

Meet Gracious Phiri



Gracious Phiri

Profile	
Name	Gracious Phiri
Birthday	19 th March 2007
Birth Place	Lusaka Zambia
Area of Residence	Old Avondale 26/2
Father's Name	David Phiri
Father's Profession	Gardener
Mother's Name	Anna Chisulo
Mother's Profession	Sells Vegetables
Primary School	Chakunkula Primary School

Gracious's Family Background

Gracious lives with both her parents and sister in a one-room house in old Avondale. Her father dropped out of primary school after failing his grade 7 national examinations. He then joined the light industrial workers in 10 miles as a small scale stone miner. After ten years in the industry, he moved to Lusaka and found employment as a garden boy, where he has worked for the last 19 years. Meanwhile, her mother was double orphaned at the age of 6, consequently impacting her education, causing her to drop out in her grade 4. She began selling vegetables as a way to sustain herself as she had no family member to depend on. She has continued that trade till this very day and it has helped her provide for some of her family's needs. Gracious's elder sister is currently in grade 11 at Chelstone Secondary School. Gracious is inspired by her mother and considers her to be her best friend and role model; she says, 'If, it was anybody else, they would have given up but not my mother.' The hurdles that her mother has managed to overcome, present a powerful motivation for Gracious on her quest for success.

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Educational Background

Gracious has attended Chakunkula Primary School since grade one. She regularly passes first in her class and is a class monitor tasked with keeping order in her class. Her favorite subjects have been English and Mathematics, partially because she appreciates the teaching styles of the teachers of those courses. She also enjoys English because it helps her learn how to speak more eloquently and it will help her express her ideas thoroughly. Meanwhile, she loves math because she feels it is an essential skill to possess in this century.

Extracurricular Activities

Gracious is heavily involved at church. She is a choir leader, helping preach the gospel to people every Sunday. She even runs for the church athletics team. She has taken first and second place in the 100m relay for her church team. She has also taken part in various art competitions both at school and at church as she loves to draw. In addition, she participates in debate. She is very active in helping out at home as well, she enjoys helping her mother do the house chores and she cites her mother being her role model and best friend.

Her Thoughts

Gracious has a great sense of humor, she believes joy and happiness are pathways to a better life. It is due to this fact that she enjoys spending time with her best friend, Temwani, chatting and telling stories. She would love to make her parents proud and be the first in her family to graduate from college. After graduation, she wishes to become an entrepreneur as she claims this is the only profession that allows you to be whoever you may want to be in life. She is also drawn to entrepreneurship by her mother, who has survived as a business lady since the tender age of 7.