



# Capstone Ministries



Restoring Children! Strengthening Families!

**“The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone” Psalm 118:22**

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Capstone Ministries is an RSO (Recognized Service Organization) of LC-MS (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.)



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The number of street boys reconciled with family by Capstone Ministries to date:

# 580

5 went home in Sept.

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## “A Problem of Pronouns”

*“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.”*

Judges 17:6

Where does your sense of right and wrong come from? How do you know—for example—that it is wrong to shoplift from the grocery store? Some would maintain that in a civil society, we have established norms for personal conduct that establish the common good. And certainly it is true that the concept of law and order has deep roots in our society. Federal law, state, county and municipal regulations strive to control behavior with a system of judicial law and regulation.

We are living in times where some have simply ignored a sense of common decency regarding personal behavior. It has been reasoned by some that a higher ideal rationalizes rioting, looting and a disregard for law and order.

As Christians, we recognize that individual moral behavior is rooted ultimately in the revealed will of God. From creation God established boundaries. *“You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”* Genesis 2:17 Divine guidelines for behavior and consequence clearly stated!

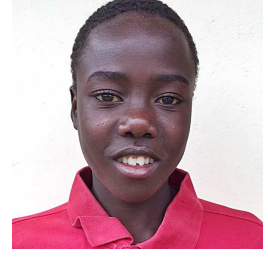
Throughout history, God continued to reveal his will. The many facets of the covenant God made with the Israelites on Mount Sinai demonstrated that the Lord was creating boundaries within which he would bring salvation through his Son Jesus.

But mankind has not always been willing to comply! The prison population is a testament to man’s fallen perspective on law and order. The root cause of moral decay in our society can be described as a “Problem of Pronouns.” “I don’t care about YOU or HIM or THEM; I only care about ME!”

This individual and selfish perspective on morality is nothing new. When Israel had been living in the promised land for about as long as the United States has existed, the writer of the book of Judges observed: *“In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.”* Other translations put the Hebrew expression more bluntly: *“everyone did whatever was right in their own eyes.”*

## Rescues in September

Five boys were rescued during September. Pray they remain at home and stay safe.. They are pictured below. They are: Samson, Imbaya, Collins, Felix, Frederick. God bless you for your support of Capstone Ministries.



Does it sound like the author of judges could be describing 21<sup>st</sup> Century America? Quite frankly, that expression describes what happens in the heart of man each time we disregard the will of God and do what WE want. Humanity suffers from a Problem of Pronouns. Fortunately for us, Jesus did not have the same problem. When faced with the temptation to choose his own comfort, safety and security, He told his Father, “Not MY will but YOURS be done.” Jesus got the pronouns right and we are blessed because of it. YOUR sins and MINE are laid on HIM and WE are forgiven!

Street children run away from home because of a Problem of Pronouns. Almost 100% of the time, someone acted selfishly chose I and ME over YOU and THEM. Reconciliation is the process of restoring the I and YOU in a family. It is tremendously easy and complicated at the same time. It means someone must own up to the problem of ME. “*I was wrong. Please forgive ME,*” are the simplest of words. But they are often the toughest words to say when YOU have been wrong. Reconciliation begins when they are said.

Over the past 15 years, Capstone has been working in Kenya to solve the Problem of Pronouns in relationships between children separated from home. We praise God that there is a King in Capstone and His name is Jesus!

God bless you for your ongoing support of Capstone Ministries.

### Dan and Patty’s 2020 Summer Travel Schedule and Temporary Relocation

Dan and Patty have postponed in person visits to churches for 2020. They will resume (God willing) in 2021.

They will continue to monitor the COVID situation before returning to Kenya. In the meantime they will manage Capstone from the US.

#### Donation: Capstone Ministries & Dan and Patty support

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