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BUNDLES OF LOVE

JOURNALING The Journey



Dear Journal,

Ahhhh...what a beautiful day we've had! I'm just

now getting time to record our adventures. Yesterday, after my new friend Vashon and I dropped Kaylee and Karissa Peterson off at their beautiful home, we drove past the brand-new tabernacle and up the hill to the mission compound. Missionary Angela Thornton greeted us and helped Vashon and me settle into our room for the night. Before she left, she invited us to visit the clinic with her, and we made plans to do just that.

Sitting just outside Matukeng, Lesotho, the compound includes housing for missionaries, a meeting hall, and the clinic. Started many years ago in a mission house, this wellrespected healthcare facility now operates out of a beautiful, blue-gray building near the mission compound's entrance. Children in Lesotho receiving their hygiene packages

Over a lunch of delicious pannekoeks,* Miss Angela explained a few of her jobs. Did you know she has more

than one? She preaches at a church in Ha Setho, Lesotho, on two Sundays each month. She serves on the decision-making board of the medical clinic. She teaches at the preschool a day or two each week (more on that later). And she works at the clinic. I am afraid she is going to get bored one of these days, aren't you?

After lunch we made our way to the clinic. Nearly a dozen children were out front holding some bags and chattering excitedly. We greeted them, and they showed us their new hygiene kits containing soap, shampoo, washcloths, and the like. Suddenly I was reminded how easy it is for me to assume I will always have these things. Yet for these children, they were a bonus blessing. The best part of that blessing, though, was the gospel message they heard when given their gifts. Hearing the children retell that was a special moment indeed!

(To be continued—it's time for supper....)

***pannekoeks**—South African pancakes rolled around a filling of choice, such as ground beef and cheese

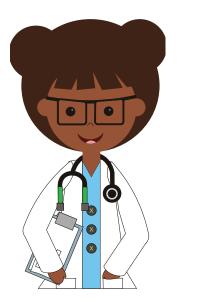
SESOTHO WORDS

Did you know that the people of Lesotho (lah-soo-too) are the "Basotho" (bah-soo-too) people, and their language is known as "Sesotho"(seh-soo-too)? As English-speakers, those words sound unusual to our ears, don't they? That is because we do not hear them often. What we hear most often is what sounds "normal" to us. These are some normal Sesotho words for things found in a medical clinic. Can you pronounce them?

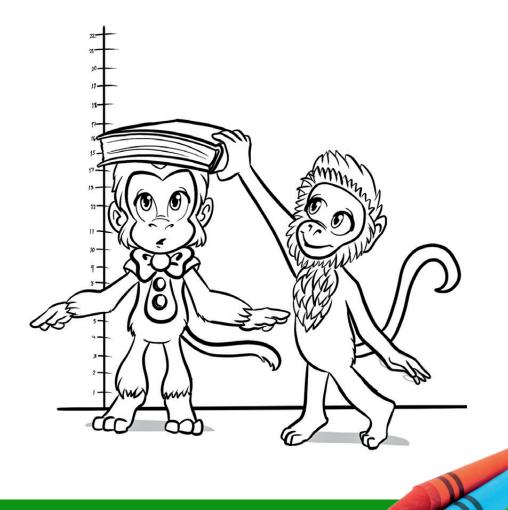
ENGLISH

SESOTHO

Baby	Ngoana (n-wa-na)
Nurse	Nurse (nu-r-se)
Blanket	Kobo (Koh-boh)
Medicine	Moriana (More-ee-ah-na)
Doctor	Ngaka (N-ga-ka)
$Milk.\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots$	Lebese (Le-bee-see)
Diaper	Leleiri







MEMORY VERSE

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. –Luke 2:52 (ESV)

Jesus came to earth as a baby, but He did not stay tiny.He grew...in character and in height. The babies born in the clinic grow up, too, and learn new things.What about you? Are you growing? Are you learning? Are you becoming more like Jesus each day?

OOOHS & AHHS



Dear Journal,

You really must find a way to try some of these foods from Lesotho. We had *papa ka moroho** for

supper tonight. Oh...wait. You're just a book. Too bad! But I am off track. I must tell you more about our visit to the Matukeng Health Centre.

Miss Angela took us on the official tour. She explained that the clinic provides support for people who have been affected by a disease called AIDS. After dispensing medicine, clinic staff give patients care packages containing things like hygiene items, food, and a Bible or Christian literature. Staff members also bless families of children with special needs by sharing the gospel and giving them clothing, diapers, and food.

Miss Angela asked if Vashon and I could help prepare some "Bundles of Love"—care packages for new mothers and babies. We agreed, and as we worked, Angela told us stories of this clinic's impact on the community. I told her they were truly being the hands and feet of Jesus in the lives of those who needed it most.

When we finished our task, Miss Angela asked if we were ready for a cuteness overload. We were excited to hear that a



new mother and her baby girl had arrived for an appointment. Vashon asked if he could name the baby, but Miss Angela said the baby's mother had already taken care of that task.

We said our "ooohs" and "ahhhs" over sweet Lindelani[†] while Miss Angela went over some things with the baby's mother. Then, when we were finally able to part with our new little friend, they went on their way toward home. Miss Angela's ministry certainly is varied and interesting. God is working through her and using her skills to show His love to precious Basotho people of all ages.

Now...it's time for me to catch some z's. Tomorrow is another big day!

***Papa ka moroho**—stiff, cooked white cornmeal served with seasoned greens †**Lindelani** (lin-deh-LAHN-ee) means "be patient."



OVCM Spotlight: Thoriso

How old are you? Where do you live? Who lives there with you? Sweet little Thoriso's answers to

those questions are likely quite different from yours. Yet she still has a beautiful smile on her face. Thoriso is seven years old. She and her brother and sister have lived with their great-



aunt since their mother died. Thoriso does not let family tragedy keep her from singing though, which fits well with the meaning of her name... *praise*. Thoriso is in the second grade and her favorite verse is Genesis 1:27. What is yours?



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