# PORTRAITS OF

ORPHAN'S PROMISE NEWSLETTER | FEBRUARY 2021



by Ellery Sadler, staff writer

Kingsley's story reminds us of Acts 3:8.

The Lord, through Peter, healed a man who couldn't walk. The verse says: "He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God."

This is still the God we serve. A God of miracles. A Father who turns mourning into dancing. That is Kingsley's story—and ours.

How privileged we are to be the hands through which He works the moment we say "Yes."

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



# **The Magic Word**



#### When our path first crossed with Kinglsey's in a hospital in rural Zambia, he was tiny. Too tiny. Barely over two years old, he was suffering from malnutrition and a number of other medical complications.

Already, his young life had been a difficult one. When his mother passed away, little Kingsley was left with his mother's relatives. They provided for their family through subsistence farming and, with many of their own small children to care for, it was difficult for Kingsley's aunt and uncle to give him the care and attention he needed. Medical care was not readily available either, as they lived in a remote area. Before long, Kingsley became ill and malnourished.

When he came to the hospital for treatment, he was immediately identified as a vulnerable child. That's when hospital administrators approached our Orphan's Promise partner in Zambia—Macha International Christian School (MICS)—to see if they could help this suffering child. MICS is a primary school in rural Zambia seeking to provide quality Christian education to vulnerable children.



# NEARLY ONE IN FIVE ZAMBIAN CHILDREN AGED 0-14 ARE ORPHANS, ONE OF THE HIGHEST ORPHAN RATES IN THE SUB-SAHARAN REGION OF AFRICA

It was at this moment that we had an amazing opportunity.

Thanks to generous donors around the world who fund the boarding scholarship that's provided by Orphan's Promise to MICS, we got to say one of our favorite words. We got to say "yes!" Yes, we can step in to help. Yes, we can provide care. Yes, Kingsley, you are wanted. You are worthy of love and care.

That is the language of hope.

Hope is the secret ingredient that provides a program with the transformative power to actually change a child's life. It's the reason why an opportunity to go to school is about so much more than education, as important as that is. It's about stability and security. It's about a chance to play and imagine. It's about an opportunity to have healthy relationships with caring adults and learn about the Bible. It's about these precious children knowing that they are capable, they are worthy, and they are worth investing in. Hope is the "yes" that says you are welcome here. You are loved. You are wanted.

And that simple "yes" changes lives. We know because we saw it with Kingsley and we see it every day. NEARLY 60% OF CHILDREN IN ZAMBIA LIVE IN POOR HOUSEHOLDS, WITH APPROXIMATELY 45% LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY.



### **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!

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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. We look forward to making a difference together.

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### "HE IS A MIRACLE"

When Kingsley first came to board at MICS, he was still too weak to walk. While other children his age were running around on their own, he had to be carried everywhere. Every day, the staff made sure he was eating nutritious meals and taking his medicine. Gradually, the consistent food, regular medication, and loving attention began to transform Kingsley.

One staff member at MICS who had been working with Kingsley for a year had this to say: "He is now able to bathe himself, and make his bed. If you tell him to do something, he will do it. He is walking on his own and even running and jumping! He is a miracle. He is growing and gaining weight. He is happier."

That brings tears to our eyes. What better testimony could you ask for? A small boy who was too malnourished to walk is now running and jumping. He is growing. He is happy. Kingsley is a miracle!

Today, Kingsley is known around the school for his big smile and curiosity. He likes to know everything, which means he's constantly peppering anyone who will listen with questions about the world around him. His teacher says that he is doing well in class— he can identify almost all of the

#### Orphan's Promise currently operates 52 projects in 18 countries throughout this vast continent, reaching 24,000 children every single day.

letters now and can recognize numbers! He is also learning to follow instructions well.

When he's not in class or doing homework with the tutors at MICS, Kingsley's favorite activity is either playing on the slides and swings or playing with his toy cars. He loves Doritos and pizza and says that he wants to start a tour bus company in Zambia when he grows up.

For many other young Zambian children like Kingsley, MICS provides the first safe space they've ever known—to learn, grow, be loved on, and find their footing in a world that has already proved to be a broken and brutal place. In addition to offering traditional school activities, MICS equips students with important life skills, like computer training and interpersonal skills, that will serve them well for their entire lives. For students who board at MICS, there are added benefits: nutritious meals served by the house moms and access to tutors for homework help.

We are privileged to be able to partner with this transformative school and help reimagine the future for kids like Kingsley, who deserve to lead happy, healthy lives. And we hope, with your partnership, that we get to keep saying "yes" for many years to come.

The message that Kingsley would like to share with each of you is: "I would say thank you. Jesus bless you."









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



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