of the women in our home cell group. May they continue to thirst for the Word of the Lord and may He bless them always.

In His Most Precious and Holy Name,

Pastor Pooshani



Mama Kasara sharing the Word with our Women's Cell Group



Members of our women's cell group

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Joshua is a sweet lovable six year old boy. He is showing growth in his personal behavior and in his relationships with others. He is a friendly, good boy who enjoys spending time with his friends and playing with them outdoors. Please pray for his continuing behavioral and emotional development.

Please pray that the Lord guides this precious child to continue to remain faithfully committed to His loving ways and grow into a strong Christian leader.

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