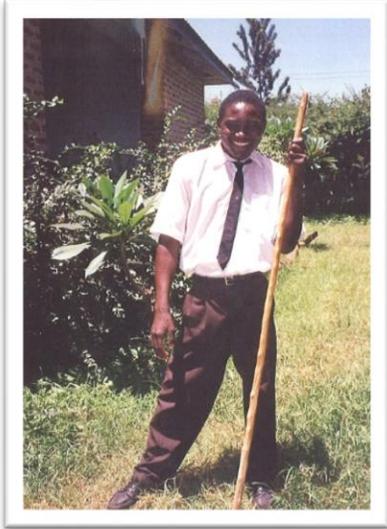


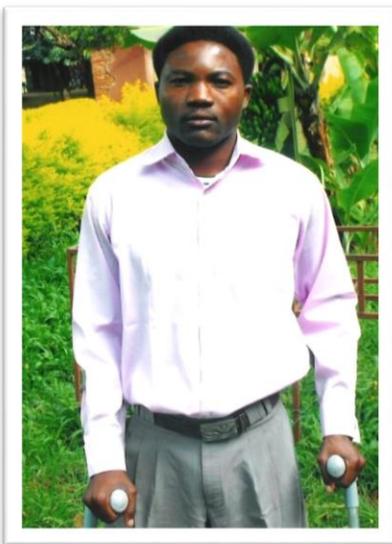
JOACHIM NAHUMU

We have so many stories of how sponsorship has changed lives. Meet Joachim Nahumu. As a young child, he contracted polio, and it left him crippled for life. A local Children of Promise committee in Tanzania, East Africa, noticed him. They saw potential in him, despite his disability. He dreamed of going to school, but walking was difficult and he lived several miles from school.



Once he was sponsored, HOPE soared within him, and he began walking the several miles to school using two tree branches as make-shift crutches because his family could not afford anything better for him. Every step was painful and difficult, but he was determined to learn. He was hungry for knowledge. HOPE was born in him because the Truth Seekers Sunday School Class at East University Church of God in Mesa, Arizona, came alongside him and promised to see him through. This set him on a path that has propelled his life in such a positive and different direction.

Children of Promise was able to secure regular walking crutches suitable for him, and his walk became easier, although still challenging. Joachim worked extremely hard, walking down the road step-by-step every day through elementary school, and then he graduated from Aldersgate Secondary School, the Church of God High School in Babati, one of the top schools in the state.



Joachim went on to university, and today he works as the technology coordinator and instructor for the very school that nurtured and educated him. He not only teaches the technology courses, but he oversees and maintains all the computer systems in the primary and secondary schools. What a role model he is to the sponsored children he teaches. While he could have gone a number of places for a good job with his training, he chose to return and give his time and skill to the children who are just like he was – poor, underprivileged, and without hope. He believes this is God's calling for him.

He knows what sponsorship can do for a child – he is living proof. Here he is in his classroom at Aldersgate. He

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cannot stand at the chalkboard unassisted, so he prepares everything on PowerPoint and projects it for his students.

He is married; he and his wife have a young child. We are so proud of Joachim and so grateful for the Arizona-based Sunday School class sponsors and the local church



committee in Tanzania who stopped to notice and help a small boy facing tremendous odds.

Joachim's story shows the power of HOPE in the life of a child whose life seemed to offer little or no opportunity. But a group of people noticed him, they believed in him. A sponsor committed to him, walked with him, supported him, and loved him.

And today, he is a successful educator, leader, husband, and Christian. Joachim's story could have been a very sad, despairing story. But it wasn't.....because..... This is what LOVE DOES. It notices. It encourages. It supports. It nourishes HOPE. And it makes all the difference.



Captions

Front top: A happy young man, Joachim learns he was sponsored through Children of Promise. Front bottom: Joachim receives his first pair of walking canes through COP. Top: Joachim in his classroom at Aldersgate Education Center in Babati, Tanzania. Bottom: In a site visit to Tanzania, Paul Maxfield, Executive Director of COP, visits with Joachim on the grounds of Aldersgate Education Center.