|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Most of us have experienced the hounding thoughts of “I could have handled that better” or “I should have done this differently” about some situation in our lives. These feelings of regret are often magnified when we’re trying to care for someone but end up making things worse for them instead. This is what happened to Grace. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Grace wanted to help provide for her family. **But because brewing and selling illegal alcohol was all she knew to do, she ended up pulling her whole family into a pit of despair.**Grace and her husband drank and fought every day. Grace’s two oldest daughters dreamed about one day completing high school and helping parent their neglected younger siblings. There seemed to be no way out of the misery which continued year after year.  Not quite ready to abandon hope, Grace heard about an ELI training.**She attended as a last-ditch effort to try to improve life for her family. God brought change to her heart and mind!** She started small by growing vegetables, and eventually through hard work her business flourished! Today she supplies vegetables, chickens, eggs, liquid soap, and more to schools, government agencies, and restaurants.  Grace’s family experienced change too. **The addiction to alcohol was replaced by love and forgiveness, which filled their home.** Grace encouraged her children to follow her new example and keep learning no matter their age. Her husband now beams with pride when talking about her, and her children are inspired by their mom’s courage, business judgment, and steadfast determination. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Grace even went on a mission trip which eventually led to the planting of a church that now has 50 people!**  Last month Grace and a fellow [**Woman of Change**](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=92474a604c&e=52cf684eb4) friend joined their pastor and two ELI staff members to hold a village-based training program for over 40 women—all illegal brewers! The women were taught valuable business skills just like those Grace had learned. Over the five days, Grace and the others shared their testimonies and the Gospel message. **All the women committed to following the God who transformed Grace—because they had witnessed firsthand the transformation in her life!**  Grace is thrilled to see how these moms are now changing EVERYTHING for their families. She says,   **Grace is so grateful to no longer live in guilt and regret; she is now free to love her family and others well by sharing God’s message of HOPE!** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Mother’s Day is in just a few days! Honor a special mom in your life by sending a mother in Africa like Grace to a life-changing training that can transform her family and community. It’s as easy as clicking the link below.  **$25 can help a mom begin her journey to lead her family and community out of poverty.** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Honor a mother by empowering a mother today!**](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=ab81326c41&e=52cf684eb4) | | | |  | |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | |  | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | For inspiring updates, photos, and stories of HOPE, follow us on social media. And please share to inspire others too!          [empoweringlives.org](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=e041c58a98&e=52cf684eb4) | | | | | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | This email was sent to [newsletters@fmcusa.org](mailto:newsletters@fmcusa.org)  [why did I get this?](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/about?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=4c5a076319&e=52cf684eb4&c=3bf51b6a9b)    [unsubscribe from this list](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/unsubscribe?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=4c5a076319&e=52cf684eb4&c=3bf51b6a9b)    [update subscription preferences](https://empoweringlives.us18.list-manage.com/profile?u=65712607ad78fc9ee2893a55f&id=4c5a076319&e=52cf684eb4&c=3bf51b6a9b)  Empowering Lives International · PO Box 67 · Upland, CA 91785-0067 · USA | |

