



## Akomsa Domase Church, Ghana

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The Akomsa Domase church in central Ghana was at the mercy of the water crisis. They relied on a piped water system provided by the state, but the water wasn't reliable. The tap stands provided water sporadically and were often turned off for weeks. Even when the water system worked, the water pressure was so low only a trickle came out. The residents couldn't anticipate when their water system was functional, so they turned to private water providers to purchase buckets of water.

The lack of water in Akomsa Domase impacted every part of the residents' lives; Students didn't have water while at school, the church couldn't baptize their congregation members or host large ceremonies like weddings and funerals, and parents couldn't tend to household chores and sanitation practices. Without a reliable system, the Akomsa Domase residents could only live reactionary lives, unable to plan for the future.

Father Thomas Adjei is the 34-year-old Priest of the Akomsa Domase church. He explained his congregation and community's water crisis: "In our community, we are connected to the Nkoranza district water system. However, this water system is being mismanaged, thus causing lots of water problems. We went weeks without water running through our taps. When this happened, we had to rely on private water providers, which are very expensive and yet slow to deliver because of increased demand. Students in the area often went to school late because they spent most of their mornings searching for water. At one point, we did not have even a drop of water for drinking, let alone enough water to brush our teeth."



The taps have run dry.



Students participate in a sanitation and hygiene activity led by Living Water staff.

about Living Water International's work in the region, they knew they had found the answer to their problem. Living Water Ghana responded to the community's great need by drilling a new well on the church grounds. The staff drilled 45 meters to access a safe water aquifer and installed an electric submersible pump, a water tank, and a set of tap stands.

Living Water also shared the message of the gospel with the community through a screening of the JESUS film. The participants watched the powerful depiction of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, made even more impactful by the film being dubbed in the community members' own language. At the end of the screening, Father Thomas shared the message of the gospel: that God, through Jesus, desires to offer his *living water* to all.

Father Thomas is overjoyed that his community no longer has to experience the stress of an unreliable water source. He said, "We expect this new system to restore access to reliable water for the church, adjacent school, and community at large. With a nearby water supply, the students and workers can be punctual and safe."

Safe water has changed everything in Akomsa Domase!



Father Thomas [left] takes a cup of water from the new tap stands at his church.