

*“Not having an arm has never been an obstacle for me, but a blessing in disguise because it has taken me on an amazing journey that I never dreamed of.”*

When I was 6 years old, I was playing around with my friends and I was trying to climb a wall that was under construction when the wall fell on me. I fainted and they rushed me to the hospital. My left arm was badly injured, and I lost a lot of blood. The doctors at the hospital did not have the resources to save my arm so they had to amputate it. At first, when walking and playing, I would lose my balance, but I soon learned and adapted to my new way of living. Some kids would bully me, but I never felt less than them. I used to play basketball with my friends, but it was not until I was 12 that my passion for basketball grew. My first real exciting basketball experience was when I traveled to New Jersey and Puerto Rico for some tournaments. Back home in Dominican Republic I started playing in tournaments with older basketball players. Last year I heard about Life Christian Academy and their International program through a friend. I applied to the school and went through the process, and was very excited when I got my international visa. My goal is to continue to develop my skills, and to play in college, and even make it to the NBA. I almost died in that terrible accident, but God spared my life. There are things that come to our lives that we do not comprehend when they happen, but I have learned that everything has a purpose, and I have found mine.