



Cornerstone of Hope

Hope Takes the Lead!

"Favour," the name says it all, when you look at a seven year old child, orphaned with her siblings, who becomes first in her class.

Maybe its because on God's calculator seven is the number of completion and time for evidence of his "favor" to come to pass in the lives of Cornerstone of Hopes seven young children.

Favour, climbed to the top of her class of 36 students with a combined grade point average of 91% in (school name). Favour's feat is no small victory when one considers that this is her first year in a formal edu-

cation setting.

Less than one year ago, Favour and her siblings were tutored Monday through Friday with private instruction once it was learned they had never attended school before. When most six years olds are already reading and writing, Favour had to learn the basics for simply writing her name. In the fall of 2006 Favour and her siblings began attending school for the first time.

Favour has shown outstanding promise and it makes you wonder if the name is a precursor for things to come.



Favour takes a moment to pose in her first school uniform.

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Volume 1, Issue 1

June, 2007

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Cornerstone's Story—The Orphanage

In 2006, the start of Cornerstone of Hope was quite simply, a "struggle." To begin an orphanage members of the founding vision needed a location, a van, electricity, a refrigerator, a water well, volunteers to help with fund raising and not to mention children. The solemn promise of the founder Eric Idehen to adopt children was kept in his quest to not only impact one child but as many children as "God would allow."

With the vision cast, Eric set out to align his vision with others who shared his passion for children and the notion to impact the next generation to come.

The Orphanage has continued to grow as the list of needed inventory has now been secured. There are seven children who now call Cornerstone of Hope their home and if the vision for the Orphanage proceeds there will soon be more to

come.

The leadership has identified a new list which includes expanding the facility with more children, identifying mechanisms to sustain the orphanage financially, incorporating a school and health clinic, and obtaining new volunteers to help with fund-raising, missions trips, members, marketing and communication.

The Orphanage currently

employs and pays salaries to seven caregivers and has the capacity to house up to 20 children. Currently about \$50 dollars per month is needed to sustain one child which is less than 2.00 per day US.

Cornerstone of Hope looks to make an impact in the lives of the children by being more than a place to live but a living testament to the vision of God for his children and their lives.

May, 2007 Visit to Nigeria

The level of success of Cornerstone of Hope is beyond what words can explain nor describe. The children are doing very well health-wise, academically, socially and morally. I had the opportunity to spend time with the children - Patrick, Anthonia, Anthony, Favour, Samuel and Victoria.

The children have grown maturely and ask lots of questions. They have learned how to perform some basic domestic work such as sweep the house, wash dishes, wash clothes etc. I did watch Anthonia change baby Victoria's diaper. I also witnessed Favour teach Samuel Mathematics and English alphabets. She demonstrated a great leadership role.

The children also did very well in their first year at school - Springfield Elementary School. They all passed with good grades but most

importantly, Favour took first position in her class.

I was very happy to hear this great news. It was a dream come true moment and was so emotional for me that I cried. To see an orphan, rejected and left to wander, never been to school now leading a class of 36 students, calls for celebrations and to give thanks to God for His Love and Mercy. This is what Cornerstone of Hope is all about "making rejected stone become cornerstone of the house". In the eyes of the children, I saw joy, peace, love and the determination to succeed. I saw future filled with Hope. I see Hope for other orphans that are on the street.

I would like to use this opportunity to thank all the supporter and contributors, caregivers and members of Cornerstone of Hope. This dream is possible because people like you



acted. I encourage you to keep doing what you do, for it comes with great reward - abundance blessing.

There is need to expend the facility to accommodate more children. Hence we are planning to add another storey before December 2007. We do need your help to accomplish this task.

I departed with the greatest satisfaction for what God is doing for the children through you/us. I have never been this happy, peaceful and fulfilled. Praise God!

Eric Idehen, Founder & CEO.

Eric's Corner

There is no need for hunger, the world has plenty of capacity and resources to feed itself, if somehow we could all learn just to **share and** get along.

I know it is not quite that simple and the wide diversity of cultures and history in the world makes it even harder, but in my opinion, there is no need for anyone in the world to suffer from hunger.

To members, staffs and board of directors of Cornerstone of Hope, I say thank you so much for all that you do for the less privileged children.

I applaud the work **these individuals** are doing with the Cornerstone of Hope. **They** are truly gifted people, and **their** commitment to humanity is something we all ought to learn from, for if we did the world would be a better place.

Children's Choices

PATRICK

Color - Yellow

Toys - Cars, computer games

Hobbies - Singing and dancing

Best Clothes - Jeans and polo shirt

Career - Be the president of Nigeria.

FAVOUR

Color - Blue

Toys - Cars (jeep)

Hobbies - Reading, dancing and singing

Best Clothes - Jeans, Coat, hats, skirt and blouse

Career - I would like to become a teacher.

ANTHONIA

Color - Purple

Toys - Cars

Hobbies - Dancing

Best Clothes - Jeans, skirt and blouse

ANTHONY

Color - Red

Toys- Cars, walkman, radio, games

Hobbies- Dancing and singing

Best Clothes- Jeans trouser and shirt

Career- I would like to be the governor

Wedding Guests

The children were the guests of honor at the recent wedding of the Orphanage's nurse, Blessing Anoiyo. The wedding took place at Benin City on May 5th.

The children were adorned with traditional wedding attire and were placed at the head table among family and honored guests.



Samuel

Color- Blue

Toyes- Cars, sunglasses

Hobbies-Playing soccer

Best Clothes- Shorts, polo shirts, caps

Career- I would like to become a doctor.