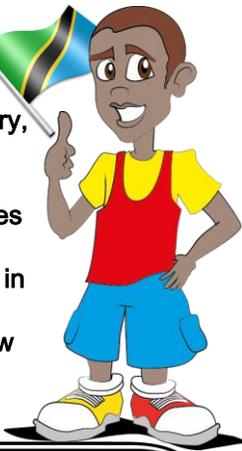


My name is George and I come from Tanzania. In my country, many children have to live on the streets. To survive, they sometimes have to do things that are illegal. They dress in rags, and are sick and undernourished. I know because I was one of them.



There are ten of us in my family and we lived in a shack. We were very poor and so after third grade I couldn't go to school anymore. I worked as a shepherd, but when I was 9 years old, I left home. I was desperate and cried a lot because I was so alone. I asked God not to abandon me and my family. I got on a train going to the capital city. I travelled for two days without having anything to eat. I hid under the seats because I didn't have money to pay for a ticket. The police caught me and beat me. I was exhausted and without hope. That's how I started my life on the streets, where I experienced many kinds of pain and humiliation.

I always had the hope that one day I could go back to school. Then one day, while I was looking through a garbage can for some food, I heard someone talking about the «Dogodogo Center» that was taking care of children who lived on the streets. I went there and they took me in. I found a family of 160 children like me. We belong to different religions but we are united in wanting to start a new life. I began going to school again and made up for the years I had missed. I want to become a lawyer so that I can work for the rights of children. I am very happy to tell everyone in the world that love always wins out!



MT. 7:12

WORD OF LIFE

«IN EVERYTHING DO TO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO TO YOU; FOR THIS IS THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS»

Did you ever feel the longing for something infinite?

Did you ever feel dissatisfied about who you are or what you are doing?

If your answer is yes, you will be happy to know that there is a secret that will fill your heart completely.

This Word of Life from the Gospel makes us reflect on how we behave toward others.

It's a universal law found in all religions and written in the heart of every person on earth.



GOLDEN RULE

Everyone we meet during the day, whether they are nice or not, young or old, a friend or an enemy, is someone to be loved as ourselves!

Let's imagine that we are in their situation and let's treat them as we would like to be treated.

A voice in our heart will suggest to us what we should do and what we should say in each moment and in every situation.

Is someone hungry? Then I'm hungry, too. I'll find a way to give them something to eat.

Is someone sad or discouraged? I am, too. I'll try to share their pain and think of some way to comfort them.

Is someone in a difficult situation? I'll try to feel their problems as if they were my own.

This is certainly not the way we usually think or act, but let's do it! Let's be courageous in loving others!

This is the secret that will help us to fulfill ourselves and find the happiness we are looking for.

We will find it hard at times to keep on loving, and we might feel like giving up but let's keep going always starting over again! The world around us will slowly start to change.

Let's try to do it from now on starting with whoever is closest to us in every present moment.

One day lived like this is worth a lifetime!

We will see that living the Gospel gives color to our whole life and gives light to the world around us.