



## February News | 2025

*...with a joyful heart*

[www.missionexperience.org](http://www.missionexperience.org)

In my position, I am blessed to witness younger and older people experience and discover a heart for what God is doing in the world. Three examples of youth came to mind this month.

The first is Doug and Leslie's granddaughter, Brooklyn. Since she was very young, she has had a heart for what God was doing through the ministry of Mission Experience. I remember several years ago when she took a few dollars that she received, put it in an envelope, and gave it to her Bubbie, Leslie. She told her that it was to support the work of her Poppie Doug, Pastor Mike and Mission Experience orphans in Haiti. Then this fall she and her sister Michelle, and brother Isaiah came to assist their grandparents with our fall banquet. They all helped to set up the auction, and the girls also helped at the registration table. Brooklyn shared her heart with me to be involved full-time in missions and would like to work for M.E.! Since the Banquet, her sister Michelle has also begun to contribute to the orphanage and trade education for the older kids, so they have a way to make a living.

I also came across a letter that was sent to me a year or so ago by another young lady. God prompted her to send us money she had saved for years. With this letter, she sent me a book by Mitch Alcom (who also runs an orphanage in Haiti) that inspired this \$73.75 gift. Why \$73.75 you ask? I want to share her answer that so blessed my heart.

Mister Mike,

\$54.03 of this amount came from a jar that my sister and I have kept in the bottom dresser ever since we were little. We put any spare change or coins we found on the ground in this jar, with the goal to raise enough so that we could buy a farm and two curly haired horses... As we grew up, this dream of ours slowly faded, and we eventually forgot about the jar and the farm... It is very weird to live with your sister one day and then help her pack everything in her car so she can drive away to Texas the next day. As kids I always figured that we'd be together forever. But now that she is gone I have custody over the jar. So I would like to give it to you to help you fulfill your dreams of the orphanage.

\$19.72 dollars of this amount came from a piggy bank that used to belong to my grandmother. She died about two years ago, two days after Christmas, the last time I ever saw her. She lived in a nursing home, so when we went through her belongings we took things we wanted and donated anything else. One of the things I took was a piggy bank and I am not sure why... I took it home and put it on top of my dresser and put any spare change in it or any tips I got at my job... For the past two years that piggy bank has just been collecting money with no purpose. I would like to give it a purpose by giving it to you in honor of grandma Judy. So that is why there is \$73.75 dollars. And I hope you are able to use it to help others. Thank you for inspiring me and giving me hope and speaking every sermon from your heart....

DONATE ONLINE at: [www.missionexperience.org](http://www.missionexperience.org) OR

SEND A CHECK to: Mission Experience Inc. 956 NW 1971st Rd, Lone Jack, MO 64070

I want to thank Emily, Brooklyn and Michelle for their precious gifts and stories. It is stories like these of young people inspired by the Spirit of God to act on faith, that blesses my heart.

Thank you all for not only giving to support Mission Experience, but sharing the inspiring stories that caused you to give. Our prayer at Mission Experience is that we are faithful with your gifts and honor you and your faith by the way we use them.

Love, Pastor Mike

(I love to collect stories of related to Mission Experience. If you have one be sure to share it.)

## Follow-up story

Two of our older boys are moving toward the end of their high school grades.

Jameson and Jamesly (Gilou)



are both interested in auto mechanics and have proven themselves good workers with their hands. We are presently researching a mechanic school nearby that they can attend. Please pray for them and for the other children, that we can recognize their gifts and talents and breathe life into them as they mature into adults. (We want to thank donors who have already risen to the challenge of paying for the school and tools and providing a means of transportation to and from this school). We are hopeful that they will begin the mechanic school in the fall.



## Grace Academy News

Thanks to your gracious gifts, we have been able to hire four more teachers for Grace Academy. We have not yet begun building on additional classrooms due to the presence of gangs in the area, but our school continues to serve the community and share the Gospel of Jesus with the children of our neighborhood. We have expanded the use of the classrooms inside the orphanage to provide more space. Thanks for your generous gifts!! We will continue to expand our school as God provides. The Board of Education is attempting to raise and maintain the funds years in advance so that if we run into some financially lean giving years, we won't have to decrease the number of teachers or the number of children we serve. If you are led to give to this ministry, please just send a note with your gift.

✂ If mailing your gift, please include the following in your envelope:

☐ General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Project/Tickets - Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Orphanage needs \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### ME Staff Support:

☐ Pastor Mike \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Stuart Pederson \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Doug Kotwica \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Ellie Paulison \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Your Information (Please print clearly)

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