

“Peter and Paul and Mr. Mawakasunga”

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By Rebecca Enney

The Bible lessons this morning talk about two men, Peter and Paul. Both of these great men worked hard in the name of Jesus. Peter and Paul may have surprised themselves by all they were able to do, with the help of God!

This sort of thing is what has happened to Mr. Mawakasunga, Elizabeth’s father. After all, he is just an ordinary Civil Engineer. But once again this summer he and Elizabeth’s mommy have gone to Tanzania to work on the water projects there. That is why Aunt Gertrude is here, staying with Elizabeth while her parents are gone.

“There is a letter here from your parents.” Aunt Gertrude called up the stairs. Elizabeth came running down from her room and quickly picked up the envelope and saw her father’s familiar handwriting. See?



She got the letter opener and carefully opened the envelope. In this day of computers, hand written letters are kind of old fashioned. But in the Tanzanian village where her father and mother are staying there is no internet connection, in fact there are no computers, in fact, there is no electricity most of the time. In fact, they must even go a long distance to just get to a post office to mail a letter! Things sure are different there than they are here!

Elizabeth can read because she is in second grade, but sometimes it is hard to read her father’s handwriting so Elizabeth handed the letter back to Aunt Gertrude and said “Would you read it to me please?”

Dearest Elizabeth,

We miss you so much. Your mother and I think of you every single day we are here. Our work here is very difficult. The materials we've ordered have not yet arrived but we have accomplished a lot. The men in the village have dug all the trenches and the water lines are ready to install. We all have very dirty hands! In the meantime, the village women and girls still must walk long distances to go to the muddy water hole to dip out water into their buckets and carry them back to their homes. Yesterday the women reported that many wild beasts were also there drinking, so you see we share the little water we have with all of God's creation!

(Elizabeth imagined how wonderful it would be to walk for water and to see wild beasts there! But then she thought that maybe that would be too hard to walk that far everyday and maybe even a bit scary.)

Aunt Gertrude continued to read.

I hope that you and your Aunt are doing well. Don't forget to water the tomatoes!

Remember to look at the moon and think of us for it is the only thing that we can both see while we are so far apart!

Love and Kisses, Daddy

XOXOXO ♥

Mr. Mawakasunga and Peter and Paul all have something in common. They are people who have worked very, very hard every day to bring to God's people what is most needed. It might be water, it might be teaching, it might be love.

Peter and Paul and Mr. Mawakasunga might be surprised by what they can accomplish, however God is not surprised, for God is the very source of their strength and the giver of their talents. In this way, we are God's hands to do his work in this wonderful creation. Look at your hands and imagine what they might do today in God's name! THE END