

engage Kids

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HIM AFRICA



BOLD FOR JESUS

TEENS NEED JESUS, TOO



Greetings once again. I am Stephanie Gault. Louie has been asking all sorts of questions during this visit, so I am continuing my report on what God is doing here in Lesotho, Africa. Louie is quite curious, isn't he?

Last time we met, I explained how our children's ministry came about. As wonderful as that has been, we also learned that teaching and leading little children to Jesus was not enough. You see, as the young people of Lesotho get older, they face massive challenges. Gangs, alcohol, and drugs are everywhere. Young people are also pressured to get involved in things that are harmful and not pleasing to God. The children of our Bible clubs and Sunday schools often decided as teens that it was too hard to serve God. They made bad choices instead. This always broke our hearts.

We soon realized it was just as important to support teens as it was to teach children. But at first we were not sure how to do that. We tried one thing, then we tried another. Then we discovered the Reach4Life Bible. Developed in Africa, it is perfect for teens everywhere. We began using this Bible to disciple the teens in Matukeng, and amazing things happened. Young people grew spiritually, and it was not long before other churches decided to use the program too. As a result many young people's lives have changed for the better. Right now around one hundred young people are part of the Reach4Life program. They are learning how to be strong Christians in an unfriendly world. They are learning how to stay true to God and shine brightly wherever they go.

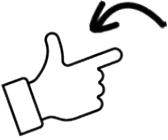
In our twenty-five years of ministry in Lesotho, we have experienced both good and hard times. Most encouraging of all has been watching the church people understand the importance of teaching children and youth. This ministry has helped our churches grow in so many ways. This past year all the churches held Vacation Bible School events. Through their hard work twenty-four villages and over six hundred kids heard the gospel message! God has proven to us all that ministry to young people is important, and I have been blessed to be part of this beautiful process.

THE GOSPEL HAND

Did you know that you can use your hand to share the gospel? Take some time to practice and memorize the two-word phrases in capital letters. These phrases can help you remember how to tell someone about becoming a Christian.



GOD LOVES us, and that's a really good thing! He wants a relationship with each of us too.



But **SIN SEPARATES** us from God. We cannot get to Him on our own.



Saying "**I'VE SINNED** and I'm sorry" is our first step to getting right with God.



JESUS DIED on a cross high on a hill. He gave His life to pay for our sins.



I BELIEVE! After hearing about Jesus' sacrifice, we have a choice to make. If we want to become a Christian, we tell Him so in prayer.



ETERNAL LIFE is promised to those who choose to live for Jesus. Jesus did not stay dead. No, He rose again! He is preparing a place for us in Heaven.



As **GOD'S CHILD** we can know that God cares for us and provides for us as His own special treasure.

For I am
NOT ASHAMED
of the **GOSPEL**
OF CHRIST:
for it is the power of
GOD
unto
SALVATION
to every one that
BELIEVETH.

Romans 1:16

MEMORY VERSE

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.
Romans 1:16



BRAVE GIRL, BOLD WITNESS

I told Louie about a Bible club we have in Africa. How would you respond if someone invited you to go with them to Bible club? What if you knew that if you went, your mother would be very angry with you and would even punish you harshly? Would you still say yes? Punishment is what ten-year-old Itumeleng (*EE-too-mee-leng*) faced when she got home because she had followed some of her schoolmates to my after-school Bible study.

Itumeleng's mother had strong beliefs, but not in God. She did not want her daughter to have anything to do with Jesus or the people at our church and clinic. But Itumeleng came to Bible study again and again. She could not get away from the messages of hope she was hearing. Even her mother's anger could not keep her away. When Itumeleng was thirteen, her mother allowed her to attend a youth conference. There Itumeleng heard adults preaching and other young people testifying about God's work in their lives. She decided right then that she, too, wanted Jesus to live in her heart.

Becoming a Christian changed Itumeleng, but it did not remove all her challenges. She struggled to find her way and figure out God's plan for her life. She faced disappointments and setbacks while her classmates went off to college. Nursing was her dream, but when an opportunity to learn to be a teacher came her way, she took it. She worked hard and passed her classes. More challenges came, yet still she clung to Jesus. She wondered if He saw her heart and her longing to serve Him.



God saw, God heard, and God answered. Itumeleng's faithful witness eventually led her mother to Christ. What a transformation! Now Itumeleng is a leader of the Reach4Life program. She guides young people through the forty lessons while mentoring, teaching, and helping them become missionaries to their own families and to people across Lesotho. Itumeleng boldly witnessed to her mother and trusted God during her disappointments and trials, and now God is using her to teach others to do the same. Her ministry is influencing people in ways she never dreamed possible!

I have been privileged to watch Itumeleng grow. I am excited to see what God has in store for her and the young people of Lesotho.

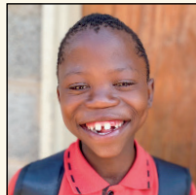
In Service of the King,
Stephanie Gault

Louie's Treehouse Lain



OVCM Spotlight: Reabetsoe

“I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.” Psalm 91:2 is one of ten-year-old Reabetsoe’s favorite verses. Reabetsoe and his sisters live with their aunt. This fourth-grader trusts God to take care of him as he works hard in school, preparing to one day be a teacher himself. And as he plays soccer and other sports he loves, Reabetsoe knows God loves and will provide for him. What are some ways God is showing He cares for you?



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