

## Glenyluu Zone 4 Community, Liberia

A WIDOW FINDS PEACE SERVING AS A WATER CARETAKER

Ma Garmah Teah, a 74-year-old widow, has lived in the Glenyluu Zone 4 community in Liberia for decades. Her life has been marked by significant challenges. Her late husband, a soldier in the national army, was forced into exile during a political coup attempt in 1985. He was later killed by rebel forces during the civil war in 1990. For many years she and her children lived in Guinea as refugees until they were able to safely return to their home country. The trauma deepened when Ma Garmah Teah's son succumbed to the Ebola epidemic in 2014. These losses left Ma Garmah feeling isolated and filled with grief.

In addition to the heartache she carried after losing her family members, Ma Garmah Teah, and many of her neighbors, also contended against the water crisis. The Glenyluu Zone 4 community faced severe water scarcity. Many relied on private pumps, which were not always accessible, and open wells that dried up during the summer seasons. This lack of reliable water sources led to waterborne illnesses and daily struggles to find safe water. Ma Garmah felt trapped in a cycle of grief and stress.

The arrival of Living Water brought a transformative change. The community now has a dependable source of safe water, significantly reducing waterborne diseases and alleviating the daily stress of finding water. For Ma Garmah, managing the borehole has been therapeutic. Her role as caretaker has allowed her to interact with many people, easing her loneliness and helping her to cope with her traumatic experiences.

Ma Garmah said, "Our community, which used to be at the mercy of other people, is now a provider of safe drinking water without condition. We use this generosity as a way of demonstrating the love of God that Living Water shared with us."



Ma Garmah and the other water caretakers play a key role in the longevity of the community's new safe water source. They ensure the pump is maintained and able to provide plentiful water for years to come



The community members listen to a local pastor share the gospel.