



Preaching and teaching
the Word of God

Planting Churches

Meeting the Physical
Needs of the People

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Building Leaders

At the end of August, over 180 leaders from throughout Northern Haiti came together for a time of teaching, worship, and encouragement at Pillatre. The theme of the 2-day conference was *Creating a Healthy Christian Culture in the Midst of a Secular Culture*.

Pastor Bob was joined by Pastors Mark and Jim from Dillion Community Church in delivering the messages to the pastors and other leaders in attendance. When asked why this



conference and leadership are so important, Pastor Bob said "Based on my experience working with Christian institutions, organizations and universities, I have seen the struggle and adversities due to lack of leadership skills, lack of knowledge, lack of professionalism, lack of trust and lack of strategic alignment to set a clear and sustainable goal for the future of the Haitian churches and administrations. I believe Christian institutions involvement are essential in order to cultivate skills, increase awareness and educate people to have a fruitful healthy living in mind, body and spirit." Pastor Jim echoed a similar sentiment. "We believe developing a healthy leadership team and culture is part

of the answer to sustainability in Haiti and other countries."



The theme allowed for messages covering a broad range of topics. There were messages

focused on setting vision and enlisting help in pursuing the vision, managing conflict and building trust, and Theological Method and Maintaining Integrity to Scripture.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, and many are asking for an expanded conference next year. Pastor Jim said “It was especially joyful to see so many young and eager men and women who want to serve Christ in Haiti and are hungry to learn more.” Pastor Bob adds “In reality what Haiti needs now is not pity, but big investments in education, preaching the good news and sharing the love of God.” For those familiar with the Global Leadership Summit, you have heard the phrase, “Everyone wins when a leader gets better.” We believe this is true and thankful that God has equipped leaders here and in Haiti that are willing to pour into other leaders.

Asking for help

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 material poverty and it is only natural to want to help in any way possible. This is true especially when someone who you may have met before asks for something over social media. We have once again heard that asks are increasing from some and in conversation with Pastor Bob, he is wanting any asks to be met with a “no”. As mentioned above, he does not believe pity is helpful to Haitians. Let us encourage you in a few other 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, especially for those who approach with an ask.
- Take some time to read “When Helping Hurts” by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert. This is an excellent read that gives biblical based wisdom and practical thoughts on poverty in the world.
- If you do feel God has placed it on your heart to give, reach out to us. We will be happy to connect with Pastor Bob, Pastor Jacques, or other local leaders who can provide thoughts on how best to give to our Haitian brothers and sisters.

If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. Romans 12:8 NLT