

Ronald's Story:

Teaching with Purpose, Faith, and Love

In the classrooms of Hope Academy, there's one teacher whose passion for sharing God's Word and guiding his students is nothing short of transformative. **Ronald Jean, a dedicated teacher from Haiti, has spent more than a decade living in the Dominican Republic.** Despite coming from a neighborhood rife with crime and drugs, **Ronald's parents instilled in him and his four younger sisters the values of hard work, integrity, and faith.** Today, those values have shaped him into the committed educator and man of God he is.



Ronald's journey to teaching at Hope Academy initially seemed like a coincidence. But looking back, he now sees that God had a specific purpose in mind for him. **"I was born in a neighborhood full of challenges, but God led me to overcome them and become who I am today. Now, I am here to teach my students how to do the same."**

Ronald's three words to describe his experience at Hope Academy are excellence, commitment, and faith. Each of these qualities shines through in his daily work, whether he's teaching a lesson, mentoring his students, or sharing the love of Christ. **The most fulfilling part of his role is the love he receives from his students.** "They love me very much," he says, a sentiment that is a reflection of the warm, nurturing environment he fosters in his classroom.

However, every job comes with challenges, and Ronald's is no different. One of the difficulties he faces is navigating differences of opinions and beliefs among staff members. These differences can sometimes lead to disagreements and misunderstandings. But instead of letting these challenges deter him, Ronald has learned valuable lessons about himself. **He's come to realize that he cannot work in any environment that doesn't allow him to share Christian values and the love of God.** This is what drives him—teaching not only the academics but also shaping his students' hearts.

A key part of Ronald's mission as a teacher is ensuring that his students understand the importance of God's Word. Every day, Ronald reads the Bible to his class, and he's spearheading an effort to ensure that every student has their own Bible to read at school and take home. Recently, a powerful moment occurred when one of Ronald's students was seen reading his Bible during recess instead of playing. This is a direct reflection of Ronald's impact—his passion for God's Word is helping shape the spiritual lives of the students.

Despite his reserved nature, Ronald is learning to speak up, even in uncomfortable situations. **His commitment to his faith and his role as a teacher has made him realize that sometimes, growth comes through stretching ourselves to share our thoughts and voice our beliefs.**

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Continued

The work Ronald does at Hope Academy is changing lives, not only academically but spiritually. His unwavering dedication to both teaching and sharing the gospel with his students is an inspiration. **It's because of donors' financial support that 2nd Mile Missions can provide dignified employment to teachers like Ronald, who are making a lasting impact in their community.** Through their contributions, donors are not only helping to shape the future of the students at Hope Academy but also empowering teachers like Ronald to fulfill their purpose and make a difference, one student at a time.

Ronald's story is a powerful reminder of the difference a dedicated, faith-driven teacher can make in the life of a child.
