



Xiao Lu (name changed to protect his privacy) is in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. He lives in the countryside in Henan Province. He had a happy life with his parents until something terrible happened.

His parents were very, very poor and they wanted to help their son. So, when some people who buy blood illegally came and told them they would give them money if they gave some blood, his parents were very happy. They thought they could help someone who was sick by giving blood, and they thought they could help their son by making some money to pay for his school fees so that he could continue to go to school. Unfortunately the illegal blood buyers didn't use sanitary means and many parents became infected with AIDS. His parents and thousands of others died of AIDS.

Now he lives with his elderly grandmother. She has no real income, but she can grow a few vegetables and a little wheat to feed her grandson. However, she has no money to pay his school fees and she has no money to buy meat for him to eat.

We (American Baptists) are using some STEP (Student Tuition Education Program) funds and some OGHs (One Great Hour of Sharing Offering) funds to give some money so that Xiao Lu can stay in school and so that he can have a little meat to eat and can stay healthy.

1. If you were Xiao Lu, what would you feel?
2. If you were Xiao Lu, what would you do?
3. If you were Xiao Lu, what might your hopes and dreams be?
4. How is helping AIDS orphans like Xiao Lu a Christian witness?