

BETHESDA CHILD OF THE MONTH

April 2006

Lerato -

Nearly three years ago, on the 17th of May 2003, 9-year-old Lerato and her twin brother Tumelo stepped out of a social worker's car and into an unfamiliar house, tears rolling down their faces in fear of what lay ahead. Recently orphaned, the two had been found living in squalor in Temba, surviving as best they could in a household headed by children. Now they were in a strange new place with no idea of what lay ahead; but the home to which they had been brought was quickly to become a place of comfort, love, and belonging.

Now 12 years old, Lerato is the second oldest girl in the home of Fritz & Masello Shikwambane. She especially likes time alone with her mother in the kitchen, and enjoys the blessings that surround an obedient spirit. Lerato's favourite things to do include swinging, swimming, and Maskitlana, a game



Lerato

of pretend played with stones in the garden. She has a close relationship with her sisters and also with her brother Gomolemo, who especially enjoys teasing her.

Lerato's parents tell us that she is a leader in the home, with her siblings often choosing to follow her example despite her young age. She also does well in school and takes great pleasure in reading.

Lerato has made a decision to follow Christ and continues to grow in her relationship with Him, but sometimes struggles with timidity; her parents ask that you pray for her to increase in boldness in her response to others.



Lerato with her sister Margaret

* Pray for Lerato*

- That she will display boldness & confidence in a way that pleases God
- That she will continue to grow in her relationship with God and her example to others