



Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!

"The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone" Psalm 118:22

A prayer letter from Dan and Patty Schmelzer, Kisumu, Kenya

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The number of
street boys
reconciled with
family by
Capstone
Ministries since
2005

585

Rescued to date
(5 were rescued in Oct)



Check out Capstone
on Facebook.



Capstone Ministries is an RSO of the LC-
MS (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

"Sola Scriptura"

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
II Timothy 3:16,17

It was April, 1521 and Martin Luther had been called to defend his teaching and writings at an assembly called a Diet in the town of Worms, Germany. He stood before the ruler of the Holy Roman Empire, Charles V. The question was put to him by Johann von Eck, "Martin Luther, will you recant your writings and teachings?" Luther replied, "Unless I am convinced by Scripture that I am in error, I cannot and will not recant. My conscience is captive to the Word of God. Here I stand, God help me."

It is a moving scene. In the weeks and months that followed, Luther is found in seclusion in the Wartburg Castle, protected by Duke Frederick of Saxony. There he translated the entire Bible from the original languages into German. Luther's preaching and writing sparked the Protestant Reformation. Every Protestant church around the world can trace their spiritual roots to that moment in time when Luther stood on the Word of God and risked his life. Many of you just celebrated the 503 Anniversary of the Reformation just a few weeks ago.

Capstone Ministries is founded on the truths that flowed from Luther's work, specifically the three-fold emphasis in Latin: "Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide." (Scripture alone, Grace alone, Faith alone)



(Cont. p. 2 left column)

While all three are of equal importance, it is the first “Sola” from which the other two flow. Scripture tells us about the grace of God and it is Scripture that enlightens our hearts to believe. We say with Luther, “*Our conscience is captive to the Word of God.*” It is the Word which empowers change in the heart and it is therefore the Word which is the foundation of the ministry.

One of the visible features of this emphasis on the Word is the ongoing meeting of 13 small group Bible studies led by Pastor Isaiah and Pastor Zadok. They each meet once a month and the focus is the Word of God. The Word is the primary focus and from the first meeting of each group, it is mentioned to all that the intention of the gathering is not



money or income-generating projects but rather the spiritual development of families. Those parents/guardians with whom a street boy/girl has been reconciled are invited to the Bible Class group. It is this common experience that creates a natural bond in the group and allows all the freedom to discuss the challenges they face in the ongoing process of reconciliation.



Your support of Capstone Ministries enables Capstone staff to rescue children from the street and implement Word based programs like the Bible Study Groups. God bless you for your support.

Prayers for Patty

Patty continues to recover and receive treatment for ITP in California. She has maintained a consistent “sweet spot” platelet count now for a several months. She continues to be treated with Promacta which stimulates her body to maintain a normal platelet count. We ask for your prayers for the coming months as her hematologist plans to begin reducing her meds in Jan.

Green Hearts and Hands update

This program which empowered families to start a kitchen garden provided seeds and fertilizer for a select group of families has begun to bear fruit. We presented this program to you in a newsletter several months ago when it began. It was designed with several objectives: to encourage the boys at home to remain productively active while sheltering at home and away from their normal school routine, to provide a ready food source for those families especially hard hit by the pandemic, and in some cases a small income by selling the excess vegetables in the nearby market. Below is one example of a boy who took this opportunity seriously. He proudly displays a portion of his bumper crop.

