

# Victory

magazine

Hidden With Christ Ministries  
May/June 2025



*Sowing in Another  
Man's Field*  
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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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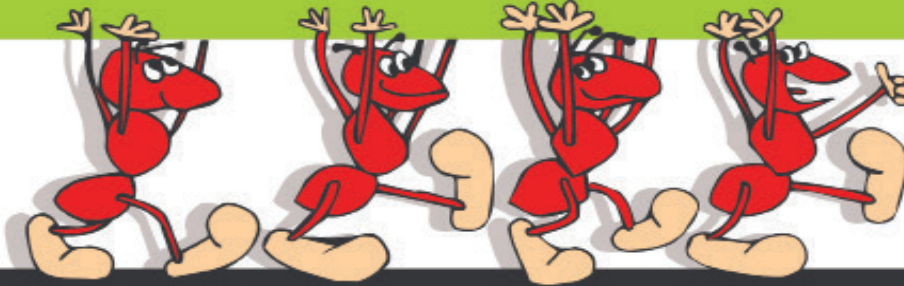
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A Parable from  
**THE SECRET LIFE OF ANTS**  
by Rita Langeland



I have never been a person who cared much for insects, except to take great pains to keep them far away from myself! But when I realized the Bible exhorts us to “Consider the ant...” to gain wisdom (Proverbs 6:6) I decided to investigate what secrets might be observed in the life of the humble ant.

If we were going to anthropomorphize the tiny creature, it would not be overstating the case to say that ants are incredibly hardworking and diligent. Proverbs 30:24-25 states that ants are “exceedingly wise,” as they store up food for the future. But one of the most interesting facts I have discovered about ants is that they can carry a load 10 to 50 times their own body weight. (equivalent to a man carrying a car on his back!) Have you ever been on a picnic and watched an ant trying to carry off a large crumb of food multiple times larger than itself? It is an amazing sight to behold!

There is a parable to be found in the secret life of ants that we can apply to our lives as believers. Israeli scientists researched ant behavior for four years<sup>1</sup> and discovered they used teamwork to carry very heavy objects. If one ant can carry 10 to 50 times their body weight, imagine what a team of ants can accomplish!

So it is with us. In our current culture, many people go about their lives determined to simply “mind their own business.” Some are reticent to share what is happening in their lives and others prefer not to get involved with the problems of others. Yet as followers of Jesus we are called to live a lifestyle that is quite the opposite of these prevalent societal attitudes. We are to help one another “carry the load” as an act of love and obedience to the Lord’s command to **“Love one another as I have loved you...”** (John 13:34)

Paul the apostle spelled it out plainly and practically in the Epistle to the Galatians writing, **“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”** (Galatians 6:2)

Not only are we to help our neighbors as they go through difficulties in life, but also to help people fulfill their personal callings from God. A word of encouragement is powerful – literally “imparting courage” to the hearer. Many successful people can point to a time in their lives when a word of encouragement made the difference between them pressing on or giving up. Years ago, when we were praying about starting an orphanage in Tanzania, we heard words of discouragement – “That is crazy – you don’t even know the language or have any money!” and words of encouragement – “You can do this! We are with you!” By the grace of God, the encouragement of fellow believers carried the day.

Find ways to bear one another’s burdens this week. And imagine what we can accomplish together – like our friends the ants – if we work together to fulfill God’s divine purposes in each of our lives!

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<sup>1</sup>“Ants Use Great Teamwork Skills, Study Finds,” The Times of Israel, July 30, 2015 (<https://www.timesofisrael.com/ants-possess-astonishing-teamwork-skills-study-finds/>)



***We Invite You to Join...***

## THE GIDEON COMPANY

***The Lord told Gideon, "With these three hundred men I will rescue you and give you victory..."***

Judges 7:7

Gideon was a simple man from the tribe of Manasseh. He lived in a difficult time in Israel's history. Enemy hordes from neighboring Midian and Amalek had begun invading the country just when the Israelites were ready to harvest their crops. They would destroy all the crops and steal all the sheep, cattle and goats. ***And they stayed until the land was stripped bare. So, Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites.*** (Judges. 6:5-6)

This terrifying series of invasions had continued for seven long years when God sent the Angel of the Lord to visit Gideon and tell him something shocking about his future. God had chosen him to lead an army that would defeat the Midianites. Gideon was fearful. He had never been a soldier and didn't consider himself capable of such a huge assignment. But God promised He would be with him. But an even bigger shock was in store for Gideon. When he summoned men from the different tribes to come to fight against Midian, 32,000 men of Israel answered the call. But the Lord told Gideon he had too many soldiers. God didn't want any person to get the glory for that victory. So, God reduced Gideon's army to 300 men. And it was through this "Company of 300" that God achieved a huge victory over a much larger opponent.

It took great faith and courage on Gideon's part to obey God and go into battle with only his "Company of 300" soldiers against an alliance of three enemy armies. As a ministry, we have often felt like Gideon's army! We have never been large, though we have undertaken some big battles over the years. And we have found that God is able to use a few as well as many to win those battles.

***...for nothing can hinder the Lord. He can win a battle whether he has many warriors or only a few!"***

1 Samuel 14:6b NLT

We have a large project looming before us, the TREASURES OF AFRICA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY, which we believe God has called us to build in Tanzania. It is a Christian High School with a leadership training emphasis and a Biblical Worldview. Orphans will receive scholarships to attend, and other students will pay school fees to cover operating expenses. The goal of this school is to prepare godly leaders for East Africa. We know that without good leadership, nations crumble. We have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars over the course of nearly 20 years on education for orphans in Tanzania. As a result, we have become very familiar with the available schools across the country. We have never found a single Secondary School (High School) which had as its mission a dedication to preparing its students to become leaders for the nation. This school will fulfill that mandate.

We are sending out a clarion call for 300 people to join our "GIDEON COMPANY" by donating \$1,500 to the TOA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY BUILDING PROJECT to enable us to begin construction of Phase 1 of this project. Will you prayerfully consider becoming part of the HWCM GIDEON COMPANY?

Phase one will be the construction of the Administration Building, which will be the hub of all activities for the school. Upon its completion, we will begin working there with the Headmaster, preparing to hire teachers and other staff and prepare the curriculum while the classrooms are being built.

If you decide to join this GIDEON COMPANY – your name will be inscribed on a shield-shaped plaque hung in a place of honor at the school, declaring the names of those whose generosity built that building for the sake of God’s children in Tanzania. Then one day, when you travel to Tanzania (perhaps for the dedication of the school?) you will find your name listed among that mighty GIDEON COMPANY.



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**PLEASE SHARE THIS INVITATION WITH ANYONE YOU FEEL MAY HAVE A HEART TO JOIN US IN BUILDING THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT!**



In a world where millions of children live in poverty, facing the harsh realities of hunger, lack of shelter, and limited access to education, the role of a child sponsor becomes a shining light of hope. Sponsoring a child is more than just a monthly donation - it is a life changing act that open doors to opportunities that once seemed unreachable. As one of the children who has benefited from the Treasures of Africa KIDZ child sponsorship program, I write this article with deep gratitude and a hopeful heart. Your sponsorship is a lifeline, a powerful act of love that transforms lives in ways words can hardly express.

When you choose to become a sponsor, you choose to become a part of a child's story – like my story. For 17 years of my life, child sponsors chose to stand in the gap for me between lack and provision, between struggle and opportunity. Because of them, I had access to education, proper nutrition, healthcare, and above all, the knowledge that someone, somewhere, believes in me.

Many children in our Tanzanian communities face challenges that can easily steal their dreams. But your support as a Child Sponsor can restore those dreams. You may never meet all of us in person, but your love reaches us every day. Child Sponsors give us more than help; they give us dignity and purpose.

To anyone considering becoming a sponsor - please know that your impact goes far beyond what you can see in a simple photograph in the Victory Magazine. You are building futures, one child at a time. You are changing generations. Sponsoring a child's education is a priceless investment. You can be the reason a child stays in school instead of being forced into the streets to search for food for the family.

You can be the wings beneath their dreams. You can help them rise through the power of education. Without child sponsorship, school can end for a child in Tanzania in the early years of Primary school, and any dream they may have had of a future career is shattered completely.

I recently went back to the village where I was born. My grandmother, who is both proud and amazed at my graduation from Mzumbe University, reminded me of a childhood friend I had known long ago. She contrasted our lives, two girls from the same village. One, who had no help to continue with education, ended up with two out-of-wedlock children from different fathers. She has no husband, no job and struggles to feed her children. But my life went in another direction completely because of child sponsorship and the Treasures of Africa Children's Home.

To those of you reading this article who are already Child Sponsors – thank you! Your continued support means the world to us. You are our heroes, our silent cheerleaders, our extended family. And because of you, we are growing up with hope in our hearts and courage in our steps. We invite you to become a vessel of love, faith, and change. Partner with Hidden with Christ Ministries and sponsor a child today!





















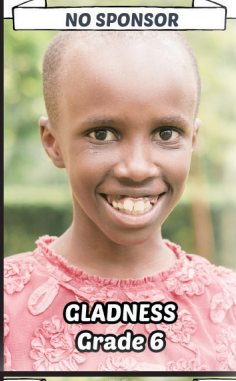









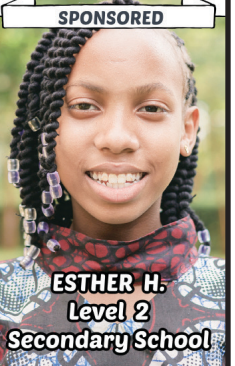
**GLORY NGOWI**













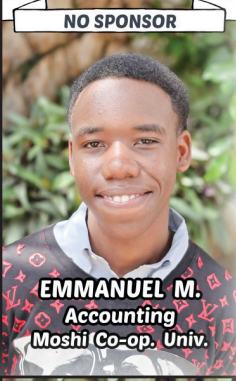

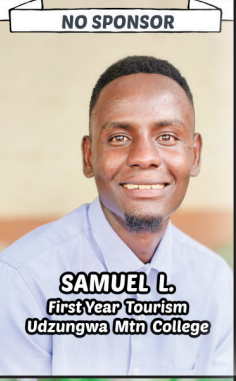






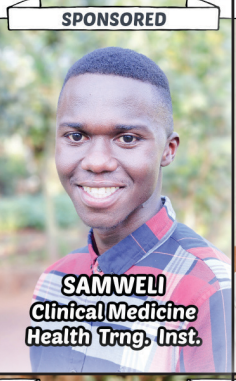








***From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for believing in us!***

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**Editor's Note:** The author of this article, Glory Ngowi, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Health Systems Management from Mzumbe University in Morogoro, Tanzania in November of 2024. She is currently interning at a hospital in Moshi, Tanzania and assists part-time in the HWC Ministries office. The four young boys in the title photo on page 5, have all been the beneficiaries of child sponsorship through the Treasures of Africa KIDZ project of Hidden with Christ Ministries through the college level. From left to right: Emmanuel and Innocent, both graduated from colleges studying Wildlife Management and Tour Operations, respectively. The next two, Benny and Raymond, were sponsored by HWC donors to study in the USA. Benny graduated with a bachelor's degree in Finance and I.T. from ORU in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Raymond is currently completing his bachelor's degree in aviation management at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia. **Child Sponsorship changed their lives forever!**

Please take a look at the beautiful faces of our TOA KIDZ on the following two pages. We have many students who need sponsorship. Find a child that you can sponsor at any level - \$30, \$50 or \$100 per month and help us continue this important and life changing work!

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# THE LOVE CHAPTER

by Dr. Marcia Chang Vogl

Most Christians are familiar with the chapter in the Bible which has been often referred to as the "love chapter." It can be found in First Corinthians chapter thirteen. It contains the familiar words, "**Love is patient, love is kind.**" But did you know that the book of Romans also has a "love chapter?"

Romans 12:9-21 is filled with clear-cut actions to be taken that will demonstrate love through our lives to others and to God.

- ◇ Love must be sincere.
- ◇ Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.
- ◇ Be devoted to one another in love.
- ◇ Honor one another above yourselves.
- ◇ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.
- ◇ Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
- ◇ Be faithful in prayer.
- ◇ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.
- ◇ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.
- ◇ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.
- ◇ Live in harmony with one another.
- ◇ Do not be proud but be willing to associate with people of low position.
- ◇ Do not be conceited.
- ◇ Do not repay anyone evil for evil.
- ◇ Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.
- ◇ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.
- ◇ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.
- ◇ Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.

Paul was writing to the Roman church whose members were mostly Gentiles, so they were not educated in the Torah or Jewish traditions. The 1 Corinthians 13 "love chapter" describes love but Romans 12 puts "feet" on love with specific actions to be taken that demonstrate love.

You cannot just think about love philosophically or make up what you think should be displayed as love to others. These are clear instructions that are not debatable. These directions were given to guide Christians in their daily lives. If we desire to demonstrate **love** in our lives and choose to line up with Romans 12:9-21, we will have few questions as to what actions are appropriate.

***Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children  
and walk in the way of love...***

Ephesians 5:1-2 NIV



# ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.  
**Forgive them anyway.**

If you are kind,  
people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.  
**Be kind anyway.**

If you are successful,  
you will win some false friends and some true enemies.  
**Succeed anyway.**

If you are honest and truthful,  
people may deceive you.  
**Be honest and truthful anyway.**

What you spend years building,  
someone could destroy overnight.  
**Build anyway.**

If you find serenity and happiness,  
others may be jealous.  
**Be happy anyway.**

The good you do today,  
people will often forget tomorrow.  
**Do good anyway.**

Give the world the best you have,  
and it may never be enough.  
**Give your best anyway.**

You see,  
in the final analysis, it is between you and God;  
it was never between you and them **anyway.**

*This poem was found hanging in the Children's Home in Calcutta, India, founded by Mother Teresa and was often attributed to her. Later, the actual author was discovered to be Kent Keith, a 19 year old college student, who wrote the poem in 1968 in pamphlet form for high school students he was mentoring in student leadership. Dr. Keith retired as the President of Pacific Rim Christian University in Honolulu, Hawaii in 2020.*

# FROM THE STREETS TO THE SERENGETI

The story of Innocent's life is one of dramatic changes. His parents died 3 years apart, leaving him and his siblings orphaned. At the time of his mother's death, Innocent was 11 years old. He, his brother and his little sister lived in a one-room mud house with no one to provide for them. Innocent soon began running the streets, searching for food and money, with no one knowing his whereabouts. A pastor who was aware of his situation, asked if Treasures of Africa would take him and his younger sister Doreen into the children's home. The welfare department agreed that the two siblings could come to TOA.

Innocent's heart was hardened through the tragedies he had experienced and the life he learned on the streets. When he first arrived at TOA he was easily angered and often pushed the smaller children around, intimidating them and even threatened to hit his teacher. The orphanage staff began to implement structure and Biblical discipline into Innocent's life. Realizing that he was now safe and loved, Innocent's attitude changed. He became a completely different child, learning to obey his elders and treat others with respect and kindness.

Innocent could not even read at the age of 12 when he came to TOA, so he was started in the 2nd grade along with his younger sister. He soon learned to read and because of the change the Lord had made in his heart, his behavior changed dramatically, and he became his teacher's helper and an example to the other children in his class. He made steady academic progress through Primary School and graduated from a well-respected Secondary School. That in itself, is a miracle, since he had once been an orphaned "street kid" and the possibility of pursuing advanced education was nil.

After spending a few years working as a driver, Innocent was ready to pursue further education and settled on the idea of studying Tour Guiding. Tourism is one of the top employment sectors in Tanzania because of the number of world class Wildlife Parks including the famed Serengeti. Innocent successfully completed coursework in Tour Guide Operations at Udzungwa Mountains College in Moshi, Tanzania. His love for the African wildlife, friendly personality, commitment to hard work, top notch driving skills and excellent command of the English language make him an excellent fit for the safari tourism industry. Pray with us for Innocent to land a job in this competitive job market.

We are so thankful to our Treasures of Africa KIDZ child sponsors who have changed Innocent's life forever – taking him from the streets to the Serengeti!



## *Kipson's Story*

# PROFESSIONAL ASPIRATIONS

In East Africa, the Maasai tribe lives suspended between two worlds. The traditional world of the Maasai culture involves a nomadic pastoral lifestyle of herding cattle. In that world, young Maasai boys are trained to become warriors and protectors of the herds and young girls are trained by their mothers to build the mud and thatch huts in which the families reside. The modern world of cell phones and motorized vehicles often intrudes into the otherwise quiet Maasai existence. Added to that "intrusion," was something the tribal traditionalists staunchly resisted for many decades - the government's requirement that Maasai children be sent to school.

It was into this world of mud huts and Maasai traditions that Kipson was born. His father had not been educated, as he was born and raised before Tanzanian law required schooling for all Maasai children. But Kipson was born into a generation in which schooling was legally mandated, at least through Primary school which ends at 7th grade.

When both of Kipson's parents died before he finished Primary School, his future looked bleak. He and his sister, Neema, were taken in by an uncle, who was struggling to provide for his own family. But through the help of generous donors to the Treasures of Africa KIDZ Project, Kipson was able to attend Secondary School. He was a bright student and had hopes of one day working in the medical field. But during the last few years of Secondary School, Kipson began to feel hopeless about his future and was contemplating quitting school and trying to find a job. He could not imagine how he would ever be able to attend college and pursue his dreams of one day becoming a medical professional.

During that dark period, a team from Hidden with Christ Ministries visited Kipson, encouraging him to remain in school and spent time praying for him. Kipson finished Secondary School and scored well enough on his National Exams to be accepted into the Kilimanjaro School of Pharmacy.

After three long years of difficult studies, Kipson graduated as one of the top students in his class. He is currently studying for his Pharmacy Board exams which will be taken in a few months. He works part-time at the Kilimanjaro Medical Center while preparing for those licensing examinations. This miraculous transformation of the Maasai boy with professional aspirations has come to pass because of the generosity of donors to the Treasures of Africa KIDZ Project.

***Child Sponsorship Changes Lives Forever!***



# Sowing Seed

## *In Another Man's Field*

BY RITA LANGELAND



When Hurricane Helene struck the state of North Carolina in September 2024, the devastation was shocking to the affected communities. People living in rural mountain areas were literally cut off from civilization because many roads and bridges were washed away by raging rivers. Nearly 1,000 families saw their homes totally destroyed, while close to 30,000 homes needed repairs to be habitable. Because the wheels of bureaucracy turn slowly, government assistance was slow in arriving. By December, many were still homeless and more desperate for help than the day the hurricane hit.

It was then that a group of 60 Amish craftsmen from Pennsylvania traveled to Boone, North Carolina just before Christmas, to build 12 “tiny houses” for families displaced by the hurricane. Famed for their community barn raisings accomplished in a single day, these skilled builders completed the construction of the 12 homes in less than 48 hours. The women and children who accompanied them, cooked and served meals to the Boone community while the men worked tirelessly. The entire project cost close to \$300,000 and the money came solely from the Amish community in Pennsylvania.

This true story is a perfect example of what I like to call “sowing in another man’s field.” These Amish Christians believe in helping their neighbors in a time of need. They poured time, money and effort into the “fields” of people they did not know and had never met before. Their giving was not to help relatives or friends, but complete strangers they would most likely never meet again. It could be said that they would never personally reap any benefit from what they did for their neighbors in North Carolina. But the Bible tells us a different story. In the Word of God we can discover that the Lord both watches our sowing into the lives of others, and He repays.

### **God Watches and Responds**

Unlike deists – who believe in a supreme being that does not intervene in the affairs of men – as Biblical Christians, we know from God’s Word that the Lord is not an aloof observer of mankind. Instead, the Bible clearly states that God watches and responds to the actions of the human race. Proverbs 15:3 states –

***The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.***

In the book of Second Chronicles 16:9 we find that after God watches people’s actions, He responds.

***For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth,  
to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him.***

God is also very aware of those who are generous to the poor and considers such action to be a “personal loan” to Him. And you can be sure that God repays ALL of His loans as this verse declares.

***He who is gracious and lends a hand to the poor, lends to the Lord,  
And the Lord will repay him for his good deed.***

Proverbs 19:17 Amplified Bible

In addition, we find that God promises five specific blessings to the person who is kind to the poor.

*Blessed is the one who is considerate of the destitute;  
the Lord will deliver him when the times are evil.  
The Lord will protect him and keep him alive;  
he will be blessed in the land;  
and he will not be handed over to the desires of his enemies.  
The Lord will uphold him even on his sickbed;  
You will transform his bed of illness into health.*  
Psalm 41:1-3 ISV

When you sow generosity into another person's field (or life) especially someone who can never repay you for your kindness, you place yourself in a position to which God has obligated Himself to respond. And we know from the scriptures that God cannot lie!

*God is not like people. He tells no lies.  
He is not like humans. He doesn't change his mind.  
When He says something, He does it. When He makes a promise, He keeps it!*  
Numbers 23:19 GWT

### **Sowing Requires Intentionality**

Throughout the Bible there are many references to sowing and reaping used to illustrate both natural and spiritual principles. Jesus told a story in the Gospel of Matthew that begins, "**Behold, a sower went out to sow.**" In those few words we can ascertain that sowing must be an intentional action. That sower had a plan and purpose when he went out to sow seed that day.

Having had the privilege of overseeing a ministry for nearly 25 years, I have observed amazing intentionality in sowing by generous givers to Hidden with Christ Ministries. Like those Amish builders in the story above, they were not giving donations to bless their own families, children or grandchildren, but instead they were sowing in someone else's field. They would never reap benefits in Africa for the gifts they sowed there – but God stands ready to repay the "loan" He received through their gifts to the poor, the widow and the orphan.

I want to encourage you to be someone who does not fear sowing into someone else's field, or worry about not getting a return on your charitable investment. God is faithful to His promises and will bless you in multiple ways for being kind and generous to the destitute (Psalm 41:1-3) and will repay you for your good deeds. (Proverbs 19:17) You may not see the harvest this year or next, but you can be certain - it will come.

***A man's harvest in life will depend entirely on what he sows.***  
Galatians 6:7b (The New Testament in Modern English)





*Great*  
**is His faithfulness...**  
*His mercies*  
**begin afresh**  
*each morning!*

LAMENTATIONS 3:23 NLT