

CAMEROON VICTORY CENTER

CAMEROON

The stigma of poverty is crippling. In their rush to compete with developing nations, Cameroon has left their women vulnerable to oppression. As the schools, businesses, and cities around women rise to great heights, their own lives crumble. Sexual abuse and forced marriage are common threats and, at times, seemingly impossible to escape. But at Cameroon Victory Center, there is safety, hope, and healing. Women learn to support their families with highly sought-after skills, finding their own talents and passions. Sewing, baking, jewelry-making, shoe repair, catering, and business experiences garner respect from their communities and ensure futures of promise. Cameroon Victory Center then reaches into the surrounding city, equipping more women with the skills to protect themselves. When you buy the work of their hands, you help women rise above cultural oppression and discover lives of dignity and empowerment.



STORIES OF RESCUE & EMPOWERMENT

COUNTRY: CAMEROON • PROGRAM: VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Martha

Martha was almost home. The walk was long, but her mother needed the water, and she was happy to get it. Carefully watching the road in front of her, Martha did not notice the group of men lurking behind her. Suddenly, they grabbed her, pushed her, and forced her to come with them. Locked in a dark room, Martha was told that she would soon become the fourth wife of an elderly man. After a week of waiting in fear, sixteen-year-old Martha forced her way out of the prison and fled to the nearest village. She found refuge in the home of distant relatives, who smuggled her to the capital city and to Cameroon Victory Center, where they knew she would be safe. There, Martha found a new life. She learned to sew and sell beautiful creations, finding peace and healing in each stitch. In time, Martha met a man she truly loved and chose to marry. Today, she raises her own children to love and care for women like her, changing the trajectory of generations to come.

*For more stories of rescue & empowerment, please visit our story gallery at www.warinternational.org/story-gallery
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