

# Victory magazine

Hidden With Christ Ministries  
November/December 2023

*Thankful  
Reflections*  
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To demonstrate the love of God through mercy ministries and by freely teaching God's Word around the world.

**OUR MISSION:**

To care for orphans and abandoned children and other needy persons through practical outreaches and by producing free Bible materials and training.

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**Every Gift you send and every prayer you offer helps change lives around the world!**

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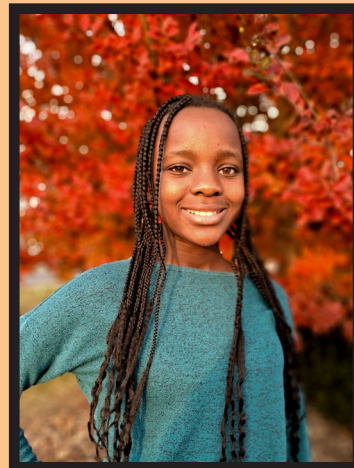
# THANKFUL REFLECTIONS

by Pastor David and Rita Langeland



**Ester**

Six times a year the Victory Magazine publishes the stories of God's amazing work being accomplished through the ministry of Hidden With Christ Ministries. It is important to note that behind each of these stories of lives being changed and the gospel being proclaimed is the financial and prayer support of a faithful group of people who are unseen and whose names are not listed in any article.



**Jesca**

We try to express in words and pictures the lives being touched by these unseen and unknown (except to God!) donors. We get a close-up view of the life changing impact of our donors' spirit of generosity both by spending time in Tanzania but also by having two of the former "Treasures" living in our home as foster daughters. Both Ester (age 10) and Jesca (age 14) could testify of the life changing miracles they have experienced because compassionate people cared about children they have never met!

Rita and I are thankful for each and every one of you who have partnered with us since the beginning of Hidden With Christ Ministries. It is because of your prayers and generous giving that the stories in this magazine can be written. Rita and I are thankful and full of joy because of you and for how you have helped us in the work of the gospel just as the Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian church nearly 2000 years ago.

***"I thank my God for you every time I think of you; and every time I pray for you all, I pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now."***

Philippians 1:3-5 (GNT)

Have a blessed Thanksgiving – and please know that we are praying prayers of THANKS for you!



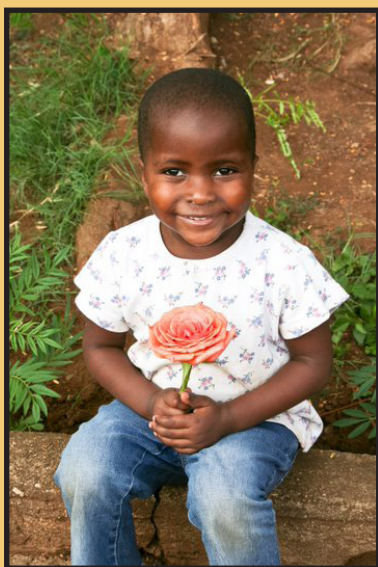
**David & Rita Langeland in Tanzania with Mt. Meru in the background**

# Delicious Dreams



by Faith Kaluse  
HWCM Administrator  
Moshi, Tanzania

Sabitina's journey is a heartwarming story of resilience and determination, and it reflects the impact that caring individuals and Institutions can have on underprivileged children.



**Sabitina age 3 in 2007**

It all started when Sabitina's mother died in 2007. Less than 24 hours before her death, Sabitina's mother was admitted to Mawenzi Hospital in Moshi, with her son, Antoni, who is Sabitina's brother. At that time, the institution was known as Moshi District Hospital. After her mother's death, Antoni was placed in Treasures of Africa Children's Home. It was soon discovered that Antoni had a brother and sister back in the village, who were living in very challenging circumstances. Their father was a drunkard and was living with his mistress who also had three children. The conditions were difficult and young Sabitina, who was only three years old at the time, was not receiving the care she needed.

The turning point in Sabitina's life was when she was welcomed into Treasures of Africa Children's Home on March 26, 2007.

Here she found love and a supportive family that provided her with care, education and opportunities she deserved. She began her education journey and in 2020 she successfully graduated from Secondary school.

Sabitina's passion for cooking was evident from a young age. She actively participated in the kitchen helping the cooks and baking cookies for the other children. In Secondary school, she pursued the subject of Food and Nutrition, and excelled in it. She expressed her desire to obtain a certificate in food production which led to her enrollment in a Vocational Training Center in nearby Hai District.



**Sabitina at Culinary School**



During her practical training at a tourist hotel in Moshi, Sabitina's dedication and skills were quickly recognized by her supervisor who was so proud of her. Her supervisor, the head chef, admired her commitment and excellence in her work, especially in preparing morning breakfast. She was always on time and even quite early to the point that some customers thought she was the head chef.

In October of this year, Sabitina took a significant step in her Culinary journey by enrolling in a Culinary Arts college to pursue a Diploma in Culinary Arts. Her dream is to establish her own catering business and she is well on her way to achieving this dream.

Sabitina's story is a testament to the transformative power of education, mentorship, and the support from Hidden with Christ Ministries through the Treasures of Africa KIDZ education project. It's a reminder of the positive impact we can make on the lives of

orphans and vulnerable children when we provide them with opportunities, encouragement, and express belief in their potential.

Thank you so much for your generosity which is helping Sabitina to attain her dream.

Editor's Note: Sabitina's school and living expenses are paid for through the TOA KIDZ Education Fund. She does not have a current sponsor. If you would like to make a donation to assist in paying Sabitina's school fees, you may donate online at [www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate](http://www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate) or mail a check to:

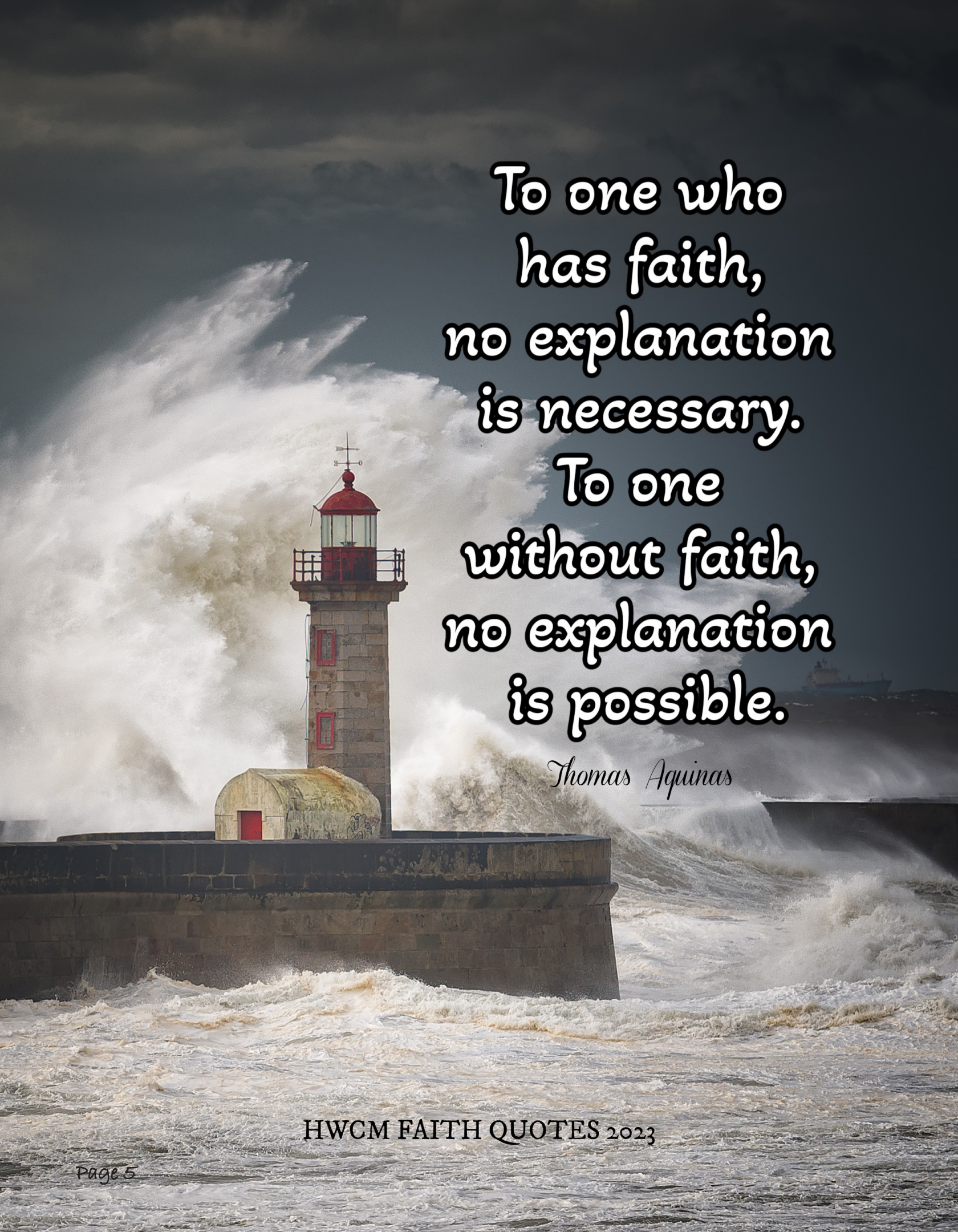
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**Scan to Give!**



**TreasuresofAfrica.org**

OR we have a brand-new option - You can now donate easily by VENMO! Look for Hidden with Christ Ministries under "Charities" or enter our username - @HWCMIn and experience an easy way to give!

A lighthouse with a red lantern room and a weather vane on top, situated on a dark, rocky island. The lighthouse is surrounded by turbulent, white-capped waves crashing against the base of the structure. The sky is dark and overcast, with some white clouds. The overall scene is dramatic and powerful.

To one who  
has faith,  
no explanation  
is necessary.

To one  
without faith,  
no explanation  
is possible.

*Thomas Aquinas*

# No Ignorant Vows

By Dr. Marcia Chang Vogl  
Director  
Bethany Projects

***But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.'***  
***For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.***  
*Matthew 5:37 NKJV*

Kids on the playground or in elementary school say, “Cross my heart, and hope to die,” in order to prove their trustworthiness. When one wants you to keep a promise “not to tell,” or being questioned about what they heard or saw, the “Cross my heart and hope to die” phrase comes out. Peers can pressure others with the “Cross your heart and hope to die,” phrase into great seriousness. Sometimes it’s used as a jingle. This is more serious than it may appear.

How about uttering “Swear to God” as a phrase used to protest or affirm a fact? Often it’s heard as a “throwaway phrase” with no meaning.

The truth is that such statements are not “throw-aways.” In the spirit realm, our words have the power to speak life or death. Words will line up either with the Enemy or with God. The Enemy will wait and hold these words until he can use them for his purposes. “Cross my heart and hope to die” may not cause you to fall dead instantly, but it opens your life up to denial or betrayal. You may not physically die, but your hopes and dreams, intellect, health, and emotions have death upon them, and you will wonder why you are not prospering in areas of life. If you have used “Swear to God” as a cover-up for a lie, you have invited deception into your life. Either you will continue to deceive or be deceived.

Getting you to unknowingly open doors to the Enemy is one of his sneaky tactics. He will get you to make these statements under frustration or peer pressure. He does not care as long as he can entice you to participate in his scheme or throw up roadblocks on your life’s path. Your ignorance, innocence, or circumstances do not cancel the power of the phrases. The fact you made them is what holds sway.

If you have made any “foolish statements” such as those examples above, you can repent and close the doors that were opened and gave Satan entrance into your life. Here is a prayer you can pray:

Lord, I repent of making deceptive statements and promises such as:  
\_\_\_\_\_(list them)\_\_\_\_\_. I repent for using the power of words against myself and You. I now renounce these statements and close the doors that were opened by them. I take back my ability to speak your words of life into my own life and that of others. Amen.

If you have read this article and have repented, understand that you must now choose not to continue making those statements. Nor should you goad others into making them. Be determined to remove them from your vocabulary.

You have been given discernment between good and evil. The Bible instructs us not to swear by heaven or earth, but let your “yes” be “yes” and your “no” be “no.”

# Watching the Garden Grow



**Josiah age 2 months**



**Shadrak age 1**



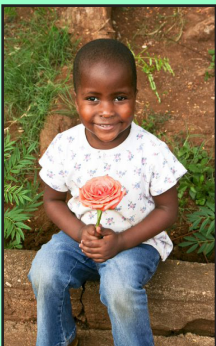
**Josiah age 4**

Many people enjoy gardening. They find pleasure in being outdoors, enjoying the sunshine and smelling the fragrance of flowering plants. But one of the most fulfilling aspects of gardening has to be watching the seed you planted become a sprout, and then a plant, and then blossoming into maturity.

We experience a similar process watching the growth and maturation of children. There is great joy when we see the development in their lives as they progress physically, emotionally, spiritually, and academically. Even the Bible uses the metaphor of a garden to represent people's lives. In 1 Corinthians 3:9 (The Living Bible) states...***you are God's garden...***



**Shadrak age 8**



**Sabitina age 3**

It has certainly been rewarding to watch the Treasures of Africa KIDZ "garden" grow! These two pages feature some past and present photos of the original residents from Treasures of Africa Children's Home in Moshi, Tanzania that demonstrate their growth and progress. (We could not fit them all here - but will continue to highlight them in future issues of the Victory Magazine.) But also be sure to read the article on pages 9 - 10 to see some of our college students who are majoring in an array of subjects from Agricultural Economics and Health Management to Medicine and Accounting.



**Witness Age 5**



**Sabitina in Culinary School**



**Samweli age 4**

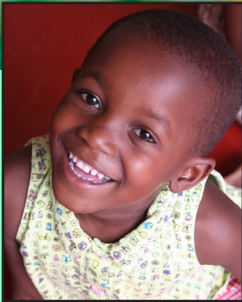


**Samweli 2nd Year of College**



**Witness in 3rd year of University**

# Why the TOA KIDZ Education Fund is a Great Place to SOW YOUR SEED!



**Magdalena  
age 4**

The "seed" that has been sown into the lives of the Treasures of Africa KIDZ – of both prayer and finances – has produced amazing fruit. We now have orphaned and abandoned children at all levels of education, from Pre-school to Graduate School level University studies. This could never have occurred in a third world nation like Tanzania without the help of compassionate donors.



**Maria age 6  
months**

Would you consider making an end of the year donation to our Treasures of Africa KIDZ Education Fund? It will help immensely as the new school year in Tanzania begins in January. But school supplies, school uniforms and school shoes must be bought and distributed to the children by the end of December. And the heaviest burden – school fees for 55 children – must be paid prior to January as well.



**Magdalena in  
2nd year of  
University**

Perhaps a monthly donation is a better financial option for you. It certainly will help us – as we pay the school fees, and school transportation expenses in increments, as well as cover medical insurance for the TOA KIDZ.



**Maria age 16**

There are three ways to give:

By check – sent to Hidden with Christ Ministries  
P.O. Box 745 Forest, VA 24551 (in the memo line write "TOA KIDZ Education Fund")



**Mark Thomas  
6 months**

Online – [www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate](http://www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate)

OR we have a brand-new option - You can now donate easily by VENMO! Look for Hidden with Christ Ministries under "Charities" or enter our username – @HWCMIn and experience an easy way to give!



**Hamidu age 3**

Thank you for your heart to help keep the TOA KIDZ garden growing strong!



**Mark Thomas  
age 4**



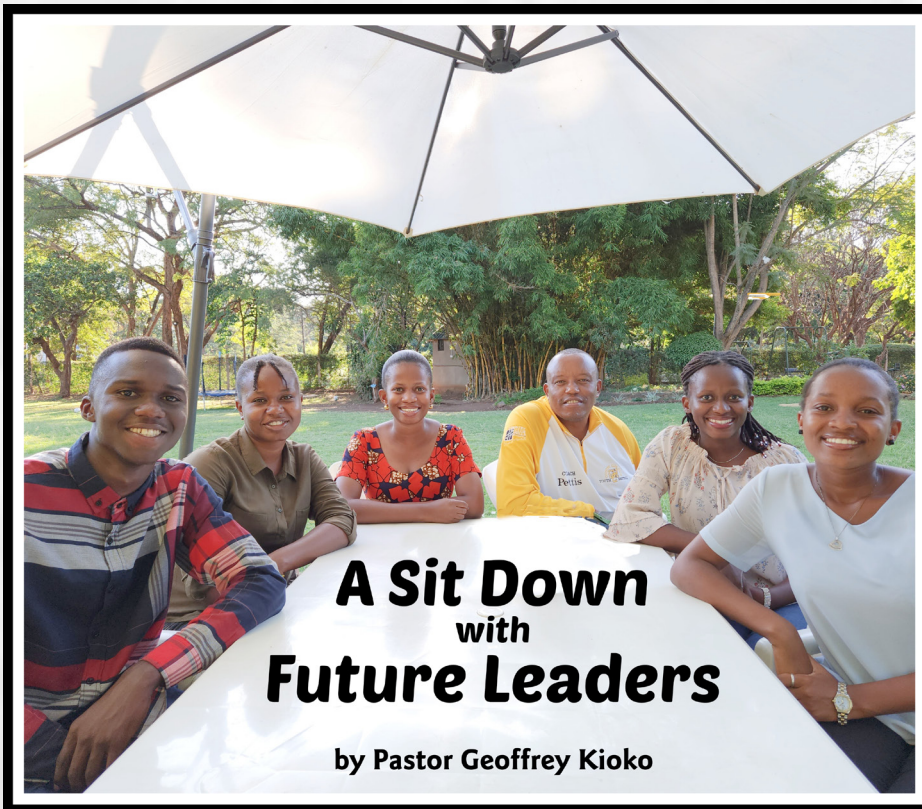
**Rose age 6  
months**



**Rose age 6**



**Hamidu age 10**



Recently I had a sit down with some of our Treasures of Africa children who had come home for the college and University semester break. In the photo (from left to right) we have Samweli, a 2nd year student at Machame Health Training Institute, Witness, a third-year student at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Helena, studying Pharmacy at Kampala International University, Glory, studying Health Management at Mzumbe University, and Magdalena, a 2nd year student in accounting at

Mzumbe University. It was so encouraging to see they have grown up into young leaders. As we sat and conversed on several different occasions, one thing was evident; they are growing up strong and becoming the confident leaders God has ordained them to be.

I noticed that they have formed a camaraderie among themselves whose purpose is to face their future together with the help of God. They have learned to connect with each other and most importantly communicate with other people in the community with clarity and respect. They love and show care for each other like brothers and sisters. I saw a great sense of compassion and respect for each other. Anyone watching them interact can see a resolve to steer away from the bad company of their peers. This is a very important element of leadership according to Psalm 1.

***Blessed (happy, fortunate, prosperous, and enviable) is the man who walks and lives not in the counsel of the ungodly [following their advice, their plans and purposes], nor stands [submissive and inactive] in the path where sinners walk, nor sits down [to relax and rest] where the scornful [and the mockers] gather.***

***But his delight and desire are in the law of the Lord, and on His law (the precepts, the instructions, the teachings of God) he habitually meditates (ponders and studies) by day and by night. And he shall be like a tree firmly planted [and tended] by the streams of water, ready to bring forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also shall not fade or wither; and everything he does shall prosper [and come to maturity.]***

Psalm 1:1-3 (Amplified Bible Classic Edition)

Notable to me also was the kind of questions they asked. Their questions revolved around their faith and their future. Great leaders are distinguished by the kind of answers they are seeking to find and the kind of problems they desire to solve. The children I met with (whether individually or as a group) had questions like Gideon of the Old Testament. Questions about knowing God, being filled with the Holy Spirit and how to hear His voice dominated most of our conversations.

Evident also was the quest to progress in career and life, with some asking questions about how they could develop their natural abilities.

There is no doubt that what started as a dream many years ago and pursued as a journey years later, is yielding positive outcomes. Over the years, our faithful donors have persistently given generously towards this cause. Looking at the progress made and achievements of the past and the vision of the future for the future leaders of Tanzania, I can only say one thing to our donors: THANK YOU.

Thank you for being there to transform the lives of children whose futures hung in the balance. Thank you for being willing to go the full length of the journey with us without taking breaks or quitting midway. This article may not reflect the full weight of appreciation that Hidden with Christ Ministries wants to express but trust me when I say we are truly grateful. The future looks great for these children because much has been done for them thus far. But much still awaits. Continue in the spirit and keep up the good work for in due season you will reap.

***So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit. Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith.***

Galatians 6:9-10 (The Message Translation)

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**Editor's Note:** Pastor Geoffrey Kioko has been an integral part of the work of Hidden with Christ Ministries in Tanzania since 2003. He is a founding Board Member of the Tanzanian branch of Hidden with Christ Ministries. He resides in Nairobi, Kenya and travels between Kenya and Tanzania to assist with this ministry.



**Pastor Geoffrey Kioko**



# **Fighting for His Life**

**A REHEMA PROJECTS  
STORY**

**by Sunday Jeremiah Joseph  
Project Coordinator  
HWCM Office  
Moshi Tanzania**

In the remote village of Koboko Kusini, Sanya Juu, in the Siha District of Tanzania, lives a man named Baraka. He is 44 years old and a husband and father of three children. He works as a security guard in the town of Moshi, located in the Kilimanjaro region. Baraka is a dedicated guardian of his family, working diligently to provide for them. Little did he know that a health crisis would turn his world upside down.

In February 2023, Baraka began complaining of persistent stomach pain. At first, he thought it was just normal stomach pain, so he went to the village hospital. There they told him he had a UTI and stomach ulcers, and they gave him medications. However, as days turned into weeks, his condition worsened. The stomach pain intensified, and he began to feel increasingly sick and weak. Despite seeking medical assistance at his village hospital, the medications provided offered no relief.



**Baraka in the hospital ward  
just after surgery**

By March, additional alarming symptoms appeared. Baraka's body started to itch. The skin on his hands and feet as well as his eyes, took on a yellowish hue. These were the signs of severe medical issues. As his health continued to deteriorate, Baraka realized that it was time to seek more medical assistance.

In search of answers, Baraka made the journey from his village to Moshi Health Center in Moshi town. After a thorough examination, the doctor informed him that he exhibited symptoms consistent with yellow fever. They prescribed medications in the hopes of alleviating his condition. Unfortunately, these efforts proved unsuccessful, and his health continued to decline.

Baraka persisted in his search for a correct diagnosis and treatment. He sought help at Mawenzi Hospital, where more tests were conducted. These tests revealed a blockage in his gallbladder, a potentially life-threatening condition. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, the medical team at Mawenzi referred Baraka to specialists at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC), a Zone Referral Hospital in the region.

At KCMC, the specialists examined Baraka's test results and swiftly concluded that his condition was very serious and required urgent surgical intervention. But the costs at KCMC were high, and it would be very hard to afford without Medical Insurance.

Though Baraka had basic medical insurance, it would not cover any surgery or hospitalization. So, he sought for help from Hidden with Christ Ministries. HWCM decided to pay for his surgery and his hospitalization through REHEMA PROJECTS. Additionally, they provided transportation from his village to KCMC hospital as the distance from his village to hospital is very far and Baraka does not own a vehicle.

Baraka was understandably fearful and initially resisted the idea of surgery. However, the doctor emphasized that without the surgery, he had only six months or less to live. Baraka's wife was afraid and very worried about losing her husband. With love and encouragement, I persuaded Baraka to undergo the recommended surgery. Realizing the gravity of the situation and the need for quick action, Baraka consented to the life-saving procedure.

After a grueling but successful surgery, Baraka expressed profound thanks for the help and prayers from the Hidden with Christ Ministries team. He was acutely aware of the fact that while he was in the hospital, three other patients in the same ward, who had undergone similar surgeries, had all died. It was through the collective power of prayer and the generosity of those who contributed to REHEMA PROJECTS that Baraka emerged as a survivor.



**Baraka back to work - healthy and thankful**

Today Baraka is a happy and healthy man once more. He has returned to his job as a security guard in Moshi, supporting his loving family. Thanks to the compassionate donors to REHEMA PROJECTS, Baraka's children still have their father, his wife still has her husband, and Baraka knows he has been given a second chance to live.

Baraka's message to donors is, **"Thank you for fighting for my life!"**

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*If you have a heart of mercy and compassion for the most vulnerable members of society, you can make a donation to Hidden with Christ Ministries on our website [www.hiddenwithchrist.org](http://www.hiddenwithchrist.org) and choose **REHEMA PROJECTS** from the dropdown menu. OR we have a brand-new option - You can now donate easily by **VENMO!** Look for Hidden with Christ Ministries under "Charities" or enter our username - @HWCMIn and experience an easy way to give!*

# YOU HAVE STAYED AT THIS MOUNTAIN LONG ENOUGH

*by Rita Langeland*

**“When we were at Mount Sinai, the LORD our God said to us, ‘You have stayed at this mountain long enough. It is time to break camp and move on. Go to the hill country of the Amorites and to all the neighboring regions—the Jordan Valley, the hill country, the western foothills, the Negev, and the coastal plain. Go to the land of the Canaanites and to Lebanon, and all the way to the great Euphrates River. Look, I am giving all this land to you! Go in and occupy it, for it is the land the LORD swore to give to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and to all their descendants.’”**

Deuteronomy 1:6-8 (New Living Translation)

There are times in our lives when (if we are listening) we would hear God say to us, **“You have stayed at this mountain long enough!”** God spoke this word to the Israelites when they were in the wilderness after their great deliverance from slavery in Egypt. They had camped at Mt. Sinai for almost a year. God wanted them to keep moving toward the Promised Land. But it could not have been easy to get started. They had their children, their livestock and all that they possessed with them. Daily life (post-slavery) had become familiar and routine during that year. It had been a battle just to get that far and they were probably reluctant to face more change. Some may have felt that camping at Mt. Sinai was “good enough.” They were free from the Egyptian slave masters, and they could just stay where they were in peace. But God had much more blessing in mind for them.

For you, the “mountain” may represent a place in your life, career, or geography, about which God is nudging you to make a change. God will never force you to do His will, but He will gently urge you to lay down your will for His. You may feel that where you are right now is “good enough.” But God has a greater plan and much more blessing in store for you! Following His will is the key to unlocking those blessings. It is also important to recognize that “good enough” is the shrewd enemy of God’s perfect will.

Human nature will fight against fully surrendering “self” to God. It always wants to maintain control. Yet to walk with God in the highest level, unconditional surrender is a non-negotiable requirement. The Holy Spirit will help us make that surrender if we ask Him. The famed Welsh intercessor, Rees Howells, learned the secret of “being willing to be made willing” by the grace of God. He discovered the spiritual riches God would open to the person willing to fully surrender to God’s will. As a result, he lived an extraordinary life, seeing many miracles and being a powerful part of God’s intercessory army during a critical point in World War II history. (I encourage you to read the book **Rees Howells – Intercessor** by Norman Grubb)

## ***It is time to break camp and move on...***

The very next instruction God gave to Moses and the Israelites after telling them their time on that mountain was over, was a call to action. It consisted of two important components that you will have to embrace to obey God in your own life. The first was an instruction to “break camp.” The Israelites were literally camping on their way to the Promised Land. Breaking camp was hard work and required packing up all

that they possessed and severing any ties they had made while staying in that area. When God calls you to break camp, it will require the same sacrifices. You may have to say goodbye to family and friends you are accustomed to having nearby. It will be hard work both physically and emotionally, but God will give you the grace to do it if you are committed to do His will.

The second part of God's instruction was "MOVE ON!" This will take a faith-filled determination to walk away (physically and mentally) from your current "mountain" to follow God's leading in your life. You must be willing to leave the familiar and the comfortable to walk by faith into new and uncharted territory. You will have to valiantly resist fear of the unknown, fear of failure, and learn to trust God at a new level. But the rewards will be outstanding.

### ***Go in and occupy it...***

The final instruction God gave the Israelites would require both faith and great courage. The Lord had clearly specified what territory they were to take. They understood the meaning of "GO IN AND OCCUPY IT..." They had to believe in their hearts that God was giving them that land and then demonstrate by corresponding action that they truly believed Him. For them, the corresponding action required was a physical battle to conquer that territory. For you, it will be fighting the good fight of faith to take hold of the "territory" God has appointed for you. This may be that new job, career, school, geographic region or area of ministry.

Joshua, Moses' assistant, became the leader of the Israelites (after the death of Moses) and the one who would fulfill God's command to "Go in and occupy" the Promised Land. As he was about to embark on that enormous undertaking, the Lord gave him these words of exhortation:

***"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified or dismayed (intimidated), for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*** (Joshua 1:9 Amplified)

God knew that Joshua had to guard himself against fear and intimidation if he was to be successful. If you are going to be successful in your God given assignment – you also must fight fear with faith. Faith means you have more confidence and trust in what God has said to you than what your circumstances appear to be. It "appeared" that the Israelites could never overcome the enemies in the Promised Land – but they did! God had already planned a way to give them victory.

God has already planned for YOUR victory – but you must believe that and act accordingly! You will have to guard your words – never speak defeat (even when you feel defeated) – and you will have to take steps of faith daily to move toward the territory to which God has called you. Build up your faith by recounting every word and scripture God has given you about your new assignment. Don't allow any circumstance to intimidate you or cause you to back off. Instead, remember God's words to Joshua ... ***the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.***

I urge you to prayerfully consider whether this is a prophetic exhortation for your life. ***You have stayed on this mountain long enough...*** and God is calling you to break camp and move on.

If so, don't hesitate to obey the Lord. You don't want to end up like the thousands of Israelites who never made it to the Promised Land because they couldn't bring themselves to trust God. The Lord has already planned a way for you to have victory and occupy the new territory He has prepared for you. God is not depending on you to make it happen. The victory is dependent upon God. You must simply trust and obey.

*in every season...*



**F A I T H F U L**

*is He who  
calls you*

**and He will also  
bring it to pass**

1 Thessalonians 5:24  
NASB