



A fun and easy way for kids to learn about missions.

Hello Parents,

This week, we tell a portion of the extraordinary story of Aliza Tianina, a Maasai girl in Kenya who ran away from home at the age of six. The reason she was compelled to leave her family at such a young age is difficult to fully explain to children.

In Maasai culture, girls can be married at the age of nine, in exchange for a dowry of cattle, paid to her father from the new husband. Part of the engagement process involves a female circumcision known as female genital mutilation (FGM). It is painful, and comes with the risk of infection, urination problems, severe bleeding, and even death.

The Kenyan government has declared child marriage and FGM illegal, yet because the Maasai tend to live in remote areas, most Maasai girls still undergo the painful ritual as young as six years old, having no choice in the matter. Aliza had been promised to an older man and was scheduled to undergo FGM before she ran away.

Today, our video will not discuss these traumatic details. We will only briefly mention child marriage and the inability to attend school, which will serve as the driving force for Aliza's escape. Of course, if there are any aspects of the story you might be uncomfortable with, please screen the video ahead of time so you can be prepared.

Aliza's story displays differences in cultures and customs, as well as the varying realities that children around the globe must endure. We hope your children are able to contemplate how their life differs from others, and how God might be calling them to help those in need around them.

Pre-video Discussion Questions

- Have you ever been in a bad situation and wished you could get out? What was that like?
- Can you imagine not having to go to school ever again? What would be fun about that? What wouldn't be good about that?
- Have you ever shared a mattress with someone? What was it like?

VIDEO

In today's video, meet Aliza, a girl from Kenya who ran away from home when she was six years old.

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Post-video Discussion Questions

- How do you think it would feel to live away from your family for the rest of your life?
- If you had to sleep on a small mattress with another person for years, and then finally had your own bed, how do you think it would feel?
- How do you think Aliza feels to be going to school, knowing that in her village, she would not be in school?
- Do you know anyone who needs your help? How do you think God wants you to help them?

Prayer Points

- The students and teachers of the Kajiado Adventist School and Rescue Center.
- Kids around the world that are not able to go to school.
- Ask kids what they would add to the prayer list.

Did You Know?

- The Kajiado Adventist School and Rescue Center has been the home for hundreds of girls since 2001.
- Maranatha is constructing high school buildings at Kajiado, so the students can stay there for their entire school experience up until college.