



THE LIONESS WHO FOUND PEACE

A story I have been carrying in my heart.

Dear Family and Friends,

Though I have not been back to the village since February, the people there never leave my heart. This month I have been thinking about a young woman named Lydia — and the afternoon that changed her life.



The first time I saw Lydia, I thought of a lioness — wild, beautiful, and ready to fight. She was a single mother, alone, no family nearby, and something in her carried a deep anger at the world. Every time I walked toward her home, she slipped away in the other direction.

I kept praying. I kept coming back.

One day I finally caught up with her. I did not talk about God right away — I simply asked where she was from. That small conversation became the beginning of a friendship.

Then one afternoon, I found her sitting alone — far from everyone, head down, almost in tears. I sat beside her and asked if she was okay.

She broke into tears and told me her supervisor had been sexually harassing her. When she tried to report it, she was told she would "regret it." She was terrified — not just for herself, but for her little daughter.

All I could offer her was the love of God. And that afternoon, she opened her heart to it. She hugged me and cried — and it was as if every wound, every fear, every moment of abuse was being washed away. When she finally looked up, her face was shining.

"I feel like a new person. I am not afraid anymore."

The lioness had not been tamed. She had been set free.



Lydia is one of many women on that plantation with no one to turn to. The Day Care we are building will create a safe place — for children like her daughter and mothers like her.

The blueprints are ready. The architect is ready. We are trusting God for the provision.

Thank you for being family to me and to this village. Your love makes moments like Lydia's possible.

Prayer Needs:

- Lydia and her daughter — protection, peace, and continued hope
- Safety in the village so Day Care construction can begin
- God's provision for the project and monthly ministry needs
- The children and families I carry in my heart from a distance

Financial Needs

- Provision and wisdom as we continue planning and preparing for the Day Care construction
- Monthly Expenses including Utilities, Grounds Keeper and Housekeeper
- Children's Ministry supplies: Bibles, crayons, drawing paper, coloring books, etc
- Building Maintenance: Outdoor walls paint is peeling, lots of humidity in all rooms, door locks rusted.
- New Refrigerator
- Car needs electrical repairs and is currently not running
- A/C units in the house, dorms and church building

Together we can bring hope, safety, and the love of God to this community.

If Lydia's story touched your heart, will you help us build that safe place?

DONATE WITH PAYPAL



All it takes to change the direction of a life is one moment when someone is reminded that they are loved and not forgotten.

Thank you for walking with me in His mission.

With gratitude and love,

Maria E. Lopez Duran, Founder
Bridge To The Nations

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