

The vision for Samaritan's Feet was conceived over 28 years ago on one hot summer afternoon at a camp in Lagos, Nigeria when a stranger from Wisconsin befriended a young African boy. The young boy, like so many other children in Africa and around the world, had never known the comfort and security of owning a pair of tennis shoes. This "Good Samaritan" gave a life-changing gift and a message of hope to that 9-year old boy. He gave him his first pair of shoes. With that new pair of shoes for inspiration, Manny Ohonme went on to compete in sports activities in Africa. Specifically, he developed a love as well as a superior talent for competitive basketball.

His skill and confidence continued to flourish; his hard work and determination to succeed finally paid off. He was offered the chance to attend an institution of higher learning in America under a full basketball scholarship! He met his wife, Tracie, while attending the University of North Dakota (Lake Region) and he later earned an executive position in a leading technology company. In spite of his successes in America, Manny never forgot the other little boys and girls in Africa who were still living under the strain of poverty, drug abuse, war, gangs and other criminal activity. Determined to help impoverished people in Africa, Manny left the comfort and security of his executive position to birth the vision of Samaritan's Feet.

Manny is happily married to Tracie, his wife of thirty years. They now reside in Charlotte, North Carolina with their four children Nike, Dele, Yemi, and Wale. Together, they are working to make the vision of Samaritan's Feet to put 10 million pairs of shoes on the feet of 10 million orphans and impoverished children in this country and around the w...

Testimonials

Manny's charisma, infectious personality, and giving heart are as large as the number of people he is touching around the world through his Samaritan's Feet International. Our audience was truly touched and actually made the commitment that morning, after his inspirational presentation, to host events in Memphis. We have already hosted two, washing the feet and providing new socks and shoes to over 600 kids in our community. Manny is a catalyst that can light up a room and set fire to hearts, creating a movement! He is a perfect example of how one person can lead by example and start a movement that touches millions by acting locally yet thinking globally.

- Director of the Lipscomb Pitts Breakfast Club.

Having devoted much of his life to the causes of philanthropy, Manny's vibrant spirit and giving heart are an inspiration to all those blessed enough to know him. He is a leader of change, communicating his passions and good doings to those around him while simultaneously encouraging others to share his cross. Without Manny, Samaritan's Feet International would be without one of its greatest advocates and champions. I continue to be impressed with his gift to communicate his passion and love and with his ability to transform and ignite

Manny Ohonme

Speech Topics

Sports

Overcoming Adversity

Motivation

Leadership

Inspiration

Diversity

