

# OBED

*Life. Laughter. Legacy.*

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# This Tribute

This ‘Magazine’ is highlighting the echo Obed left behind. In other words, this magazine will give a voice to some of his loved ones—sharing their stories with him and discussing the impact he had on their lives. The idea is to help people get to know Obed better by sharing stories about him that usually stay with those close to him.

During this research, I interviewed his parents, Oliver Benjamin Jeron-Donkor—Daddy; Wilhemina Jeron-Donkor—Mommy; his siblings: Emerald, Enos, Jesse; his friends, including his close friend ADOI Akwua Naomi Akweteh; and his childhood friend Elisha Nii Otoo Lartey, depending on their availability.

Obed was with us for 26 years. Though just 26, it became clear throughout this research how strong Obed’s presence was. No matter which life he entered, he left it brighter. The blessing of having him physically around was brief; however, his spirit will forever be strong, his presence will always be with us, and his love will continue to guide us.

The goal of this research was to find out  
Who was Obed Ewoenam Jeron-Donkor?



# *Dedication to OBED*

In celebration of you, Obed. The firstborn, the oldest brother, the dearest friend, a patient teacher, a personal motivator, a true son of God.

For a person like you, words will always fall short. Yet one truth stands clear: you knew how to play the rhythm of the gospel of life.

And by this, we mean far more than your phenomenal natural gift for music.

We mean your unwavering strength — like the drums that lead the heartbeat of Ghanaian tradition, or the very drums you played with passion.

We mean the vibrancy you brought into every space — as alive and irresistible as a good Afrobeat.

We mean the calm and steadiness with which you handled both people and situations — like the quiet command of an old-school jazz rhythm filling a room.

And we mean your legacy, your brilliance, and your grace — timeless, like a classical quartet.

# Obed Top Facts



Emerald's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday

Out of all of his siblings, Emerald and him looked the most alike!

Wherever he went, Obed drummed on every surface with his fingers.



## Fun Fact!

He saw that a pastor hadn't properly showered in the morning and confronted him!

He had his prophetic abilities from daddy. At his first seeing he was only 1!



Obed has been drumming for and with people like Eugene Zutta, Pastor Isaiaia, and Kobbie Mante!

Dr. Ron Kenoly even blessed him and his career after hearing Obed's talent!

Furthermore, he played with groups like Empress Inc.

# The Musician

“When I came in and I saw Obed sitting on the drums, I already knew I would dance my heart out” (Naomi). Just like many others, her face was full of joy and excitement when she spoke about Obed on the drums. His career reflected his extraordinary talent. At only 7 years old, he had already taken over the church’s music ministry, and by 26, Obed had played with numerous big names in the country’s music industry. Mommy recalls the beginnings of her son’s love for rhythm and drums. “Already at a very young age, the least opportunity he could get, you would see him take something and hit a table or a chair trying to make sense of the rhythm” (Mommy). Before he turned 2, he was already making his aunt sing in the back of the house while he drummed on the table.



# The Musician

He quickly began mimicking the movements of the ministry's drummer, who then also taught him the basics. As soon as he had grasped those, he began obsessively studying on his own.

“He used to play every weekend; [...] he would sit in the hall and make noise” (Jesse). Everyone interviewed mentioned that he had gone far beyond being merely “well-trained.” He became one with the drums when he played.

“Obed forgot everything around him when he played. Every beat came from deep” (Naomi).



# The Musician

"His achievements in the area of music are just so phenomenal. The way the music industry sought his input shows he has really achieved"

-Daddy, 2025





## Hidden Talents

1. Obed had a hidden talent for flexibility. As a stretch and yoga enthusiast, he became everyone's coach, guiding family and friends through poses with patience and precision.
2. Quick to learn and with a natural rhythm, he mastered swimming and diving. While others still suffered, he moved effortlessly through the water with grace and speed.

## Top Achievements

1. He guided people to find God and confidence
2. Obed performed on major stages in Ghana and collaborated with prominent artists.
3. Obed graduated from the University of Ghana.



### Fun Fact!

Mommy is extremely proud of this achievement. Obed had a huge surgery right before his final exams. Still, he pushed through.

## Whitness Accounts

“[...] he said sing, aunty, sing, he was so young, but I sang”



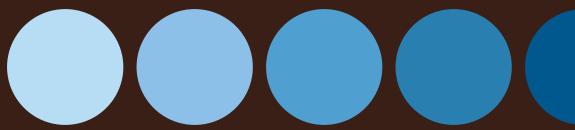
Aunty Grace

“Obed was right next to me. I thought what we saw was just birds. [...] I turned my head for one second, and when I looked into the sky again, the doves were gone. Because of him, I believe”

Brother Paul



# Obed's FAVORITES

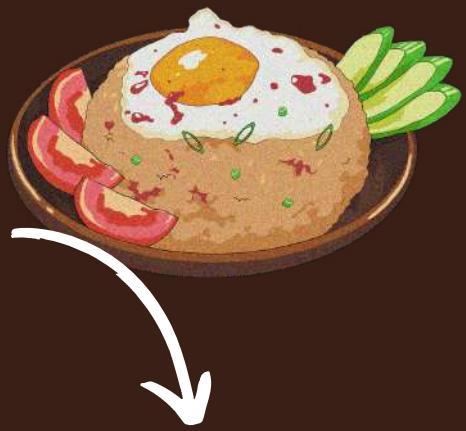


## Drink?

Obed's palette was dependent on the season! 'He always wanted what adults had' (Daddy). Obed wanted no children's drink. He wanted malt!

## Food?

Stir fry, Jollof, or Chinese. Obed was dedicated to good food. He was even a good jollof chef himself!



## Music?



We wanted to take this opportunity and introduce his most-streamed song, "*Gratitude*". You can listen to it on his YouTube channel- **@ObedJERON**

*Fun Fact!  
He was called  
the Shnack  
King! Coming  
for his love  
for snacks at  
all times of  
the day.*

# Favorite *Bible* Verse?

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”

Romans 8:1 KJV

## Fun Fact

‘Obed’ means  
*servant* or  
*worshipper!*  
Fits right?



# The Church

The role Obed played within his father's McFarm ministry grew more prominent with every passing year. From the beginning, his love for the church was visible to everyone around him. Where others saw only the routines of Sunday service, Obed saw purpose, vision, and possibilities for the future.



From Daddy, he inherited the gift of seeing. Enos remembers a young Obed returning home from Achimota School, sharing stories and even prophecies about his friends and classmates. At first, Enos questioned. But one night in a prayer circle with his siblings, Obed led the prayer. Enos felt a presence so strong he nearly cried out. "It wasn't me," Enos recalls, it was something greater moving through him. Moments like this revealed that Obed carried something truly extraordinary to Enos.

# The Church

What took Enos some years to believe had been obvious to Mommy from the beginning. “Obed was born with the gift of seeing” (Mommy). “When he was very little, a pastor came around. [Obed] was on his tricycle on the compound, and he stopped abruptly and said ‘Today you didn’t bathe. You only cleaned your armpit. Everyone was shocked! Because it was true”, Mummy chuckles. Daddy explains to me that Obed was always spiritual, but it was only in his school years that his walk with God deepened, even blossomed into Obed’s profound sense of calling.

All of Obed’s siblings admired his eagerness to contribute to Daddy’s church. Jesse recalls how often Obed shared ideas for the ministry. “It wasn’t even his,” Jesse says, “but he talked about it so much. He had so many visions for how things could grow.” For Obed, the church wasn’t simply a building or an obligation. It was a living mission he wanted to nurture and see thrive.

# The Church

Enos remembers many late-night conversations with his older brother, strategizing about how music could play an even greater role in the ministry. Together, they imagined approaches, songs, and structures that could draw the congregation into deeper worship. And with Obed's rare gift. Not only to play but also to write and produce music. Many believed he was destined to become the perfect director and leader of the church's music ministry after the revival. What stood out most was his excitement for that future. It wasn't a duty to him; it was joy.

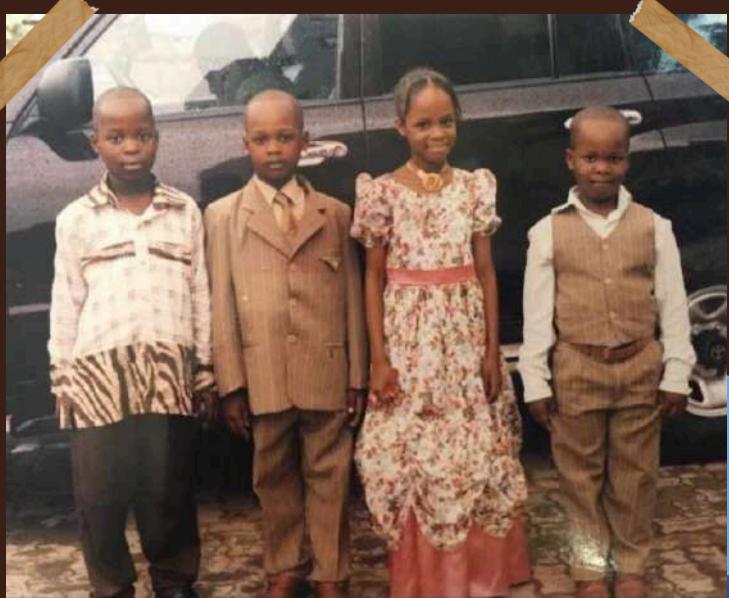
Looking back, both Enos and Jesse agree: while Obed's accomplishments as a musician were many, his devotion to Daddy's church may have been his greatest achievement. It was here that his talent, his faith, and his vision converged — leaving behind a legacy not just of rhythm, but of profound devotion.





*Meet*  
Obed The  
Son  
Brother





# Daddy Obed The Son

What did he inherit from you?

In his spirituality and prophetic abilities

What did you learn from him?

Persistance. Even in crisis he stood strong.



Daddy remembers the excitement when Mommy was pregnant. Hearing Obed's heartbeat for the first time overjoyed him. Laughingly, he says, "having another human coming into our midst was pure excitement. It was a thrilling, ecstatic moment. I didn't know how to thank the lord" (Daddy).

When we continued talking about Obed's birth and early childhood, Daddy's face lit up with joy. He laughs and says, "Obed has been a man since infancy. Right from the womb, we called him amaga. That means elder." (Daddy).

# Daddy Obed The Son

'While continuing the conversation about Obed, he said one thing that particularly struck me. 'When you see Obed, you see me, when you see me, you see him' (Daddy), and it was clear that he meant a lot more than just his looks. Daddy also meant his son's prophetic ability. He made Daddy made it clear, that he doesn't play about his son's spirituality at all. He mentions it being one of Obed's greatest achievements for him was how much Obed followed this path and was "a blessing to the people" (Daddy). Thereby, he recalls one particular moment when Obed was still at school in Achimota.



Daddy Obed

The Son



Although Obed was young, an incredible number of children and people of all ages and religions testified to how Obed had spiritually saved and helped them. "I walked away and I started tearing. I said Wow God, my son has done this! [...] But I have always been proud of him in so many ways," (Daddy).

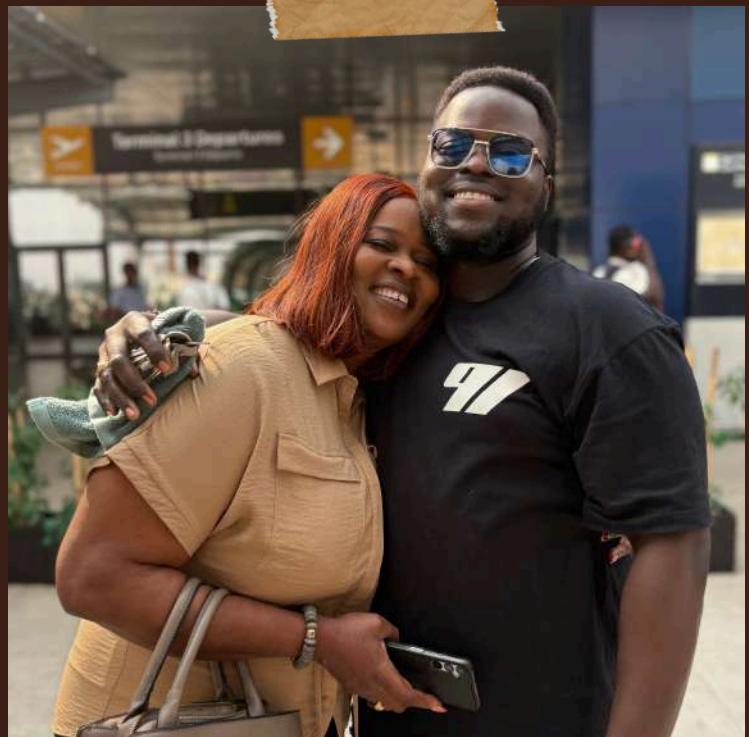


Mommy Obed

The Son

What did he inherit from you?  
He was prim and proper,  
just like me.

What did you learn from him?  
Passion for whatever  
it is what you do.



Mommy was sitting right next to me. She had her hand on my knee, as if she was comforting me through the interview. Her presence was strong, warm, and incredibly comforting. Just like Obed's presence. Funnily enough, she tells me that she also called Obed, her firstborn son, the heir of the family, the oldest of 4, *Mother*. She explains, “ He was very responsible with his siblings. He cared for them like me” (Mommy). In other words, she called Obed Mother, because he had a deeply caring and outstandingly nurturing nature from his mother.

# Mommy Obed

The Son



Mommy mentions that even when Obed was little, it was very clear how deep the warmth of his heart was. ‘He was always very expressive with everything. when he liked something, he thanked you for it. Even when I gave him his first school uniform. He said oh mommy, thank you!” (Mommy) she smiles as she remembers getting Obed ready for the first day of school with the help of her mom. Many cherished the deep conversations they could share with him.

Particularly as Obed's ability to listen closely, to quickly understand and analyze, and then to offer fitting answers, solutions, or strength only grew as he grew. Being a great conversationist, by the way, he too, he inherited from her.



# Mommy Obed The Son

Maybe that is also the reason why she treasured their time in the kitchen together so much. Although he would say that cooking was not for him, they spent hours together in the kitchen talking, laughing, and learning from each other.



# Emerald Obed

## The Brother

Emerald (Amy) recollects Obed's ability to make people around him laugh. 'Obed was really good at reiterating funny stories. [...] Especially when he was mimicking a behavior.' (Emerald). Just like everyone else, she cherished his lively, vivid, and warm character.

Out of all the memories she shares with her older brother, the moments she will keep in her heart forever were shared just between the two of them. Amy was fascinated by her brother's musical talents, and when both of them were together in the car, the vehicle became their stage. From TED talks, unveiling secrets, to extensive concerts where Amy and Obed sang in a duet.



# Emerald Obed

## The Brother

During those times, he was her coach, cheerleader, and biggest fan. "He'd always tell me that I sing very well, and if I practiced always, I'd be a wild singer," (Amy).

Amy's pride in Obed's talent skyrocketed when he released his song *Gratitude*. "[...] He worked so hard on it and it came out so well!" (Amy)



# Enos Obed

The Brother

Enos laughingly explains that he was always known as Obed's Brother. He thinks back and remembers that his older brother had always been an outgoing people-person. "Everyone knew him, at school, and also around the neighborhood" (Enos). He comments that it is still like this in the music industry today. "I am still Obed's brother, who plays the bass" (Enos).

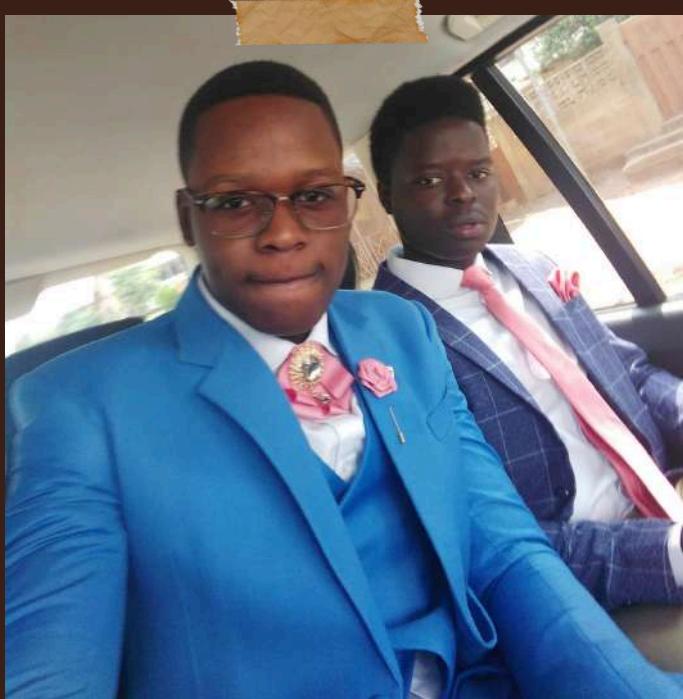
Enos started playing the bass guitar at a later age than Obed began drumming. However, Enos vividly recalls jamming sessions between him and Obed in the family's hall. Either Obed would play the drums while he follows the rhythm with the bass guitar, or he would play the keyboard following the notes Obed sang.



# Enos Obed

The Brother

Often, they found themselves visualizing the things they could do together with the ministry's music. "He could sit down and write a song just like that. [He says while snapping his finger.] He could produce, sing, play, and tune every instrument! His drumming, too. It was just flowing." (Enos) He confirmed, Obed was the best for the job.



# Jesse

# Obed

The Brother

“He was like my second mother. He had that energy” (Jesse). Jesse, the lastborn born remembers the first years with his brother. From early on, Obed made sure he had ironed his clothes, brushed his teeth, and did not forget to shower in the evening. “It used to annoy me! But he always made sure I was prepared for everything,” (Jesse). Jesse explains that Obed was a perfectionist and always wanted everyone to be as perfect as possible. He always tried to be prepared for everything.

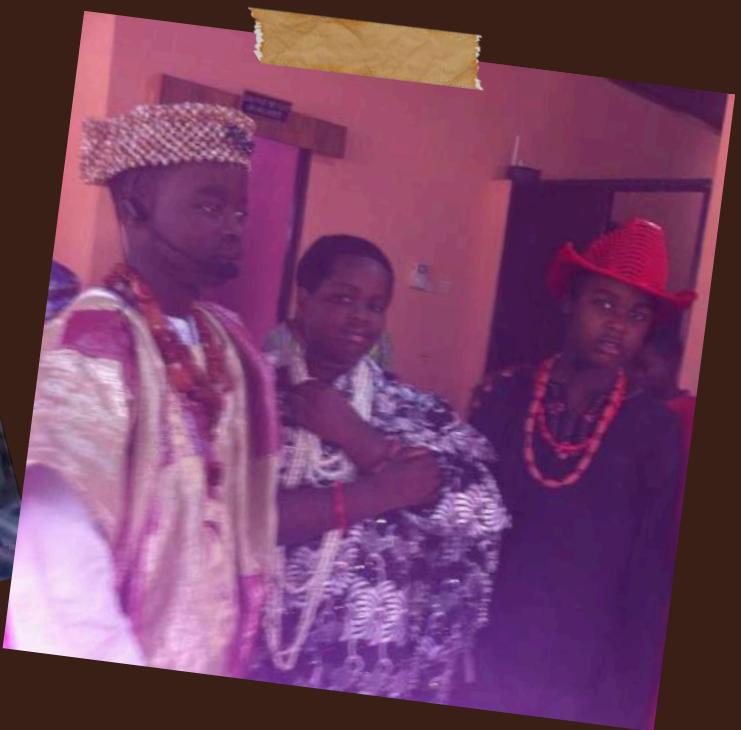


# *Jesse*

# *Obed*

## The Brother

That also reflected in his plans for Daddy's ministry. When Jesse talked about his brother's plans, his face said it all. Full of admiration, he spoke about Obed's talent with the drums, his dedication to training, and his attention to detail when planning his role in Daddy's ministry after revival. Jesse says, "I really looked up to all the plans he had for it. He would have been perfect for it." He continues to draw inspiration from the depth, clarity, and love that shaped Obed's vision for the church and his love for people.





# Timeless Fashion. *Obed's Taste*



Emerald's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday

No matter who I ask about the Jeron-Donkors at some point, the conversation is about the family's impeccable sense of fashion.

Mommy explains that Daddy's neatness was one of the first things she noticed about Daddy. "Obed inherited it from both sides" (Mommy). Even the first day of school couldn't change that. With pride in her voice, she remembers, he came home just as neat and clean as she had sent him off in the morning.

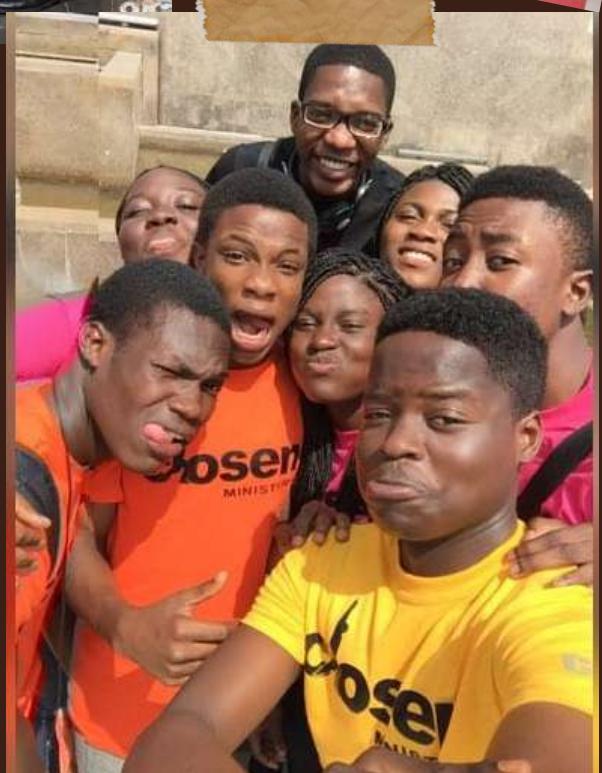
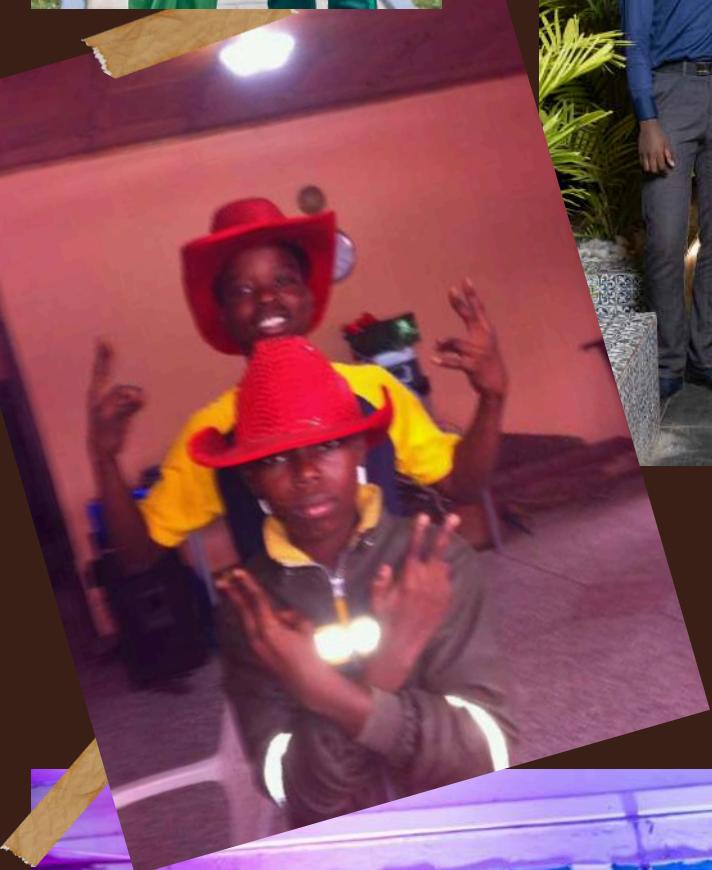
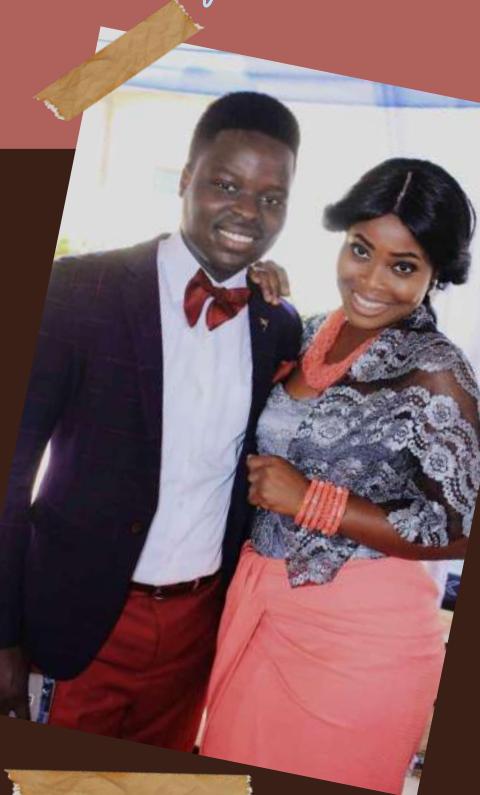
# Timeless Fashion. *Obed Taste*

Everyone around shared memories of choosing outfits together with Obed, him ironing for them, or Oved perfecting the last detail of the outfit. When people looked and felt their best, it brought him joy. His fashion was an expression, and his neatness, an act of self-respect.





# A Friendship With Obed





*Naomi*

## The Friend

"He was my best friend. He was the closest person I ever had," Naomi tells me, seated in her living room. She points towards the floor, right next to the couch, on which we were sitting. While both of us look down on the marble floor, she continues, "We used to sit on the ground, play Phase 10, watch Big Brother Naija, and chat and laugh all evening" (Naomi). Her quick smile is filled with love and warmth.

The journey of Akua (his favorite name to call her) and Obed becoming inseparable friends is long, but a vibe from the start. She remembers the spirited dances to Obed's rhythm in the church.





Naomi

## The Friend

Naomi's son, Kelvin, was another bond that drew the two even closer. To Kelvin, Obed was a mentor, an authority figure, a big brother, and the best drum teacher he could have ever wished for. " I always talked about Obed to him. Kelvin loved Obed before he had even met him in person" (Naomi).

Over time, Naomi and Obed stood strong for each other in the happiest and toughest times. From concerts and evening outings to supporting each other through sickness. They were one heart and one soul. It shows in Naomi's eyes. Every word of gratitude, to have known him, every expression of love towards him, every joy she talks about having shared with him was strong and genuine.



# Elisha

## The Friend



When Elisha speaks about Obed, the first words he reaches for are generosity and openness. Their friendship stretches back so far that he can't recall a first meeting. "It feels like I've always known him," he reflects, "at the beginning, I knew the ministry only as Obed's house" (Elisha).

Elisha recalls one of his brightest memories with Obed. As a child, he once stood nervously outside Obed's house with his cousin, unsure what to do next. As if Obed sensed their hesitation, Obed simply said, "When you come, just pretend my parents are your parents" (Elisha). That simple kindness broke down every wall. From then on, Obed's home felt like a second home, filled with play, learning, and fellowship with God.

# Elisha

## The Friend

He remembers especially the Sundays after church, when Obed would gather everyone in the yard for “cadet training.” Obed was always the commander — sharp, confident, and full of authority — leading drills, salutes, and chants. Just as easily, he would switch roles and become a prophet in their playful services, laying hands with such conviction that the others would tumble to the ground, pretending to be “slain in the Spirit,” laughing all the while.

Through these moments, Elisha says, you could already see who Obed truly was a natural leader, a man of faith, and someone who carried joy and conviction into everything he did.



# *Jeena*

## The Friend

When I met Obed I was relatively new in Ghana. I had never been here before and every experience still felt overwhelming. But around Obed, his family and friends, I quickly felt at home.

I remember sitting on Enos' bed in a room crowded by all the siblings and their friends, laughing along with Obed's stories of funny adventures with Naomi, evenings of playing our favorite card game (phase 10), or him ironing a white sheet for our movie nights around Christmas.

Once we helped Naomi move, the day was filled with laughter, short deep conversations, and afro beats. He made me a compliment I thought was the funniest I had ever heard. He said, "I wish I could pick your brain and give a bit to everyone" (Obed).



# The Scientifically Proven Genius?

Obed's research and learning skills have always been outstanding to me. I first noticed them when we came together as siblings and friends to plan the future. He approached everything with such clarity, order, and vision. He worked with immense studiousness, using a carefully planned coloring and categorization scheme. It was deeply impressive.

Combined with his undeniable, early-recognized talent for music and the drums, I found myself curious about what science might say about someone like Obed.



# The Scientifically Proven Genius?

According to internationally recognized educational institutions and academics, early childhood musical talent reflects and enhances cognitive, social, emotional, and language skills that are essential for academic success. Studies show that children exposed to music from an early age not only learn faster but also develop greater adaptability and resilience throughout life. Exposure to music strengthens neural pathways, improves memory and focus, boosts language processing, and develops both fine and gross motor skills. It also fosters emotional regulation, creativity, problem-solving, and cooperation.

In other words, Obed's natural talent was a strong indicator that he was, in fact, an overall intellectual genius. His father also often praised his son's remarkable intellectual abilities.

I had to laugh.

Because that's what he was. A genius.

Herewith, my research was over.



# The Conclusion

Each person carries their own memories of him, yet all agree that Obed taught compassion not by words, but by living it. His passion was contagious, his strength and determination unwavering, and his ability to see things through inspired everyone around him. His wisdom stretched far beyond his years — spoken with such prophetic clarity that even skeptics found themselves believing.

Not every life needs to reach ninety to leave an immeasurable mark. Some souls complete their mission sooner, leaving behind a legacy that continues to live, breathe, and move within us. Obed's mission may have been brief, but its impact will endure for generations.

# Final Poem

Back to the beginning, not enough  
words said, not enough to say.

Your voice stays in our souls, your light  
in our hearts.

Your rhythms still guide us, your  
laughter fuels our days

Your presence stays with us every step  
of the way.

And with God's hand upon us, your  
visions light our ways.

May the ideas you carried, both simple  
and grand,

Be brought to life by God's guiding  
hand.

You were a man of the  
people, giving  
personalized gifts that  
prove their worth and  
show your love.  
This is my gift to you.

Forever inspired,

*Zeena Amini*

