

PORTRAITS OF **PROMISE**



by Ellery Sadler,
staff writer

Treasure.

That is the word that comes to mind when looking into Orgil's eyes.

For his whole life, this precious, irreplaceable child was made to feel unwanted and unloved. That is the tragedy of this broken, brutal world we live in.

Now, Orgil is just beginning to understand the earthshaking, mountain-moving, infinitely tender love that the Father has for him. You can see it in his eyes. You can see it in his smile.

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



A TREASURE NAMED ORGIL



The last time Orgil remembers being truly happy is when he was three years old.

That was the year his stepfather entered his life. The first look his stepfather gave him is seared into Orgil's brain. From that moment on, any happiness the boy experienced was mixed with deep pain. Brokenness. Darkness. Abuse. Because his family was unable to send him to the local kindergarten, there was no escape from the distress Orgil experienced at home each day.

By the time Orgil was seven, the situation was so bad that he was sent to live with his birth father. But there was no peace there, either. He felt unwanted.



After only four months, young Orgil was spending most of his time in the streets.

Instead of going home to sleep, Orgil began hanging out in PC gaming rooms where owners keep their facilities open all night for kids to stay and play. Although far from a safe or healthy environment, the gaming rooms became his only escape. The games, many of which are intensely violent, became an addiction.

Eventually, Orgil was sent back to live with his mother. There, he was enrolled in first grade at a nonofficial educational center, a place that enables children who have dropped out of school to

receive an education. The diploma they receive isn't official, but it helps graduating students go to vocational school if they choose. Over time, Orgil technically completed eighth grade, but because he kept missing school to feed his gaming addiction, his education level was functionally closer to second grade.

The PC gaming cafe was still the only place Orgil felt like he belonged—or could at least find some escape. At home, he felt disconnected from his siblings, each of whom had a different father. His mother still didn't seem to care for him much or want to be involved in his life. Where could he find the relationships and love a child needs? Did anyone “see” him? Did anyone care? Orgil continued to bury his hurt and pain in the violent computer games.



A TURNING POINT...

But then it came: March 24, 2019. Orgil remembers the exact date.

A turning point. A hand outstretched. A milestone marker in a life of feeling lonely, lost, and forgotten. We remember it too: It was the first time Orgil came to the Bright Future Community Center, a local project sponsored by Orphan's Promise in his community.

The Bright Future Community Center provides disadvantaged youth and children who live on the streets with warm meals and a safe place where they can receive life skills, vocational training, and support to help them envision a brighter future. More than that, Bright Future promotes character development and discipleship, and offers an opportunity for children to have safe, consistent, and loving adult figures in their lives.





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Initially, it took some time for Orgil to begin showing up regularly at Bright Future Community Center for our programs. But he gradually began to share his feelings and his problems and his pain with the staff.

Then, once he started faithfully attending the Mongolian language course at the Center, something shifted dramatically. Like so many children who lack resources and support, he had assumed he wasn't capable of learning. But now he realized that, with some time and attention, he could learn. This

stirred an incredible appetite for learning in Orgil that he had never experienced before. Now, for the first time, the boy is beginning to dream.

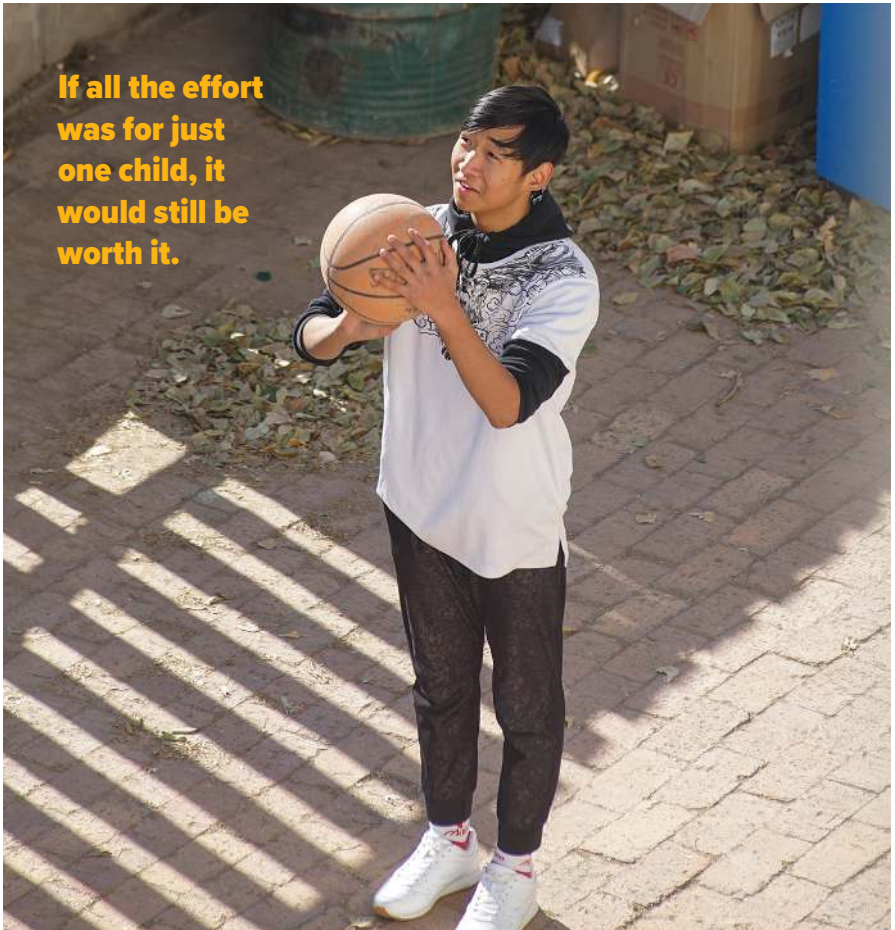
Orphan's Promise has been supporting the ministry of Mongolian Asia Reach (MAR) for more than six years. Bright Future Community Center is one of four main projects that we support and partner in. It provides vocational training, educational support, character development, and discipleship to vulnerable youth and children who live on the streets.



He sees that he can do something with his life outside of numbing the pain with games. Orgil now wants to be a heavy mechanic operator at the vocational school. We are hoping that by September we can begin to help him work toward his dream.

Real stories are messy, though. Today, Orgil still faces a difficult and dysfunctional situation at home. Almost 10 people live in a cramped, confined space. At times, there is not even a place for Orgil to lie down and sleep. Occasionally, he still runs to the streets to find a place of peace.

The difference now, though, is that Orgil has hope. Thanks to the love and commitment of the staff at Bright Future, he



is becoming equipped to look to the future and say: “How can I find a way to make my life better?” Before his breakthrough, he had not believed such a thing was possible.

Most importantly, Orgil is learning that he is a precious and treasured child of God. You can see it in his smile and the sparkle in his eyes. He is loved by a Father who is a mighty protector of those who are vulnerable and defenseless and in pain. The day is coming when He will destroy once and for all every injustice, every bondage of darkness, and every instrument of harm that has been used against any of His precious little ones. And when He does, the world will finally understand how treasured His beloved children are to His heart.

Until then, we work to bring the kingdom of heaven here on earth. We work to ensure that every child knows they matter and are loved. We praise God for the hope rising in Orgil’s heart as he experiences God’s love. We are so deeply proud of his brave heart, as he dares to hope for a brighter future and equip himself to accomplish it.

This is why we do what we do. Because if all our effort was for just one child, it would still be worth it—that’s how treasured they are by the Father. But we also work so that every single child possible gets to know they are loved. It is the utmost privilege to spend our lives fighting against the darkness of a world that tells a child they aren’t worth it and don’t matter. Thank you for fighting alongside us. Thank you for being part of Orgil’s story and thank you for supporting Orphan’s Promise.

Together, we are changing the world, one child at a time.



For the first time, Orgil is beginning to dream.





give us a call: 1-800-818-4016

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