



The Gambia Partnership

Supporting the work of the Gospel in the Gambia

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Life & Death in Gambia

It is a great blessing to meet both young and old in the villages of Gambia. There is such openness to the Gospel, along with lots of warmth, friendship and laughter. However, despite the encouragements, we are reminded of the reality that Gambia is a cripplingly poor country with over a third of its population living below the United Nations poverty line of \$1.25 a day, where illness and death are never far away.

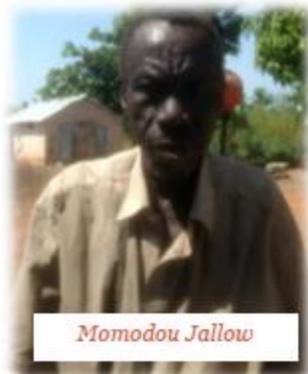
A Young Life Cut Short in Kabekel



Last month we received the sad news of the death of Joy Princess Sanyang, a young girl attending Sgoil Creideamh (Faith School) in Kabekel. Our group, which visited Kabekel in November, met her and took her photo, with no sign of any ill health, as far as we could see. Little did we know that we would receive such heart breaking news so soon afterwards. We sent our condolences to the family and in

turn received an audio message from her father, through our Gambian committee member Pastor Sylvester Konteh, which was full of Christ and of thankfulness for her life.

Life and death in Memmeh - Momodou Jallow



We have visited Memmeh, on the North Bank, on a few occasions, where our Gambian committee chairman Samuel Mendy lives with his family. It is quite a distance away, involving a journey across the river, but it is a beautiful countryside, with a warm and friendly people. A few years ago, we met Momodou Jallow, an elderly man who had come to Christ through Samuel's evangelism in a nearby village. He was met told to leave his house and also developed a huge tumour on his neck, which he had when our group met him. A few members of our group contributed towards the costs of his operation, which amazingly was fully successful.

Samuel explained, "I went one day to a village near my village to share the gospel. As I entered a house, I found a group of people who were playing cards. I greeted them and

they welcomed me to sit with them. I asked them whether they would like to hear stories that are from the Book of God, the Bible. They answered yes, so I started sharing with them. Among the group was Momodou who was so much interested. He said he believed in Jesus and I taught him to pray confessing his sin and calling Jesus into his life. From that time, I always visited him to encourage him as a new believer in Christ and I gave him an audio Bible to be listening in order to grow his faith in Christ.

The owner of the house where he was staying in was not happy hearing him listening to the audio Bible and he asked him to leave his house. When Mr Jallow told me about it and the challenges he was facing, it was not my plan or his for him to leave but it was too much on him, so I let him move to my village. At that time he had a tumour on his neck which, by the grace of God; he was helped with the costs for a successful surgery."

Momodou is now living in Memmeh, where Samuel and his wife provide him with food and drink and have even built a small house for him, where he works the land for them in return. We met him in November and it was wonderful to see him in full health.



Life and death in Memmeh – Seedy Hydera

The same day we met with a fully recovered Momodou Jallow, Samuel took us to meet Seedy Hydera, a 35 year old husband and father, who also had a very large tumour. Seedy could barely sit up and he was taken to hospital soon afterwards for surgery on the tumour.

Samuel explained, "Seedy Hydera was born in Memmeh, but went to town to work. Due to the tumour he had on the side of his ear, which was growing to the point that



he couldn't work, he had to return to the village. One day he walked to the place where I live and I spoke to him about Jesus being the saviour and he believed. I lead him to pray confessing his sins and calling Jesus in to his life. From then I saw him as a brother in Christ and always visited him to pray with him and encourage him. I took him to hospital to have surgery, which he finally went through but didn't survive. Now he is leaving behind a wife and four children. I am doing all I can to support them."

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course" (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

"For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:21)