



LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME



A MINI MISSIONARY

Dear Journal,

Another day here in Lesotho has brought us another interesting tour. Miss Angela found Vashon and me eating an early (and delicious!) breakfast. She told us that she was not scheduled to go to the clinic today, but she invited us to go with her to her preschool job. We quickly agreed. We love kids!

The preschool is not on the compound, but it is not far from it. The school's director is a faithful member of the mission church. She and Miss Angela have worked together to improve the school's curriculum. "Curriculum" is a big word, but it means the subjects the school teaches and the methods it uses to teach them.

On our way to the preschool, Miss Angela told us a story about Mpho ('m-PO = "gift"). When Mpho first came to the preschool, Miss Angela learned that though Mpho's mother



and sisters attend church and love God, Mpho's father does not. In fact he does not like it that his wife and daughters go to church—not at all.

Mpho heard Bible stories each week at the preschool. She loved the stories and would often retell them to her father. Because he loves Mpho dearly and would do almost anything for her, her father listened. Mpho was being a missionary without realizing it! One day she went to her father and asked him for a little money.

"Why do you need money?" he asked.

"I need to buy a folder. I need one at school for my Bible story pictures. I don't want them to get dirty or wrinkled," Mpho replied. Her father gave her the money.

Mpho grew up and isn't in the preschool anymore, but a relative of hers is there now. She is continuing to do as Mpho did. She also retells the Bible stories to Mpho's father. He has not yet attended church, but the missionaries are praying that God will use the words he has heard from these sweet little girls to soften his heart.

I am going to add Mpho and her father to my prayer list. God loves to answer prayers like this!

WHAT'S IN YOUR CLASSROOM?

List a classroom object for each letter of the word ALPHABET.

A	
L	
P	
Н	
A	
В	
E	
T	













MEMORY VERSE

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 19:14 (NKJV)



PRECIOUS PRESCHOOLERS

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Miss Angela is a busy missionary! In addition to her church and clinic work, she teaches English and Bible classes at the preschool at least once a week.

Miss Angela has known some of these preschoolers since they were brand-new babies. She helped with their births at the clinic and is now helping them begin their schooling.

We arrived just before 8:30 a.m., in time for the start of the school day. The children gathered in and sat in brightlycolored plastic chairs just their size, chattering with excitement and eagerness to learn. The teacher opened with prayer and some Sesotho songs. She taught a numbers and counting lesson using colorful flashcards. Then she handed out a sheet for the students to color. Next was a lesson about the seasons of the year. I didn't understand the Sesotho words, but Vashon reminded me that here in Africa, June through August are winter months; December through February are summer months.

After the children's quick play break, Miss Angela shared a Bible lesson and taught some English directions and commands. Learning English from an American missionary is considered a special treat. Vashon and I enjoyed hearing the students giggle as they tried to pronounce the new words. They are so smart. Learning a new language is not easy! Vashon tried to teach me how to say the Sesotho word for dog. I didn't do so well. How would you pronounce "ntja"? (nt-jah)

The children were so precious—and curious about everything. We enjoyed watching them sing enthusiastically and play some learning games. The school day ended at 2 p.m. Before we left, they gathered in neat rows for a picture and waved as they said goodbye.

Miss Angela later explained that some of the children go to church, but some do not. So the Bible lessons are important. The children often share them with their families; sometimes that influence is why a family begins going to church.

I'm going to be praying for Miss Angela. She works hard and touches many people's lives through her church, clinic, and preschool work. God is using her!

That's all for now!

—Louie

Hover over this QR code with your phone to see the children singing, "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands."





OVCM Spotlight: Neo

What would you like to do when you grow up? Neo would like to be a pilot. He really enjoys

reading, and his favorite verse is Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." This fifteenyear-old lives with his mother and younger sister and is in the



eighth grade. With his big dreams and love of learning, Neo is ready to explore the plans God has for his life.

