PORTRAITS OF



BY DREW FRIEDRICH, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

Orphan's Promise is helping to meet the needs of orphaned and at-risk children in every corner of the world, thanks to your generosity! The Kingdom of Lesotho is a place perhaps few could find on a map, but there is tremendous need in this small African country, and we're able to step in and help because of your "yes!"

These are the stories. These are the souls. These are the portraits of the lives we're changing.



LOST AND FOUND IN LESOTHO



UNWANTED AND ALONE

After losing both parents to AIDS, Godfrey was dropped off at a medical clinic in Lesotho, southern Africa, by one of his sisters. She had no way of providing for her brother, and even though Godfrey was two years old, he looked more like a nine-month-old baby due to malnourishment and sickness.

The clinic worked hard to find a place for Godfrey and eventually found an orphanage willing to take him into temporary care. Godfrey's early years at the orphanage were challenging. He was born HIV positive and required heavy medication, which took a toll on his fragile young body. He spent a lot of time lying down, never learning to walk or crawl. A staff member at the orphanage took a special interest in Godfrey. She would sit with him for hours, staring into his lifeless eyes while she prayed over him. As the months passed, Godfrey's health slowly began to improve. He



Though it is located within the boundaries of South Africa, the Kingdom of Lesotho is an independent, sovereign nation.

> Lesotho is pronounced "le-soo-too"

soon began to crawl and walk like the other kids. A renewed light entered his big brown eyes.

As the years passed, Godfrey grew into a quiet, respectful little boy. The orphanage primarily focused its care toward children from newborns up to five-year-olds, so the orphanage began looking for a family to adopt Godfrey—but God had a different plan for his life. As the child began the process



Lesotho has a **25**[%] prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS, the second-highest in the world, and has the highest tuberculosis incidence rate in the world.

of transitioning out of the orphanage and into a different living situation, one of his sisters expressed interest in caring for him. Sadly, her promise fell through, and Godfrey was left with no place to go. By God's grace, Beautiful Dream Society (BDS), a ministry supported by Orphan's Promise, stepped forward to take Godfrey into their home in 2013. Godfrey continued to grow physically and spiritually while living at BDS. For the past six years, he has developed a deep love for his non-biological siblings and his house mothers, who have raised him as their own while he has been at the project.



BEAUTIFUL DREAMS

Today Godfrey is 13 years old, and despite his difficult beginnings, he has grown into a confident young man. Every morning at 5:45 he walks across town to school. He studies hard, receives good grades, and even helps his house sisters at the children's home with their homework. When he is not at school, he is doing chores, such as washing his clothes, cooking in the kitchen, doing yard work, or cleaning his room. Godfrey is always offering a helping hand to those around him. He consistently offers to help his house mothers with tasks around the house, and his servant's heart is undeniable. He is still just a young boy, so he loves to play soccer with his house brothers and he's learned to ride a bike. Every Sunday, Godfrey is a part of the Victory Church community along with all of his brothers and sisters at Beautiful Dream Society. He excels in his Victory Church Student Ministry class, where he learns about the Lord with other kids his age.

Every Sunday, when asked to share a praise, Godfrey replies simply, "I thank God for another day." His joy for life is so radiant despite his hardships. Like twentyfive percent of the population in Lesotho, he continues to be plagued by HIV. The sickness has taken much from him physically, often leaving him weak and tired, but it has not diminished his strength of spirit. Godfrey is quick to encourage his peers, to play a practical joke, and to give God the glory for simple joys in life. It is humbling to witness his zeal for life, and he is an excellent reminder to all of us that we must live each day with passion!

Orphan's Promise partners with BDS in Lesotho to provide safe, loving, family-like environments where children can learn and grow. Twelve children are parented by three house mothers in three separate homes, which allows us the chance to really invest in each individual child's life.

Malnutrition is a problem in Lesotho due to poverty, but children who live in these homes receive nutritious meals three times a day, seven days a week.

In total we serve more than 2,400 meals each month!

How you can pray for this project:

Pray that the children would continue to heal from the traumas of the past, and that God would begin to grow big dreams in their hearts once again. Pray for strength and energy for the house mothers, who love and care for the children. Pray for Godfrey, that the Lord would use him in a mighty way!

In addition, we support an anti-trafficking shelter both to prevent the exploitation of young women and to help victims get back on their feet after the trauma of sexual abuse.

QUIET STRENGTH

Beneath the exterior of a skinny teenage boy is a spirit that has supernatural strength. He refuses to let the negatives in his life outweigh the positives and the opportunities before him. This story is what giving hope is all about!

Godfrey dreams of one day becoming a car mechanic or an architect. The chance to build or fix things excites him. This year, he was blessed with an opportunity to explore those interests when a local Lesotho man taught all of the boys in the project the art of woodwork. Godfrey is ecstatic at the thought of a career using his hands to create! By providing more practical training, like woodworking, we hope to equip him with the vision and skills he'll need to succeed in life. Another local man from the church has stepped up and offered to teach Godfrey more about car mechanics and crucial skills like changing a tire. God is opening doors for this young man!



In perhaps our most exciting news to share, Godfrey was baptized last month! He recently told his pastor, "I want to be baptized to show the world I love Jesus and that I am born again." Godfrey is thriving in his faith and continues to be one of the first students in his class to answer questions about the Bible. Because of the generosity of Orphan's Promise donors, Godfrey's story will end far better than it began. It has been an honor to watch him grow in every aspect of life this past year. His future is bright, and we know his life will continue to inspire those around him. We will continue to support Godfrey as best we can as he grows into a man after God's own heart. We know God delights in Godfrey's humble and resilient spirit, and we thank you for your heart to give hope and love to kids like Godfrey.



Automate Your Impact!

The most effective way to give and maximize your gift is to give a recurring monthly gift. If you'd like to become a monthly partner with Orphan's Promise, please fill out the enclosed "You Pledge, We Pledge" form and return it in the Business Reply Envelope. We'll count on you to ensure our commitment to these children is fulfilled!

If you'd like to give a special gift to Orphan's Promise, there are four easy ways you can give:

- Give online by visiting OrphansPromise.org/OP2019
- 2 Text PROMISE to 71777 and give from your mobile phone
- **Call 1-800-818-4016** to give by phone

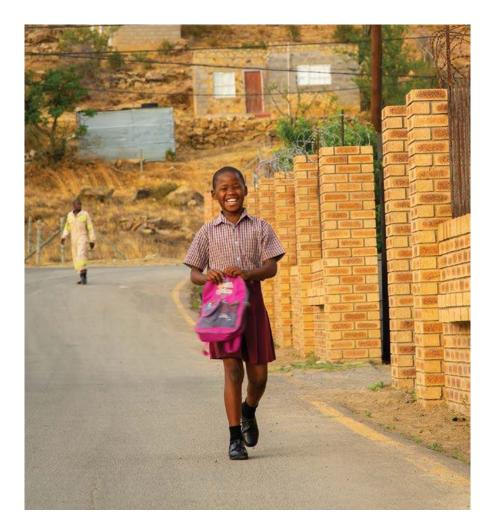


You can **mail a check** made out to Orphan's Promise to:

Orphan's Promise 977 Centerville Turnpike Virginia Beach, VA 23463

Thanks for your generosity over the last year. We look forward to making an even bigger difference together in the year ahead!







give us a call: 1-800-818-4016 orphanspromise.org

Orphan's Promise, a children's ministry of The Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc., serves orphans and other vulnerable children around the

world, taking them from at-risk to thriving through the transforming power of God's love. CBN is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your

contributions to our ministry are tax-deductible.

education





nutrition

discipleship



community transformation



family care



anti-trafficking



