

JOE AND THE FAKE MONEY



It was a very hard day for Joe to believe he was being arrested. His money could not help him. This made him remember his old days and how he got into trouble.

Joe had been a lazy student at Kanthunkako School . What he relied on was cheating by peeping on his friends' paper work. He managed to read and write. At school, Joe had a bad side to him. He used to steal little things from his friends like pens and exercise books without being noticed. This was his training ground.

This type of behaviour grew in Joe's mind. He started stealing things from the community such as chickens and other small things. All Joe wanted was money. He learnt to have money while he was so young. The more he had the more he wanted. This corrupted Joe more and more.

His friends worked hard in class so that they passed their exams to go to secondary school. But for Joe he was a standard 8 (last year of primary school) drop out. It was not easy to get a job without proper education. This became a hardship to Joe as he did not hold even a standard eight certificate.

He thought of an idea that he heard on the radio news on many months ago.

Someone had made his own fake money. This idea pleased him.

Soon he started printing fake money. He told people that he had loads of money. He told them to bring half the amount they wanted and he would multiply it for them. He became rich.

After a few months, it was noticed by a bank that they had received fake notes from a customer. The bank questioned a customer named Chatha where he got the fake notes from. Chatha did not hesitate to mention Joe.

It rained cats and dogs that day. It was the end of the road for Joe when policemen arrived at his house. They put him in handcuffs. He tried to bribe the police with 20,000.00 Kwacha for each policeman. It did not work for Joe. He remembered the words of his teachers and friends telling him the importance of school.

In the court, he realised that the magistrate who dealt with his case was his schoolmate. The court found him guilty. He was charged with 12 years imprisonment for robbing people's money, trying to bribe the police in addition to the money printing. All those who had helped Joe in printing this fake money were charged two years of imprisonment for not reporting the matter to the police.

While in prison, Joe had a chance to continue with his education. This time he worked so hard that he completed his form four in prison. He served his 9 years in prison. He had also written for an entrance to university. The prison reconsidered his matter as he was selected to study in university.

When he finished his degree in economics he became richer than before.

Moral of the story:

When one wants to excel in life, he has to work very hard.

Joe was a lazy student. His laziness resulted to imprisonment.

Have you ever heard of someone who ended up in a situation like Joe?

What would you advise your friends that are lazy at school?

What do you like about Joe in the end?

Are there any ways we can reduce crime as responsible citizens?

Joe had to go through a process to change his thoughts. Prison reformed Joe.

Kalonga Primary School