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JESUS FREES MINISTRIES
Serving the People of East Africa

A Kenyan Wedding and a Word to the Bride of Christ - February 2022



A KENYAN WEDDING

**JFM TEACHER NAOMI
WEDS**

JFM PASTOR JOHNSON

DECEMBER 18 2021



Greetings from Kenya!

We were overjoyed to learn that our JFM school head-teacher, Naomi, was going to marry one of our assistant pastors, Johnson Kenyaga. Johnson is also a schoolteacher by profession.

Kenyan weddings are very different from America weddings. Before the couple can even make an announcement of their engagement, the bridegroom and his best-man must meet with the bride's family and negotiate the dowry price that will be given to the parents of the bride. This usually includes several cows, sheep, goats, and cash. Engagement rings aren't part of the negotiations. Then promises of future installments are agreed upon by both parties. These installments act as a glue that keeps the groom connected with the bride's family.

In Kenya there is a wedding committee that does all the planning. This committee consists of family, friends and church members of the bride and groom. They meet regularly and everyone participates with advice.

Instead of a best-man and maid-of-honor in Kenya, there is a "Best Couple".

The “Best Couple” is a married couple who have a strong marriage. They will not only help plan the wedding, but they will also give advice to the engaged couple. Then after the wedding, the “Best Couple” will be the newlyweds’ confidants and counselors in times of trouble.

The financial burden of the wedding is on the groom. The big fundraising event to help the groom is called the “Pre-Wedding.” All the couple’s family members, friends, workmates and church congregations come together to make donations to the “BIG DAY.” A simple meal is served and the giving begins. On this day you will see chickens, sheep, goats, vegetables and household items being auctioned to raise money. Everyone invests into the engaged couple’s wedding.



On the wedding day, someone is sent by the groom to collect the bride and she is READY and so are all the bridesmaids! As you’ll see in the linked video, many women escort the bride. They make a walkway of scarfs for her to step on so she can stay spotless. Then they carry her to the car and then to the church. When she arrives at the door of the church, she is presented to her bridegroom unsoiled!

In His parable of the 10 virgins, Jesus exhorts us to be ready, be watching and be prepared by having the oil of the Holy Spirit in an “over-the-top” amount. (Matthew 25) The Bible also tells us we are to be unsoiled by the world. May we help each other get ready, encourage each other to be prepared, ever be filled with the Holy Spirit, be unsoiled by the world and be the spotless Bride of Christ who is looking for His appearing! (Ephesians 5:26-27)

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.” (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Mike and Cheryl

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH A KENYAN WEDDING](#)

JFM LOKUSERO-B CHURCH PLANT



We are standing on the plot of ground donated for the JFM Lokusero-B Church!

One of the newest JFM church plants is in the Maasai Village of Lokusero-B. The church is being led by John and Jane Kenyaga and Jennifer Kiperus. The church is a plant from the JFM Nadung'oro church about a 2-hour walk away. The Nadung'oro church joined us for a special service at Lokusero-B and we had a beautiful time of fellowship. We encouraged them in God's word with the Bible stories of Jesus seeing Nathanael sitting under the tree (John 1:44-50) and Zacchaeus seeing Jesus from up in the tree (Luke 19:1-10).



Currently the church is meeting under a few trees; however, the Lord has blessed them with a plot of land to build a church structure. A 24 x 30 iron sheet structure with 4-windows and a steel door can be built for \$3,500.



New pump house for the well. It will also be a power distribution point.

LET'S PRAISE GOD TOGETHER:

- For the Lord's love that He lavishes on His children!
- This month a 2nd pump-house was constructed for further water distribution! A constant stream of people come for water now because there is drought in the region.
- For the transformers and conductors that were installed for the JFM Chumvi Church and School. A major miracle is that 3-phase electrical power is being installed at the JFM Headquarters on Angel Hill. This strong power will open many opportunities to help the community!
- For Mike and Cheryl's Kenyan work permits that have been renewed for another 3 years!!!
- For the plot of land given to the JFM Lokusero-B Church.

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER:

- For people to turn to Jesus for hope and salvation and especially pray for those in Russia and Ukraine!
- For the Lord to provide the \$3,500 needed to construct a simple church for the brothers and sisters meeting in the Lokusero-B village.
- For the rural electricity commission to quickly finish their last bit of work so power can begin to flow!
- The building plans for the Mission Center on JFM's Angel Hill have been submitted for approval! Join us in praying for no delays
- For our sponsored Kenyan 8th grade students and high school seniors who will be taking their final exams in March. These exams will determine their next level of education.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE SPECIFIC NEEDS FOR AMERICAN FRIENDS OF JFM:

- Healing and strength for Mike's mom as she battles lung cancer.
- For a successful surgery for Cheryl's Uncle Lou Auringer who is a JFM child sponsor.
- For our brother in Christ, David Martinez, who needs a healing touch from the Lord.

"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think." Ephesians 3:20

May the Holy Spirit guide you, may the grace of Yeshua help you in every situation and may the love of the Father flow through you!

If the Holy Spirit is speaking to you about contributing to His work in Kenya, you can use the donate button below to access PayPal or use the mailing address:

Jesus Frees Ministries

PO Box 5685

Bend, OR 97708

www.JesusFrees.org

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