Bringing Light to Northern Haiti

Haitian Christian Ministries May Issue - 2023



Preaching and teaching the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical Needs of the People

We serve a mighty God

Thank you to Pastor Bob for providing this article.

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." Proverbs 31:8-9

"We are alive, but we are not living" - This is the refrain of many Haitians and the young people in Haiti. In many areas, especially near the capital city of Port-au-Prince, gangs can often seem like the only option for means of survival. The rapid growth of gangs has led to a vicious cycle of poverty, corruption, conflict, fear, kidnapping, crime, civil unrest, and poor health care infrastructure. In the last five years, gang warfare in the capital Port-au-Prince has increased ferociously. Haitians already suffer from acute food insecurity without the added violence and instability that gangs add. Meeting one's most basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter has become an increasingly difficult battle.

Despite logistical difficulties and in the face of a multitude of security events, the Haitian police have done great efforts to control the situation. The officers believe in their mission to "serve and protect" even in the face of much adversity. The gangs seem to be numerous and well equipped to terrorize the population. As a result, "mob justice" is currently taking place in the southern part of Haiti. People accompany the police corps with their machetes, tires, and fuel to stop the bandits. The images are revolting and cruel, but we clearly can see in the eyes of marginalized and impoverished people that they are thirsty for living despite the ongoing economic crisis and the climbing inflation.



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As we know, the good news of the kingdom of God is that sin, poverty, political issues, disease, and oppression are never the last word. Where Jesus is King, He brings forgiveness, healing, and liberation.

Meanwhile, to prepare a better generation of Haitians, HCM moves ahead with 3 schools in three different communities (Pillatre, Lory and Haut-Dehene) throughout Northern Haiti. Each year, over 1,700 students are educated and fed

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daily. Over 150 teachers, administrators, and support staff are employed through our schools. Truly the work is impacting several communities and hundreds of families.

We would like to thank each of you, our supporting churches and faithful supporters, for all you continue to do to meet the physical, educational, and, most importantly, spiritual needs of our Haitian brothers and sisters. Their concerns are real. Their pain is real. The weight of all of this has fallen on churches and Christian leaders who have a heart of serving and means to give and support.

Please pray for:

- An emergency intervention in Haiti.
- 700 students that still need to be sponsored.
- Pastor Bob, his family, and his staff who are on the front lines.



Giving Challenges

Due to the generosity of a family supporting HCM, we have an opportunity to pay for our next container of food used to feed our students in our schools. That donor has made a significant contribution to pay for a large portion of the next container. We are now challenging our donor base to help us cover the remaining cost of that container. If you can help us with our giving challenge, we would greatly appreciate it.

To give to this campaign, you can give on our website at <u>https://hcmin.org/give</u> by clicking on the 'General Donations' button or via check with the note "Food Container"

As we mentioned above, we also need 700 children sponsored. If you or someone you know is interested, please visit <u>https://hcmin.org/sponsor-a-child/sponsorship-form</u>.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

