



# grace

9 years old

“My name is Grace Mwanza. I live with my grandmother and my two younger sisters. Being the oldest I have to do more work than they do. I cook nshima for us

to eat just like my mother taught me. I sweep the floors and the dirt outside our house. And, I carry water every day from the well in the village. My grandmother makes sure we have clothes to wear. She is a tailor so she knows how to sew. But many days she is very tired so my sisters and I try to help as much as we can. **Someday I want to go to school.** When I sweep, I dream about what school will be like someday.”

**Help Grace,** her sisters, and other children like them go to school.

**Bring hope.**

**Build the dream.**

**Buy a brick and help build *The Esther School.***

**\$9 per brick.**



# charles

11 years old

“My name is Charles Tembo. I now live with my aunt and her seven children. I was nine years old when my father died. He was a good man. He would take

me with him when he went places. I liked being with him. He would buy me shoes sometimes. He died of a sickness. My mother died last year. She had the same sickness as my father. My mother loved me very much. She sent me to school, and I loved school. My best subject was math. I do not go to school today because my aunt cannot pay the fees. **I miss going to school very much.** My dream is to go back to school and one day become a doctor. I want to help sick people get better.”

**Help Charles** and other children go back to school.

**Bring hope.**

**Build the dream.**

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**\$9 per brick.**



# fiona

10 years old

"My name is Fiona Phiri. My favorite thing is learning new things. That's why I liked school so much. I learned many new things. I went to school for one year.

But now I cannot go to school because we do not have the fees. My mother sells charcoal. She works very hard. And my father sells ground nuts beside the road. That is how we live. There are seven of us in my family. I am the youngest child. People tell me I am a happy girl. They are right. I am happy. **But the thing that would make me the happiest would be to go to school.**"

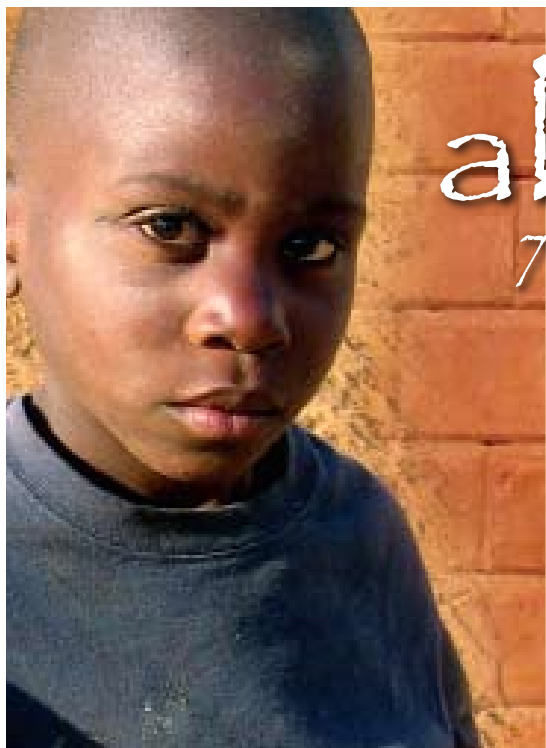
**Help Fiona** and other girls like her go back to school

**Bring hope.**

**Build the dream.**

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**\$9 per brick.**



# alan

7 years old

"My name is Alan Daka. I have two sisters and three brothers. I am the second boy. My father is sick. He cannot work anymore. He tells me to be strong and to

grow into a kind man. It would make me happy to grow into a kind man. Since my father cannot work, we do not go to school. My brothers and sisters and I must find food for our family. Every day we go out looking for food. It is not so bad. **But my dream is to go to school.** I see other children walking to school and want very much to go with them. I want to go to school so I can get a job and have money. Maybe someday I will even ride in a car."

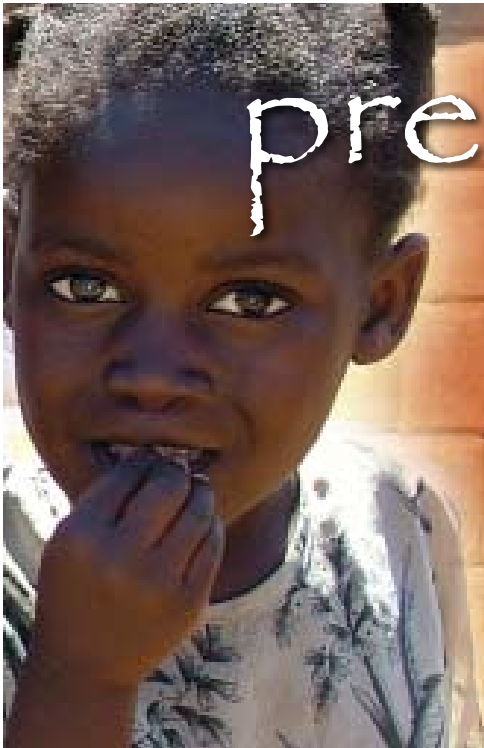
**Help Alan** and other children go to school.

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# precious 6 years old

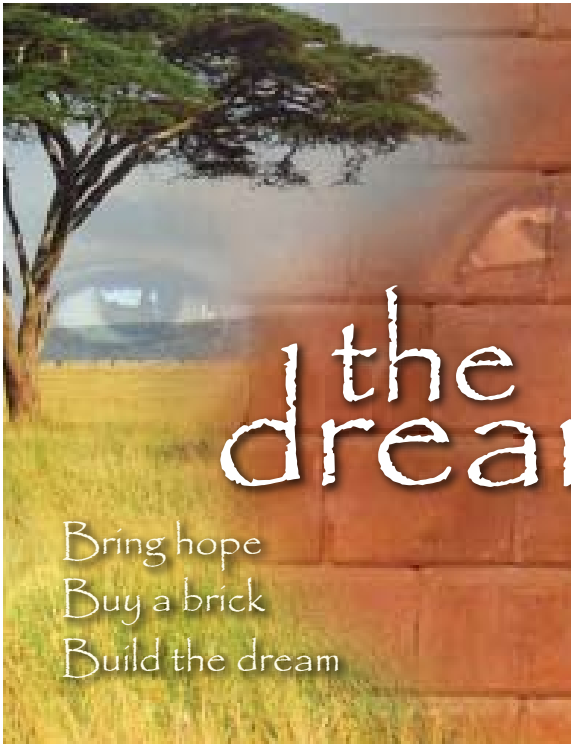
"My name is Precious Mupeso. I have five brothers and six sisters. I live in Chongwe village. My oldest sister, Mirriam, takes care of us. She's nice to us. I have chores to do

at home. We all do. I work in the garden growing vegetables and wash the pots and pans we use to cook. At night time Mirriam tells us stories about going to school. She loved going to school. She says she wishes we all could go to school. **I've never been to school before, but someday I want to go** and I want Mirriam to go to school also. Singing and dancing makes me happy. When I sing and dance I don't think about problems so I am happy."

**Help Precious**, her brothers and sisters, and other children go to school.

**Bring hope.**  
**Build the dream.**  
**Buy a brick and help build The Esther School.**

**\$9 per brick.**



# the dream

Bring hope  
Buy a brick  
Build the dream

In August of 2008, GEMS was gifted with 25 acres of land in Chongwe, Zambia. What was the dream of those providing the land? A school that addresses the educational, spiritual, practical, emotional, and financial needs of orphan and vulnerable girls and boys living there. The Esther School is urgently needed to prepare children to successfully manage the harsh social and economic circumstances facing young people in this country.

In the short time GEMS has served in Zambia, girls and women there have demonstrated a remarkable determination and ability to improve their circumstances given opportunity, empowerment, and encouragement. God has already used GEMS to help unlock the potential of hundreds of individuals. **Imagine the lives that will be changed** and the stories that will be told by young adults that one day graduate from THE ESTHER SCHOOL, built brick-by-brick for such a time as this.



Please complete the next "brick" and **return it to GEMS Girls' Clubs by year end.**

GEMS Girls' Clubs  
1333 Alger St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49507  
View our website for more details at [www.gemsgc.org](http://www.gemsgc.org)