

K@Ch Family Prayer...

- Read the story below of 10 year old Julius and how he loves Psalm 23. Then pray for him. Pray also for Lawi – our K@Ch Sponsor Child. If you can, give some money to support him, as you would if you were at Church.

<https://www.compassionuk.org/blogs/psalm-23/> From Compassion.

Psalm 23: The Lord is My Shepherd



A homeless boy, Psalm 23 and Compassion

Psalm 23 is one of the most heartening psalms in times of difficulty.

When 10-year-old Julius' world fell apart, the words of this psalm became a lifeline to him.

His story of survival in west Kenya is raw and shows how compassion for others and prayer has the power to change lives forever.

After the sudden death of his mum, Julius was left homeless. As a vulnerable child, he was forced to live on the bustling streets of Luanda. Every day he would spend hours rummaging through rubbish heaps for scraps left by the local hotels.

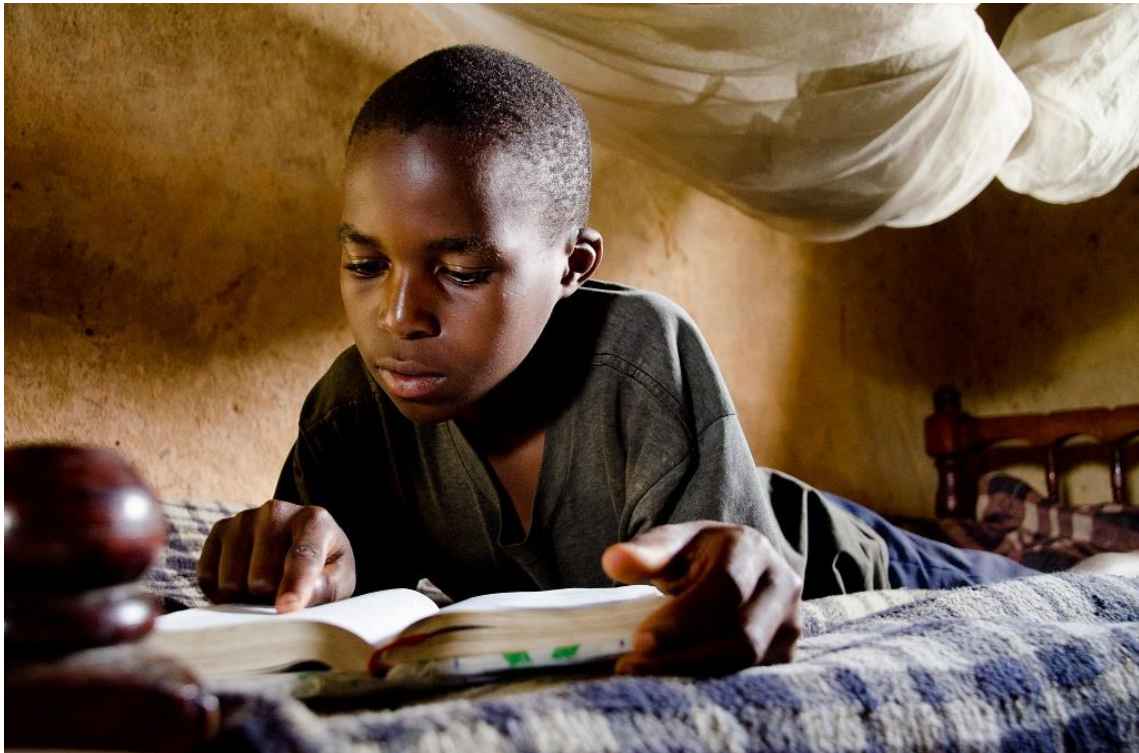
Terrified by the reality of street life, Julius was eventually persuaded to return to live with his elderly grandma.

But tragedy struck again.

"As I walk through the valley of the shadow of death"

Julius had only been in safety for a couple of weeks when his grandmother's health deteriorated and Julius became her sole carer. His days were filled with chores including travelling to the nearest river to wash her clothes and bedsheets.

Julius can clearly remember the moment his grandma's eyes stopped moving. He called out to her, "Dani (grandmother), Dani, are you ok?". But there was no answer, he told us.



In the middle of his struggle, Julius clung on to the words of Psalm 23. Every night he would lie on his bed and meditate on the psalm in his Good News Bible. Julius was comforted by the promise that God was with him through his valley of pain and grief. And whatever valley you're going through, God can comfort you too.

"I will fear no evil for you are with me"

Julius was encouraged by the truths of Psalm 23. He knew that thanks to his Heavenly Father, he would "lack nothing".

After praying through the Psalm, Julius experienced the reality of God's incredible provision. At his grandma's funeral, Julius' uncle Wellington offered to give him a home. "My heart was not at rest knowing that the children were left alone," explains Wellington.



But Wellington and his wife were battling poverty. They had no idea how they were going to provide for the two boys in addition to their own five children.

But again God was faithful. He guided Julius along the right paths.

“We received visitors from the local Compassion project who were seeking to help more needy children in the community,” remembers Wellington. “I prayed for Julius to be sponsored so that he could access the medical intervention he needed and start attending school.”

“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life”

Julius was amazed that God’s goodness and love really did follow him. Thanks to his sponsor, Julius was able to join Ebusiralo Primary School. His Compassion sponsor provided everything he needed including food, education and support.

I’m happy because my uncle took us in. I also enjoy visiting the [Compassion] project on Saturdays because I have many friends there,” he says. I receive gifts from my sponsor and my sponsor’s letters encourage me to work hard in everything I do. I feel loved and appreciated.

Every night Julius still goes to bed and reads the words of Psalm 23. He’s experienced their truth in powerful ways. Julius knows the Lord really is his shepherd.

- Now pray. For Julius For Lawi and For your family. Pray to the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for his sheep. ☺