

CHILDREN IN CRISIS MINISTRIES

# FOCUS

*Bringing help, healing, and hope in Christ to vulnerable children*

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## GIVING BACK

**NELSON LUNGU HAS** been an under-the-radar part of ACTION Zambia (AZ) for many years. As a student he worked at Camp Ciyanjano during his school breaks, earning money for his and his cousin's schooling. With Camp Ciyanjano's encouragement, Nelson excelled in his studies and faithfully participated in his local church while becoming the first in his family to complete 12th grade. Having experienced God's blessings, Nelson wanted to pour into others.

While in secondary school Nelson had noticed how young women struggle with math, a necessary skill for any commerce. He felt God calling him to be a part of a generation of teachers who helped underserved students become competent at math. To accomplish this, Nelson dreamed of college. Even while working at Camp Ciyanjano fulltime and paying family bills, he was able to save a bit toward his college education each month. The process was slow, at least by man's perception, but God was using this time in a number of ways.

While waiting on God, Nelson participated in a discipleship program with ACTION Zambia called D2:7, a year-long program designed to build up students' faith and knowledge. He also served with a group of youth leaders, Ciyanjano "Champs", conducting camps and Bible Clubs. These ministries gave Nelson more opportunities to acquire wisdom and experience.

Nelson's tenacity, experience, and desire to serve led camp leaders to ask him to help open a container library for the surrounding community. Nelson accepted! It seems



Nelson with students at Camp Ciyanjano.

as though Nelson was always studying with kids needing tutoring and today Nelson continues to share the good news of Christ by deed and word, pouring back into these students what others have shared with him.

We are celebrating God's faithfulness as Nelson has begun a university teaching program. ACTION Zambia was able to augment Nelson's college savings as he works toward his teaching degree. The ACTION team is thrilled to see Nelson grow in his desire to see others perform well in school and grow in Christ. Pray for Nelson, and that others will also be called to give back.

Would you consider helping ACTION Zambia? For more information please contact [info@actioninternational.org](mailto:info@actioninternational.org).

# SHARING THEIR TREASURE

**IT IS A JOY** to see youth come back and serve through the ministry that served them. Nelson received, grew spiritually, and now gives back to others through Camp Ciyanjano. It reminds me of Matthew 25:40.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Who are those who should “do” for the least of these? **EVERY** follower of Christ!

While administrating an orphanage in Brazil, it became apparent that children placed under our care became accustomed to handouts. We were providing food, clothing and housing, but were we providing what these children needed to grow in Christ? To make sure we were doing our job, I began taking adolescents who said they followed Jesus back into the favelas to serve. Yes, I took sex-trafficked, abandoned, and abused youth back into



Children of the King.

the slums to give back. It was then I saw extraordinary spiritual growth! By serving others, these children began to see themselves not as victims, but as Children of the King. They had something valuable to share. They, who had been treated as less than the least, had treasure to bestow on others.

Now when I read Matthew 25:40, I think of who did the doing—who served the least of these. That person, child, or

youth is no longer defined by their past, but by their deeds—by their service.

Would you like to be a part of helping a child discover they are worthy to give to others in Christ’s name? How would you like to serve? Email [info@actioninternational.org](mailto:info@actioninternational.org) to find out how to contribute time, talent and treasure.

*—Paige Anderson Neely is the Children in Crisis Coordinator at ACTION International.*

## Find out more!

Contact us through any of the following:



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