

NONE OF US WANT TO BELIEVE IT! BUT ITS STILL HAPPENING IN OUR WORLD
TODAY...CHILD SLAVERY!

How can this be allowed in modern times, you say? Well, Kojo's story will share the sad details. Read about it..

Dear Fellow Christian,

Kojo* was first spotted along with several other children fishing in a lagoon in Ghana, in early 2012. This village, as well as others nearby, was prone to trafficking children toward Lake Volta as child slaves. Normally, the children should have been in school.

What's wrong with fishing, you might ask? Well, after the creation of the world's largest man-made lake in the 1960's, Lake Volta, tilapia was introduced to the region. Many fishermen from the ocean decided to relocate to the calm lake waters, which covered roughly 3,200 square miles of forest and bush areas.

Sometimes fishermen's nets would get stuck on hidden trees and brush under the lake's surface, so the men decided that the tiny fingers of young nephews or boys from the coastal communities would provide help for this predicament. The children's families sent the boys with the fishermen thinking it was an opportunity.

But fishing on the lake was not intended for small children. Many of the boys did not know how to swim and would drown in the lake trying to remove the tangled nets. Many were malnourished as well as being worked long, hard hours.

This is how Kojo was spotted by the City of Refuge Ministries' (CORM) staff. We noticed that Kojo's body was covered in sores and rashes from being in the lagoon all day, his stomach was distended, and his hair was orange, a sign of malnourishment. This told the story of abuse, neglect, being overworked and not permitted to go to school.

Pastor Johnbull of the City of Refuge Ministries, was able to locate the woman Kojo was working for. He asked her to stop sending Kojo to the lagoon to fish, and enroll him in the local government school. She was not happy about being confronted, but reluctantly agreed.

Returning to the village a few weeks later, it was discovered Kojo was still in the same situation. Because the City of Refuge Ministries' team had made the local police and social welfare staff aware of the problem, they were able to remove Kojo, and **the City of Refuge Ministries became Kojo's new home.**

Fast forward nine years. Kojo is now a remarkable young man with the mind of an electrical engineer. Last year, he completed ninth grade at Faith Roots International Academy and is preparing to enter technical school in a nearby community. *Not his real name.

But there are still thousands of children who are trafficked within Ghana's borders. Today, by the Grace of God, we have founded the City of Refuge Ministries Children's Village in Doryuma, Ghana, where kids who have been orphaned, abandoned and rescued from slavery can **call home**.

The City of Refuge Ministries is working not only to rescue children out of child slavery, but also to prevent children from being sold. Our belief is that if we can empower single mothers economically and educationally, they will no longer be vulnerable to selling their children.

We need your help! **YOU** can help CORM change a child's situation in Ghana! By returning the enclosed envelope with your donation of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more, you can help to educate the children. BUT please consider this **special** request! Our goal is to make an even bigger impact by raising **\$168,000 ASAP!**

- \$30,000 toward **University Scholarships** for university students
- \$120,000 toward monthly **operational costs** of providing children with a quality education, food, shelter, medical needs, and keeping families together through their CORE program, family assistance programs and micro loans
- \$18,000 towards the **upkeep of CORM**, school buses, building maintenance, and more

Please help us reach this much needed goal by year-end! Your donation, no matter how small or large, will help make this dream a reality!! *Please donate today by sending the enclosed envelope, or go to our website!*



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Blessings,

John Bull and Stacy Omorefe

P.S. Watch this YouTube video about children slaves by International Justice Mission, called **The Deep Place**, nominated for a 2018 Webby Award. You'll see EXACTLY why your donation matters!

P.P.S. And kindly fill out that envelope today! Your heart will know you did the right thing by answering God's call to help.