



Haitian Christian Ministries

2017 Issue 11

**Preaching and Teaching
the Word of God**

Planting Churches

**Meeting the Physical
Needs of the People**

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You Don't Choose Haiti...Haiti Chooses You

Special thanks to Kassi Cook for providing this article.

Isaiah 6:8 - *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" And I said "Here am I, send me!"*

Our team of 14 traveled to Haiti the week of September 30th through October 8th. As a team, we were able to provide medical care to just over 800 patients! We had



one doctor, two nurse practitioners, five nurses, two paramedics, and four pharmacy rock stars. Vicky and Ron were an absolute blessing to work with. Vicky is a fearless leader that made everyone feel so comfortable in a rather uncomfortable place. Ron was our spiritual leader, he provided us with devotion and prayer in the morning. Little did we know that when we set out on this mission, we would not only bless

those patients we saw, but we would be blessed in a way we had never been blessed before.

On Sunday, we spent the morning at Pillatre worshipping God. We couldn't understand the lyrics to the songs or the message in the sermon, but we felt Gods presence and love surround us! Keri, one of the Nurse Practitioners was baptized by Pastor Bob! Once church was finished, our team stocked the pharmacy, procedure room and also packed travel bags for the time we would be at the other church plants. Sunday evening was filled with counting pills in preparation for the week. Every pill had to be counted and placed in a small baggie to be dispensed.



Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning, we began at the clinic at Pillatre. We started by praying as a group with the Haitian medical team. We worked quickly and efficiently alongside the Haitian staff at the clinic and with our interpreters. We spent half days at the clinic. Monday and Wednesday afternoons were spent at Haut Dehaine, a newer church plant that grew

from just 8 people to over 200 since January! We set up our triage and pharmacy area under some trees. They had a small covered area with sheets dividing it, providing us with three exam rooms. It was wonderful to be able to provide care and minister to this growing community. Tuesday was spent at Lory. Lory has a church building that we worked in. Triage was set up in the back. Patients would wait in the pews. We turned two pews to face each other to create a space where we could assess, examine, and treat patients. The pharmacy was set up at the pulpit. They hope to have a clinic at this location someday in the near future.

The last patient of the day at Lory was a young man that had been involved in a motorcycle accident 6 years ago. His right leg was badly injured and he has not been able to use it since the accident. He came to us to see if there was anything that could be done. There happened to be an ortho team in Milot. Vicky was able to get a hold of the ortho team physician and told them we were going to send this young gentleman for a consult. We prayed over him and gave him ministry money for the tap-tap and for the consult in Milot. Moise was translating for us and said that he was full of hope and joy that someday, because of God's great blessings and our team, he may walk again. Thursday, we traveled through the city to the Haitian prison. We sent a few people from our team to go to the cells and pray with the prisoners. We also handed out Creole Bibles. When we got to the women's cells, we prayed with them and also gave them some Bibles. We gave them reusable sanitary pads and panties that were made by Linda and a team of young girls from Sun Valley Community Church. The women at the prison have no access to feminine products, so when we handed these out, they had tears in their eyes and big smiles on their faces! The prison was the hardest day for our team. We saw the fewest amount of patients this day (still nearly 70), but spiritually battled Satan and prayed fervently over the prisoners and prison staff as we went about our day there.



God was present everywhere we went and in everything we did. He brought our team together to bless those in need that we served and blessed us by showing us what His love feels and looks like. During the course of the week, our team saw God's love in so many ways. In the ways the Haitian people cared for each other, in the joy that is seen on the children's faces at the school at Pillatre, and the look of peace on the people's faces that we cared for medically and spiritually.

HCM wants to Go...Will you help?

There is so much good news to report to you regarding the ministry. The churches at Pillatre, Lory, and Haut Dehaine are thriving. Even more exciting, our pastors are currently discipling in a new area, Parious, and we believe God will provide the increase for a church at Parious within the next year.



The Board of Directors fervently believes that God has prepared the ministry for a time of **GOING**. We believe God is calling us to **GO** throughout all of Haiti with His word. God has prepared and equipped the ministry with great leaders in Pastor Bobanoit Luceus and Pastor Jacques Zepherin. God also connected HCM with Emmaus Biblical Seminary (EBS) in Haiti, who has a number of students who are finishing their degrees and want to plant a church.

The thought of being involved in the expansion of God's Kingdom throughout Haiti is invigorating; however, it has presented unique challenges to our Senior Pastors. Neither of our pastors has a dependable vehicle, and the ministry only has the large white truck that is used for the school and medical

clinic. HCM wants to provide Pastor Bobanoit and Pastor Jacques with a dependable vehicle so they can travel throughout Haiti sharing God's word and providing support to our church plants. We also want to purchase a reliable vehicle for the ministry to be kept at Pillatre that can be used to help transport teams to and from the church plants. We are not looking to buy new vehicles, but want to get reliable ones. Our pastors believe that we can purchase a reliable car for each of them and the cost would be approximately \$15,000 each. We also want to purchase a small extended bed truck, and believe the cost for this would be approximately \$20,000. In total, we need to raise \$50,000 to purchase the vehicles.

Please pray about this decision. If you feel led to give, please make sure to include a note on your support payment that states "Church Planting – Vehicle Fund".

The need is great....

We know how great the physical needs are of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. For those that have been to Pillatre and the surrounding areas, you have witnessed firsthand the extreme poverty and it is only natural to want to help in any way possible. Sometimes that desire to help can almost feel like a burden. Let us encourage you in a few practical ways:

- Anytime you are feeling a tug to give, make sure and pray about it. We realize that sometimes in the moment, there may be pressure just to say yes. This is especially true when you are in Haiti or even just after visiting and you connect with a Haitian brother and sister. In all things pray. *"The LORD's blessing enriches, and struggle adds nothing to it."* Proverbs 10:22
- If you do feel God has placed it on your heart but are unsure how best to help, reach out to us. Also, some of our Haitian brothers and sisters may ask multiple families for help, and sometimes receive support from multiple families. If you decide that you want to provide support to an individual or a family, we will be happy to connect with Pastor Bob, Pastor Jacques, or other local leaders who can provide thoughts on how best to meet the need. We will let you know if others are providing support for the individual or family.
- Take some time to read "When Helping Hurts" by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert. This is an excellent read that gives biblical based wisdom around how best to help, especially in the context of those that have been on a mission trip.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Reminder - Christmas Gift deadline

If you want to send a gift to your sponsored child, the deadline to do so is November 15th. Packages can be sent to the Field Address listed on page 1. We do ask that you please put your child's name on the side of the box with their ID number. In addition, please reimburse HCM \$1.50 per pound for shipping from Florida to Haiti.