

Naomi Leremore

Location: **Nairobi, KENYA**

Mission: **Christian education**



The Knife Sharpener

Some years ago, Kamau was frustrated by his lack of a job. He decided to train for two months to become an expert knife sharpener. Kamau designed the machine needed for his work and paid a welder to engineer it. The apparatus is constructed with a solid metal frame and a pedal connected by a rod to the centre of a bicycle rim. A rubber belt around this wheel turns the rotating hub to which the all-important grinding stone is attached.



Kamau keeps the machine's bearings well-oiled to ensure his tool works smoothly for a professional finish. After a few months, the grinding stone wears down and is replaced with a new one. Every day Kamau sets up his machine in a handy spot and waits for his customers to bring their blunt knives for fixing.

Kamau takes his time working along the length of each blade, stopping every minute to feel the sharpness of the edge. Sparks fly as the knife comes in contact with the spinning stone. The noise is painful to listen to, but necessary to improve the quality of dull kitchen knives and pangas – big blades used in outdoor work. A job well done ensures the knife will give the owner a month of effective service.

Hearts and Minds

Proverbs 27:17 says "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another."



GLOBAL DISCIPLES
Go Deep Go Wide
November 2024

Like blunt knives, we need sharpening by Christian friends who can help us improve our character and our thinking. It's a mutually beneficial process. We stay accountable to each other as we develop deep connections that are God-honouring and constructive, aiming to grow in Christlike maturity.

The PCEA church in Kenya emphasizes the importance of district fellowship groups. Meeting together in small groups helps build close bonds of trust and respect. The Bible study guides written and produced by the Theological Education by Extension (TEE) department, can assist group members in sharpening their Christian beliefs, sharing testimonies of God's faithfulness in their lives and sparking creative ideas for serving the community.



Points for Prayer:

- Praise God for the blessing of Christian friends and the benefit of belonging to a faith community where one can experience deep connections and conversations that improve hearts and minds.
- Pray for the TEE Bible Study guides being used by district fellowship groups; that they will sharpen Christian thinking and challenge faulty beliefs, as well as spark creative ideas for outreach.
- Thank God for the recent TEE board meeting and the good financial outlook projected for the year ahead.
- Uphold a meeting on 5th November involving Naomi and the pastoral team of PCEA Langata as they discuss curriculum planning for the whole congregation.