

The Lord Spared Me from Crocodile (A testimony of a 12 years old boy in Illuababor)



On a bright day of March 20, 2006 at a resettlement village called Dhidessa, situated in Western Illuababor zone of Western Ethiopia, three boys were swimming in a big river close to their settlement which usually relieves them of the extreme heat of the valley. Suddenly a big crocodile caught one of them, Fekadu Germamo a 12 years old boy. Here is the story as Fekadu told it to me while we had a short break at a conference in Dembi (430 kms west of Addis Ababa): “When the crocodile suddenly grabbed my left leg, the other boys escaped and safely landed on the shore and tried to scare the crocodile away shouting and throwing stones with the intent of having me

released. But the crocodile splashed the water to them by its tale while dragging me into the deep all the more. As its teeth went deep into my thigh and lower part of my abdomen, the only hope I had was calling the name of Jesus which I knew from childhood and laid down my hands on the mouth of the crocodile. I did not know when and how the crocodile released me when I haphazardly managed to swim to the river bank, fresh blood oozing from the open wounds. Villagers who gathered there hearing the cries of my friends dragged me out of the river and carried me to the nearest hospital six hours away from our village on foot. After a treatment that took a month’s time and prayer support of friends, I recovered though I couldn’t urinate the normal way by myself for six months unless assisted by people. At present, I am fine, praise be to the name of the Lord, I can walk and eat well. Even today, I walked all the way from our village to this conference which took me 3 hours.”



Fekadu (right) with Dinku

Today, Fekadu serves in the teenagers’ choir of his congregation and is planning to continue his fifth grade education which he quits due to the aforementioned calamity. Fekadu’s story reminds us of the power in the name of Jesus and encourages us all today that the Lord is with us even though we walk in the valley of the shadow of death (Read Psalms 23:4).

*(376 words) Written by Dinku Lamessa Bato (Rev)
EECMY University Student Ministry (USM)
dinkul@eecmy.org*