

January 2017

3 GREAT SECTIONS

Helpful for you - Scam Alert!
Giving Advocates that change lives
Children of Promise, a story within the story

Kirk Bookout, Development Director
dkb@echildrenofpromise.org



ABOUT YOU — SCAM ALERT!



"THIS IS THE IRS AND WE HAVE A WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST IF YOU DO NOT PAY IMMEDIATELY."

A few months ago, I received an urgent sounding phone call from a very serious man with a voice of authority saying something close to the quote above. He sounded absolutely official. He commanded me to rush to the store, buy a prepaid credit card and give the information to them. If I did not act, I could be arrested and face 10 to 15 years of prison food! Yikes! You (I hope) know it was a scam. But read on -- you may know people who can be intimidated or are confused in life - help these people who need you!

THIS IS DIRECTLY OFF OF THE USA GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IRS SITE: (I condensed it a bit) The IRS warns taxpayers not to be fooled by the tricks scammers use to take advantage of those they target. Scammers use fake names, provide bogus IRS badge numbers, and alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS is calling. Everyone should be on the lookout for threatening calls from people faking IRS phone numbers and demands for "immediate payment," IRS Commissioner John Koskinen said. "These are scams. I urge taxpayers to stay vigilant and remain aware of the constantly changing tactics used by these criminals." Scam artists threaten police arrest, deportation, license revocation and other threats. They often leave "urgent" callback requests and sometimes prey on the most vulnerable people, such as the elderly, newly arrived immigrants, and those whose first language is not English. Scammers have been known to impersonate agents from IRS Criminal Investigation as well. Here are five things the scammers often do but the IRS will not do.

The IRS will NOT: *Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill. *Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe. *Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card. *Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone. *Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

ABOUT GIVING — Some Great Ideas You Should Know About!

WE NEED ADVOCATES! WE HAVE RESOURCES FOR GREAT CHURCH PROJECTS.

So much is going on in so many churches. Faith Promise, mission budgets, VBS projects, Christmas projects, and more. **Will you consider being an advocate for Children of Promise in your church?** Here are some resources that may help!

KIDS 4 KIDS - This is a series of five activity lessons to use with children. It is great for VBS Sunday School, or Christmas. Each lesson has an activity and a story about a Children of Promise child. Teaching children the joy of making a difference is important, and you can do it while you make a difference. **Click the KIDS4KIDS button at the bottom of this article to download the material.**

SPECIAL PROJECTS - Contact Children of Promise for an idea for a special project. **Right now our biggest need is for groups and individuals to buy mosquito nets.** Malaria is the number one killer of children in Sub-Saharan Africa. These nets are the most

Continued on page 2

ABOUT GIVING — continued from page 1

effective way to prevent malaria. Often four can sleep under a net. Cost varies from country to country but they average about \$10. (Call us if you want to help a specific country, and we will give you the price of a net in that country.) It's a GREAT special project that saves lives.

FAITH PROMISE AND CHURCH BUDGET - Your church reaches beyond their walls, and around the world. Does Children of Promise help you meet your church vision? Children of Promise is incredibly effective, accountable, and we change children's lives every day with hope for a far better future. Use Children of Promise as part of your world-wide vision!

HAVE A CHILDREN OF PROMISE FREEDOM SUNDAY—Children can be set free to a whole new path in life. (Read the story below!) Some studies show child sponsorship is the best way to protect children from human trafficking. Some of the best stories are stories that never happen, stories of children who are protected and flourish. Children are surrounded by an encouraging, supportive, and protective church community. It can make all the difference!

SPEAKERS - As schedule permits, we would love to come to your church to speak. Large or small -- we want to come.



Contact us. We are happy to help.

765.648.2190

Dr. Paul Maxfield, Executive Director

plm@childrenofpromise.org 648.2111

Kirk Bookout, Development Director

dkb@childrenofpromise.org 648.2114

Stacy Bowen, Office Assoc. / Promo. Asst.

smb@childrenofpromise.org 642190

Danielle Brossart, Technology Associate

dsb@childrenofpromise.org 648.2155

Vicky Creamer, Sponsorship Associate

vrc@childrenofpromise.org 648.2206

Debbie Evans, Accounting Associate

dle@childrenofpromise.org 648.2119

Marcia Lund, Office Associate

lem@childrenofpromise.org 608.3014

Linda Mason, Assistant Director

ljm@childrenofpromise.org 648.2139

Courtney Rice, Executive Assistant

cir@childrenofpromise.org 648.2163

Carole Wheeler, Child Correspondence

chw@childrenofpromise.org 648.2127

Web: www.childrenofpromise.org

Facebook: [Children of Promise, Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/ChildrenofPromiseInc)

Twitter: [@COPSponsorship](https://twitter.com/COPSponsorship)

**DO YOU WISH TO CONTINUE
YOUR LOVE OF CHILDREN OF
PROMISE AND ITS MINISTRY
THROUGH YOUR WILL?**

Consider remembering Children
of Promise in your estate plan!

Information to give to your
attorney:

CHILDREN OF PROMISE, INC
PO BOX 2316, ANDERSON,
IN 46018

EIN (FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION
NUMBER) 36-4490602

ABOUT CHILDREN OF PROMISE—The Story Within the Story

We received an email from a child who was sponsored by First Church of God in Oak Grove, LA. Jonathan Williams is pastor.



William Komba was sponsored by the Oak Grove Church. William was like many children in our Tanzanian program.

He was an orphan, who lived with relatives in a one room house, needing nourishing food, and no hope of breaking out of poverty.

Now, years later, his email came saying, "Thank you, Children of Promise" as he shared his story. The letter was heartwarming and inspiring.

He started by saying it was his desire to work with Children of Promise as a volunteer. Because of the sponsorship of the Oak Grove Church, William graduated from secondary school and was able to move on his own to a secondary education. He has a degree now in education.

He moved to a particular region of Tanzania to find a job teaching so he could help support his grandparents. He knows what life can be like, to be trapped with no real way out. So he also began working with street children as a volunteer.

He hosts his own radio show about education issues called, "Back to School". (Picture above) He believes that if you want to change the world, "Education along with God is the only weapon."

But he wanted to do more—he has personally supported some street children so they could go to school. One is now in a private school studying to become a doctor.

One sponsor, one child's life is changed, but who knows how many more lives will be changed by this young man? As the old saying says, "Anyone can count the seeds in an apple, only God can count the apples in the seed!" We change lives, but who knows how many lives can and will be touched by the seeds you plant through the child you sponsor?

Thank you, Oak Grove.