



Restored

Street children struggle to survive. Still in their infancy - already left on their own - they have been robbed of their childhood. They are looked at with disdain by passers-by and often pushed away as worthless - they have been robbed of their dignity. Often street children do not even have a birth certificate with their name and date of birth - they have been robbed of their identity.

Mefi-Bosheth grew up as the son of Jonathan and thus grandson of King Saul, when he too lost everything at the age of five. His grandfather King Saul and also his father Jonathan were killed in the war. From a life in the king's court to a life on the run. It was common at that time for the new royal family to have all the family members of the old royal family killed in order to secure the throne. So Mefi-Bosheth now lived in Lodabar, dependent on the help of others, because on the run Mefi-Bosheth had injured both of his legs and could no longer walk. Mefi-Bosheth lost his inheritance as the king's grandson, he lost his identity as part of the royal family, he lost hope and meaning in life. Many street children find themselves in a similarly hopeless situation. But an encounter with the king brought change to Mefi-Bosheth's life.

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“David encouraged him, "You need not be afraid. Your father Jonathan was my best friend, and I want to do something good for you, his son. I will now give you back all the fields that belonged to your grandfather Saul. Also, I want you to eat at my table every day as my guest."

2 Samuel 9:7

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King David brought restoration to the life of Mefi-Bosheth. His inheritance was restored to him and he was invited to the king's table.

An encounter with the King that changed everything. This is also our desire at CFAI, that street children who have been deprived in so many ways may experience restoration through an encounter with the King of Kings.

God invites every street child to live an abundant life at the King's Table. But see for yourself in this newsletter how for street children, restoration and change become a reality.

Manuel Stumpf
CFAI Cebu



NEW AT THE FARM



Ryan has been in the boys' home at CFAI for several years. But time and again, he has been drawn back to the streets. Several times he ran away from the children's home, but then came back to CFAI hungry and ragged after a few days. He was repeatedly violent and the scars of life on the streets are clearly visible. We offered him a place at the CFAI farm. He has been there for several months now and has made incredibly valuable steps in his life. He is able to put all of his energy to good use there and he loves growing his own vegetables. We are grateful for the staff who have taken him in at the farm and are caring for him so lovingly. We are excited to see what God has in store for him in the future.

New School Year

September is also the start of the new school year in the Philippines now. In addition to our own children and young people from the children's homes, we are also able to offer a school slot to over 40 street children through the Family Center at the Nehemiah School of Opportunities. They are picked up by our staff in the morning and brought back home in the afternoon. This gives our teachers and staff a lot of time to invest in the children's lives beyond their academic needs. With a school sponsorship you can finance a school slot for a child for 30€ per month. More information is available on the website or by inquiry at the CFAI office.



Reason for gratitude

This year, too, there were many reasons for gratitude. A total of 50 children were able to celebrate graduation from High School or the jump to a secondary school.

- 9 children graduated from kindergarten
- 9 children graduated from elementary school
- 3 have graduated from secondary school
- 6 have graduated from high school
- 3 have finished their studies



We are especially pleased with the first class of our Alternative School Graduation from our first Family Center. This is a partnership with the Ministry of Education where individuals who are no longer of school age can pursue a high school diploma. Most of the older youth and young adults living on the streets (often the parents of street children) do not have a high school diploma, which deprives them of any chance of finding a job. **Now, 20 young mothers, fathers and teenagers have passed their alternative school diploma and have been placed in a job.** During these 10 months they are doing a parallel faith class (Alpha) with us. We are happy about their graduation, but even more about every life that has been settled with God.

SUMMER GO-CAMP

From July 31 to August 12, CFAI was once again able to host the long-awaited Summer GoCamp. The first week was on the CFAI grounds, where the 250+ participants were able to use our newly renovated multi-purpose hall for the first time. This year the focus was on how we as Christians can stand with a pure heart in a world full of compromise. Social media is all about outward appearance, but God looks at the heart. We want to encourage the younger generation to not make foul compromises and to guard the heart. After the participants were equipped in the first week, all 250 people went on various evangelistic outreaches in the north of the Island of Cebu in the second week. Divided into three teams, several thousand people were reached in a total of 12 locations. The children and staff shared their personal

experiences in life and how they found new hope in God for their lives. It is amazing to see the spiritual maturity and courage with which even the younger children approach strangers, tell them about God and pray for them. Many people were deeply touched by the testimonies of our children and wanted to learn more about this God who changes lives. All outreaches took place together with local churches, in which the people reached were invited.

A special event this year was the arrival of a team from Germany who visited CFAI with 20 young people for 3 weeks. They were part of the camp and then did other evangelistic outreaches - working on the CFAI farm, helping in the feeding program and also outreaches to small remote islands.



ZEUGNISSE VOM CAMP

"My family is Catholic. So, I too have always been to Mass and other Catholic events. But what I experienced in the last few days at the Camp was something I had never felt before. It seemed as if every sermon or devotion was directly meant just for me. Especially when Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well, it was as if God was speaking directly to me (since something similar happened to me and I have felt hurt and worthless ever since). If that was God speaking to me, then I definitely need to get to know Him more."

*25 years old Camp participant.



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I was deeply touched by what these children have gone through in their lives, yet they can stand before us so fulfilled and tell us about their life with God - I have never experienced that in my life. It was a great encouragement.

*Senior of a mountain village where CFAI was on outreach.



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Since we had a lot of new kids and staff with us at the Summer Go-Camp this year, it was also a real chance to let all of them share in our faith in Jesus Christ. And so, on the last day of our Camp, 14 young people were baptized as a sign of their seriousness in following Jesus.

From a house destroyed *To a life with Jesus*

In the devastating typhoon of 2013, his family lost everything they owned. Erson was 15 years old at the time and lived with his family on a small island where over 80% of all the houses were completely destroyed. All of his family survived, but life after the typhoon was a struggle for survival. Finding water, food and rebuilding the house was a big challenge. CFAI sent a team to this island for reconstruction and disaster relief. In addition to rebuilding over 1000 homes and huts, we were especially concerned about giving people new hope, so CFAI started several house cellgroups with the people. It was at one of these house cellgroups that Erson came to faith in Christ. He was one of those who was later invited to our summer camp and there he was baptized. Today, 10 years later, we met him again - when he applied for a job at CFAI.

After he came to faith through the CFAI house cellgroups in the rebuilding phase of the houses, he made up his mind to finish his studies in order to work for CFAI afterwards. And he kept his promise. Now he has completed his teacher training and has applied to our Family Centers and has been a huge asset to our team in our new Family Center since June 2023.



NEW IMS STARTS

This year, five Germans and four Filipinos will participate in the International Ministry School from September 2023 to March 2024. Through spiritual teaching sessions and practical experience through involvement and various internships in mission and church ministries, participants will have the opportunity to grow into capable workers and leaders in the Kingdom of God - as well as take next steps in their own calling process.

Filipino Team in Germany, Switzerland and Austria

Last June & July a team of CFAI with 7 young people and three staff members visited Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Through dance and presentations, they shared in various churches about their lives on the streets and how they experienced restoration and hope through God.

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