

Strong & Courageous

LITTLE WARRIORS

Ages
6-8



God Made Me

GRAHAM KASINDO

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STORY 1

God Made Me

A WORD TO PARENTS

Why This Book Exists

In recent years, much good and necessary work has gone into lifting up the girl child. But along the way, many of our boys have been quietly left behind. Too many are growing up unsure of who they are, slow to take initiative, and quick to believe they don't really matter.

A boy does not become a good man by accident. He becomes one when someone shows him the way: what a man is, what a man does, and Whose he is.

Strong & Courageous is a series that walks with a boy from the age of six all the way to manhood. Each stage builds on the last, rooted in the Bible and its timeless principles: responsibility, honour, perseverance, self-control, focus and courage. Along the way, readers grow up with Baraka, an ordinary Kenyan boy learning to become an extraordinary man.

Little Warriors plants the first seed. Read it together. Talk about it. Do the missions. And speak blessing over the boy beside you, because the words he hears today shape the man he becomes tomorrow.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9 (NIV)



This book belongs to

a Little Warrior, made by God on purpose

Age: _____

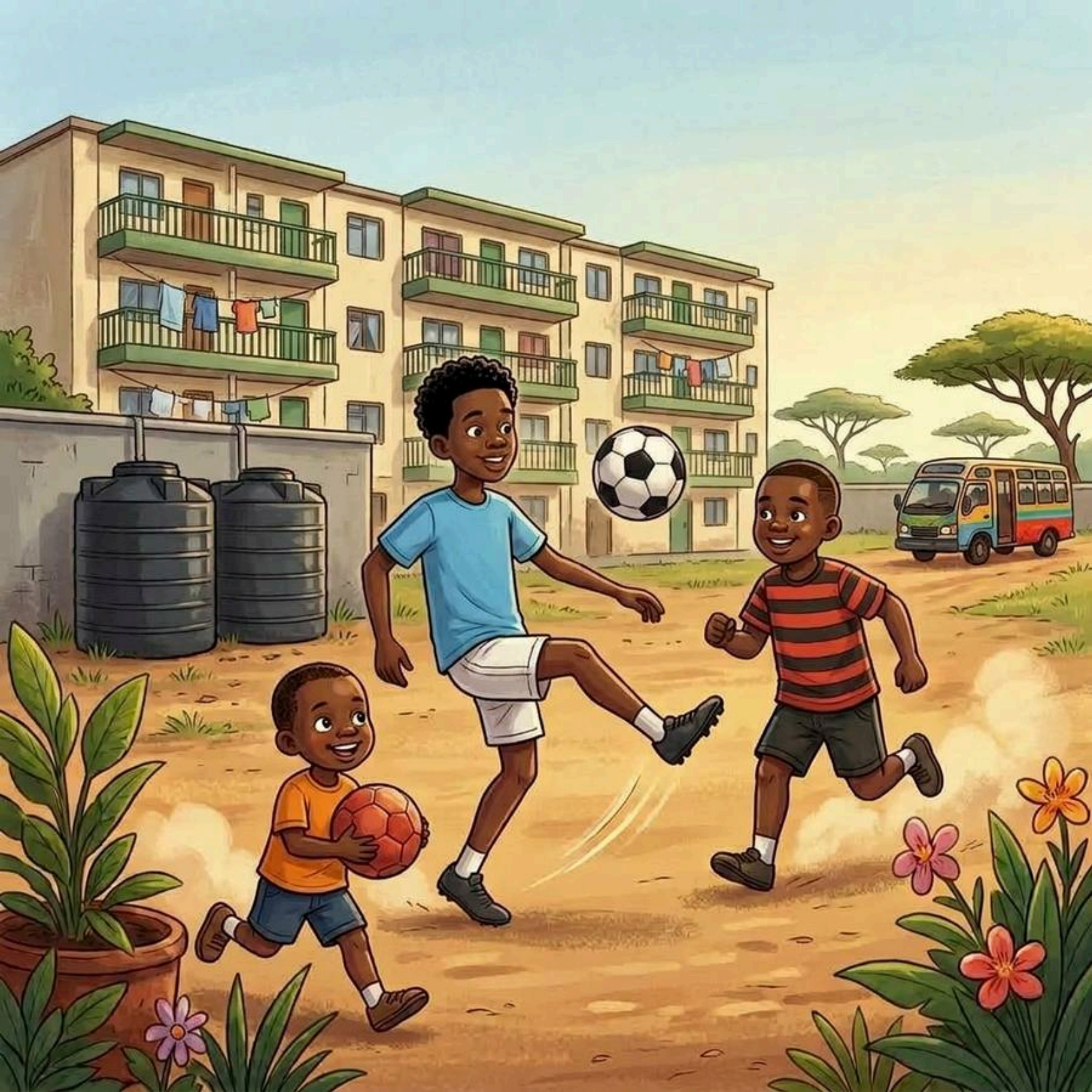
Baraka was seven years old. He had a gap where his front tooth used to be, a red football that was a little bit flat, and a baby sister called Neema who cried very, very loudly.



Every evening after school, the big boys played football on the open ground behind the flats. Brian was eleven. Kevo was ten. They were tall and fast, and they could kick the ball all the way to the water tanks.

One evening, Baraka ran out to join them.

“Can I play?” he asked.



Brian laughed. “You? You’re too small.”

“Go home, toto,” said Kevo. “You’ll just get stepped on.”

The other boys laughed too.

Baraka’s face got hot.



He picked up his flat red ball and walked home slowly, kicking a stone all the way.

Too small. Too small. Too small.



At home, Mum was rolling chapati dough at the table.
Neema was asleep, for once.

“Why is my little warrior so quiet?” Mum asked.

Baraka sat down hard. “I’m not a warrior. I’m too small. I can’t do anything.”

Mum stopped rolling. She wiped her hands on her apron and sat down next to him.

“Who told you that?”

“Brian and Kevo. They said I’m too small to play.”

Mum was quiet for a moment. Then she said, “Baraka, do you know who made you?”

“God,” said Baraka. Everyone knew that.

“That’s right. And does God make mistakes?”

Baraka thought about it. “No.”



“Then God did not make a mistake when He made you. He made your eyes, your hands, your gap tooth...” She tapped his nose. “And He made you seven years old, not eleven. That is not a mistake either.”

“But the big boys—”

“The big boys are not God,” said Mum. “Their words don’t decide who you are. God decides. And God says you are *wonderfully made*.”

Then Mum told him about a young man in the Bible called Jeremiah, who also thought he was too young.

That night, Baraka helped Mum turn the chapatis. He didn’t burn a single one. Well — only one.



The next evening, Baraka went back to the field. Not to play. Just to watch.

Brian kicked the ball very hard. It flew over Kevo's head, bounced off the wall, and rolled into the narrow gap between the two big water tanks.

The boys ran over. Brian pushed his arm into the gap, but his shoulders were too wide. Kevo tried next. He got stuck and had to wriggle back out.

“It's gone,” said Kevo. “We'll have to wait for the caretaker.”



Baraka looked at the gap. It was narrow. But he was narrow too.

His heart beat fast. *What if they laugh at me again?*

Then he remembered what Mum said. *God made me. On purpose.*

“I can try,” he said.

The big boys looked at him. Nobody laughed this time.

Baraka turned sideways, breathed in, and squeezed into the gap. It was dark and cool between the tanks. He shuffled one step... two steps... three steps... and there was the ball.



He pushed it out with his foot and wriggled out after it, with dust on his shirt and a big grin on his face.

“Eh! Baraka!” said Brian. “Small but strong!”

“Come and play,” said Kevo. “You can be on my team.”

Baraka played until it was nearly dark. He didn’t score a goal. He fell down twice. But he didn’t feel too small any more.

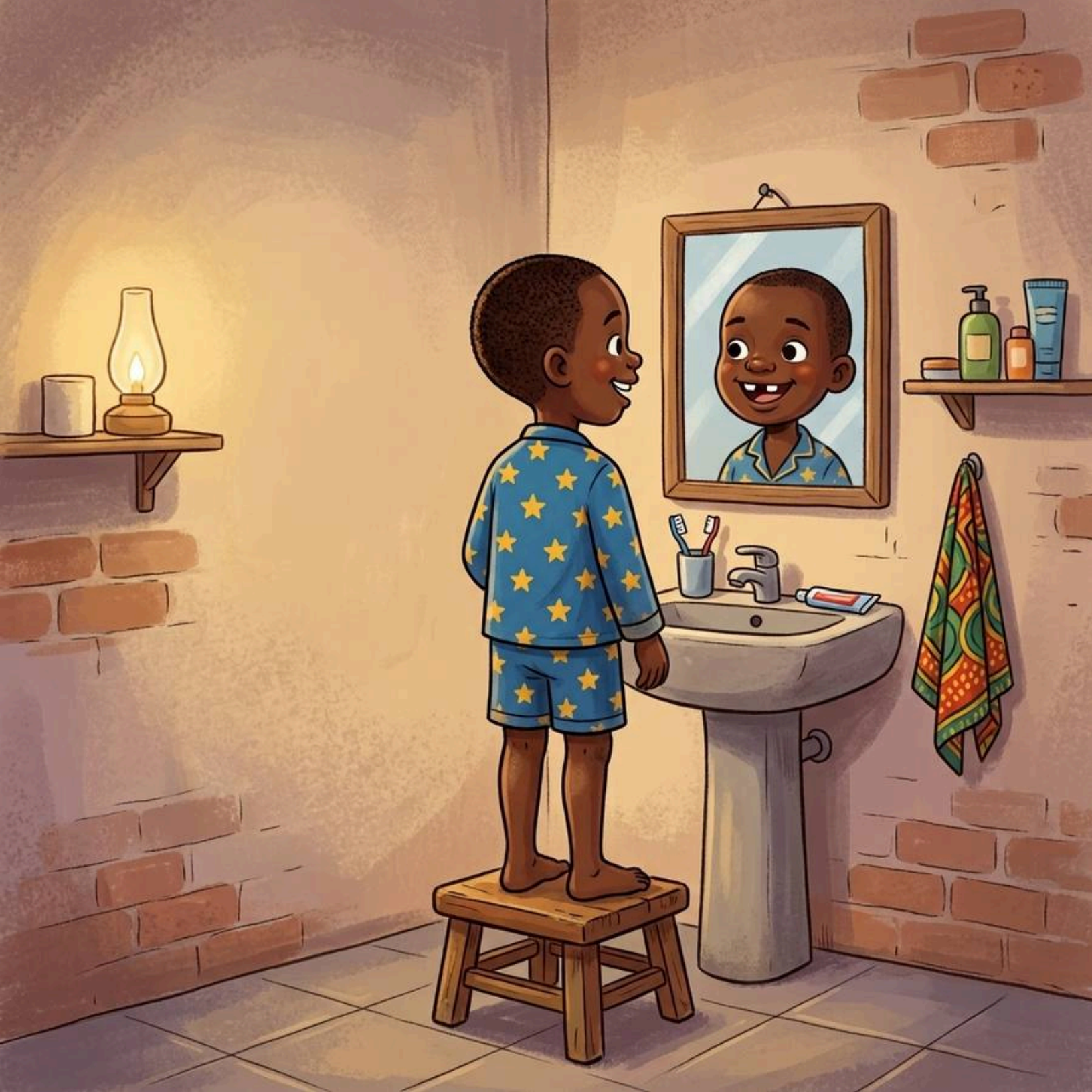


When he got home, he told Mum everything.

Mum hugged him tight. “I’m proud of you,” she said. “Not because you got the ball. Because you were brave enough to try. And remember — God loved you just as much *before* you got the ball.”

That night, before bed, Baraka looked at himself in the mirror. Gap tooth. Dusty knees. Seven years old.

“God made me,” he whispered. “On purpose.”
And he smiled.



BIBLE HERO

Jeremiah: “I’m Only a Boy”

A long time ago, God spoke to a young man called Jeremiah. God said, “Before you were born, I knew you. I chose you to be My messenger.”

But Jeremiah was afraid. “Lord, I can’t do that! I don’t know how to speak. I’m only a boy!”

God answered, “Don’t say, ‘I’m only a boy.’ Go where I send you, and say what I tell you. Don’t be afraid, because I am with you.” Then God touched Jeremiah’s mouth. “Now I have put My words in your mouth.”

Jeremiah grew up to be a great prophet. He thought he was too young. But God never makes a mistake about the people He chooses.

Retold from Jeremiah 1:4–9



MY BRAVE WORDS



**“God made me on purpose.
I am never too small for God.”**

MEMORY VERSE

“I praise you because I am fearfully and
wonderfully made.”

Psalm 139:14 (NIV)

Say it together three times: once in a whisper, once in your normal voice, and once in your **loudest warrior voice!**

TALK TOGETHER

Let's Talk

1

How did Baraka feel when the big boys said he was too small? Has anyone ever made you feel that way?

2

Mum said, “The big boys are not God.” What did she mean?

3

What are three things God made special about *you*?

LITTLE MISSION

This Week's Mission

Every morning this week, look in the mirror and say your Brave Words out loud. Then tell one person in your family one thing God made you good at.

My Star Chart

Colour a star each day you complete your mission.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						

Little Warrior: _____

Grown-up: _____

FOR PARENTS

Note for Parents

At this age, boys measure their worth by size, speed and whether the bigger boys let them in. This story separates two things: his **worth**, which God gave him and nobody can take away, and his **abilities**, which will grow with time.

- **Praise courage and effort, not only results.** Baraka's mum praises him for trying, not for getting the ball.
- **Name the feeling, then point to the truth.** Instead of "Stop crying, be a man," try "That hurt, didn't it? Now, what does God say about you?"
- **Watch his self-talk.** If you hear "I can't" or "I'm stupid," gently ask him to replace it with his Brave Words.
- **Speak blessing over him.** Boys grow into the words spoken over them. Tell him often what you see God building in him.

Baraka is seven. He has a gap in his teeth, a flat red football... and a big problem. The older boys say he is **too small to play.**

But Mum knows something the big boys don't. And when the ball gets stuck where no big boy can reach, Baraka discovers what God has known all along.

“God made me. On purpose.”

A warm Kenyan read-aloud story that teaches boys their worth comes from God, not from their size, their speed or what others say.



INSIDE THIS BOOK

- ★ A read-aloud story with 10 full-colour illustrations
- ★ Bible Hero: Jeremiah
- ★ Brave Words and a memory verse
- ★ Talk Together questions
- ★ A weekly mission and star chart
- ★ A note for parents

Strong & Courageous is a Bible-rooted series that grows with your son from age 6 to manhood. Enjoyed this book? A coffee helps bring the next one to life.

Little Warriors • Brave Boys • Young Men in the Making • Rising Men • Men of Honour



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