

April 9, 2023




Dear Friends,


This morning is Resurrection Sunday and I'm reminded of just what this means to us individually- salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. My mind takes me back to the example of service that He left us. Isaiah describes so well what that service was: "Learn to do right, seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the orphan; and plead the case of the widow." Isaiah 1:17. At MDP we strive to do just that, through each of our workers and lay pastors; reaching out to the fatherless, assisting the widows, but most importantly, sharing the hope of a new and eternal life through our precious Savior who died and was raised again to give new life in Him.

Let me share a story about one of our girls at MDPEC. Gladys' father passed away in 2019, leaving her mother to support the family. The uncle of Gladys decided to have her circumcised in December of 2020, so he could marry her off in order to receive a dowry of cows. Gladys notified MDP Pastor David Kiramba of her upcoming marriage, but before Pastor Kiramba was able to get to her village, Gladys ran seven kilometers to get to the safety of MDP Education Centre. When the uncle found out that Gladys was gone, he decided to marry off her younger sister, but with the help of friends, she too, was able to escape to MDPEC as well. On the "Community Engagement" that was held in their home area, I was introduced to the girls' mother. Of course I had pictures taken with her. The Sunday before I was to head back to the States, Gladys came to my room bringing me some ornaments that she had made for me to sell in the states. I told her that I had seen her mother and pulled the picture up on my phone to show her. As the phone was handed to her, she gave a gasp and said, "Mama" (said in a very painful voice), "Oh, Mama!". My heart broke on the spot, so I asked her, do you miss your mother? "Yes," she answered. I asked her, "Would you like me to have this picture printed out so that you could have a copy?" Gladys was so happy. I sent the picture to James Nanka, to print out for me. He told me later that when she received the picture that she was so touched at seeing her mother again that she kissed the picture.

So often when we see the girls happy, laughing and content, we forget how much they have missed their mothers and siblings, and in many cases their fathers. They are grateful and they adapt to their new life, but they will have left a huge piece of their hearts with their family. Please remember all of our girls in your prayers, my heart broke all over again for each one of them as I observed and talked with Gladys. Remember the mothers also, who also grieve the loss, and have sacrificed their time with their daughters in order to protect them. Fortunately, both Gladys and her sister are fully sponsored, but we still have many other who are not yet sponsored. I think of Simore, she and her sister came to us some years ago when Pastor Nanka found them wandering on the streets of Narok town. They had found their way there after losing both parents, they were searching for their Auntie which they found out had also died. They had no place to go! However, God had a plan for them and led James Nanka across their path. He recognized them as ones

PO Box 6816  
Spokane, WA 99217  
 @4Maasai #4MDP

**MDP**  
 [www.4mdp.org](http://www.4mdp.org)

+1 (509) 443-5666  
[jan.latsha@4mdp.org](mailto:jan.latsha@4mdp.org)  
 [facebook.com/MDP.4Maasai](https://facebook.com/MDP.4Maasai)



from his home area. They were brought to the Centre. Simore's sister was sponsored, but through all the years since 2018, Simore has never been sponsored. Once a girl receives a sponsor, I have seen it make all the difference in the world as they suddenly realize that someone loves them, someone cares.

The dormitory renovation is almost complete and by the end of this week they should be moved back to their own dormitory. We are grateful for the contractor that has made so many improvements. Before starting the demolition of our guest/staff house, the contractor will take a break and build a church in a very remote area that is a result of our weekly MDP lay pastors' radio program.

I am also happy to share with you that we have enough money now to build the toilet blocks at the Nkorika school. We have also received enough money to build 14 desks for this same school. It will be so exciting to deliver them. At \$30 per desk, our goal is to provide them with 30 desks.

Thank you to each of our donors and partners for the unselfish sacrifices you have made to help MDP fulfill their mission to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

In His Service,

*Jan Latsha*

Jan Latsha  
Founder/CEO  
Maasai Development Project



1. **Left**—Gladys Seret
2. **Above**—Mama Gladys with Jan Latsha