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Jac & Jill came down the hill . . . Their mom needed to go to the hospital. She was our second case of Pre eclampsia in two weeks. Kim Sharpe and Randy Boughton from Forefront Christian Church in Virginia held the nine-day old twins as we 4-wheeled their mom down the mountain to the hospital in Jacmel. Her family was able to raise 500 Gourdes (\$22 US) and we added another 700 Gourdes to pay for her bed, medicine, and care at the hospital.

The first woman that was brought to us had lost her baby in childbirth seven days earlier. I truly thought she was not going to make it either but, we do our best and God does the rest. I asked the family if they could help pay for the hospital and they said they had nothing. I asked the crowd gathered at the clinic if they could help; everyone stood quietly. I saw tears in the sick woman's eyes, a harsh reality was setting in. I turned, and there was Herman, an elder and our helper, tears running down his face. He knew all too well how this might end. An elderly lady waiting in line for the clinic stretched out her hand. There was her three dollars, the price of medicine at our clinic (65 cents). I took the money and announced that we had money to take her to the hospital. We gathered round, prayed for her, put her into God's care, loaded her in the truck and Paul took her to Jacmel. Her total bill was 1000 Gourdes, (\$50 US). At last report, both women and the twins were doing well. Just think, one of you donated \$25 this spring, that was the price of saving a life.



The lady who donated her medical money got special treatment at the clinic that day and we took care of all her medical needs.

An Update. . .

A year ago this little girl was brought to us badly burned over her entire chest. We treated her burn for months and then she stopped coming. I can't explain the feeling of joy I felt when mom and daughter came to the clinic for cold medicine. We have an AWESOME GOD!



Spring Break was Fantastic! Eighteen college students from three colleges came together for a week on the mountain. It was instant family in more ways than one. The ten girls from St. Louis University looked like they could have been sisters, a couple of them could have been twins. On the last day driving down the mountain, I was still trying to get their names right. Here are the ten girls and one guy from St. Louis, in no special order. Matt Derginer, Jana Evers, Sandi Hopper, Anna Ray, Amanda Salisbury, Melissa Sestak, Jennifer Sirotak, Emily Steedman, Ashley Stoerzbach, Jaimie Timmerman and Ann Barnes. To this group we added two more from Florida Christian College: Jocelyn Sparrow and Andy Frazier. Then we had Tara Clark, Brandon Jackson, Shawn Young and Paul Halstead from Kentucky Christian College and finally Erica Clark, Tara's sister, a high school student in Indianapolis. What these "kids" accomplished was phenomenal.



accomplished was phenomenal. They were an eager, cheerful, tackle-any-job kind of team and yet, what I remember best was their singing.



Inside looking out or outside looking in.

No matter which way you look at it, God is doing great work on this mountaintop in Haiti. Above, the crowd has gathered for the Bible School hour. By the time the preaching starts, there is standing room only.

On the inside, memorization of Scripture and applying God's word to real life is taught every Sunday. They are so hungry for fellowship and so quick to learn, I cannot help but admire their simple whole-hearted faith in God. For them, God is not something to be questioned or debated. **HE IS!** Their only question is how to better know Him.

On the inside, school kids give their undivided attention to teachers, Annette Lacy and Vicki Sparrow from Port St. Johns Christian Church. English is one of their favorite subjects. Another favorite is singing. They sing every morning before entering the school, they have song time during school, and every day ends in song. You can feel the energy and joy coming from the students as they try to "raise the roof" of the church each day. A small problem, more students than shoes, was solved when Thomas brought me a list of all the students with perfect attendance. Out of 142 students, 70 had perfect attendance. Amazingly, we had almost enough shoes in the right sizes to give a pair to each of these students. Then we brought clothes down to the school and tried to make sure everyone got something. Keep in mind that 140 students have 280 reaching hands. To say it's sort of like a cow wading through a Piranha-filled river may give you a good picture of the few minutes it takes to pass out the clothes. I got out with only the belt from my pants missing. Actually, my belt and camera were salvaged by a teammate who was then asked by a student if he could have the belt. In the frenzy, he gave the belt to the student who immediately took off for home. A piece of rope worked quite well as a belt for the remainder of that week and the next.



On the outside, construction continues. Below is a view of the entire area; the church, clinic, and school. Even now, the picture is obsolete. The school is now ready for its roof and the second foundation is laid and ready for the floor to be poured. Around the clinic and school building is 165 yards of steel fence, welded and cemented in place and waiting for the 960 steel pickets to be welded in place.

On the outside, life is still a day to day struggle to survive. Food and water are scarce and on some days, none existent. The importance of the clinic becomes clear when we see a father arrive having carried his small ill child a half day's journey. The medicine works because God works. Is God working in your life? When He is, then everything else works too.





The team from Port St. John, made up of one quarter of their congregaton and most of their worship team, was a tremendous asset. Last year they sent Jocelyn Sparrow for a week; she must have spread the fire.

Larry and Vicki Sparrow came with the rest of their family, Zach and Adriene, along with Roger Thomas, Thomas Adamson, Annette Lacy, Barbara Cobb and Anthony Lopez.



With less gravity at this elevation, Roger thought he might float away so Barb volunteered to help him stay earthbound. The team spent one morning, top right, building a dam

in the canyon behind the clinic. Now, sediment will collect and begin filling in the canyon with rock-free topsoil that would otherwise wash down the mountain and into the ocean. Larry and Barb spent their week cutting steel for the fence. Zach and Anthony modified a well drilling rig and drilled fence post holes all around the perimeter of the property. Roger and Thomas tackled and completed more jobs than can be listed here. As a reward for all their hard work, I let them have one morning off to hike up to the National Forest, left, and enjoy a cool breeze and shade. Stepping over the lip and walking down into the bowl of the volcano is like entering another country. The grass is green, the air is cool and scented with pine, birds sing in the trees. For a moment you forget about the life and death struggle going on outside this volcano. For a moment you can hear God's voice whispering to you, barely audible over the sound of the breeze in the pine needles.



A team from Forefront Christian Church, VA came up the mountain next. At right, Derek Reese leads the team on a "before breakfast" hike to the village to observe market day. Dan and Julie Reese are close behind. The rest of the VA. team was Kim Sharpe, Randy Boughton, Mark McClaskey, and Dennis Sampson. Harold (Hap) Clare from Community Christian Church, FL. completed the team. Hap is pictured at right, holding Sony and Benitho. The kids quickly adopted him. I guess they know a "softy" when they see one.



Dennis was our dentist for the week. He was assisted by Julie, along with Randy (bottom right), Kimberly when needed and our newest apprentice, Lomane, one of our older students. I really admire these people working in the dental clinic. I still get weak-kneed and light-headed just by passing the doorway and glancing in. Fortunately there was lots of other work for Dan, Mark, Hap, Derek, and me to do.

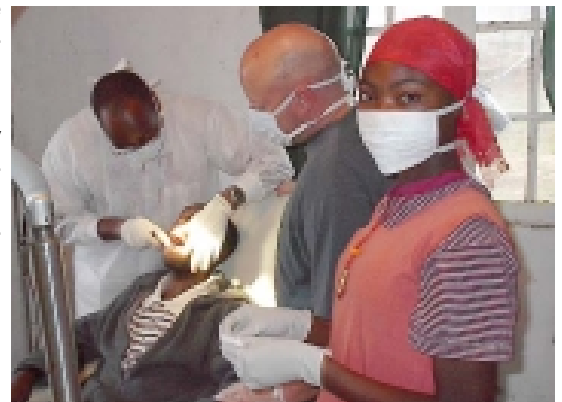


One shower is completely tiled, all four toilets flush. We have a new back patio, complete with a drain, with plans of adding an outdoor shower and water spigot so we can clean up before coming into the building.

A very busy May is in the works. We will have volunteers working from May 12 through June 9. Some will be staying the whole 4 weeks, others will be rotating in and out

Goals for the summer.

We need to get the school ready for use by September. At the same time, there is painting, fencing and more plumbing to do in and around the clinic. Finally, there is the apartment for our doctor that I would like to have completed by January.





Merida, Mexico.

Dennis Grinn, Teresa Murphy, Amanda Halstead and I went to Mexico to examine one of the many "open doors" God has presented to us. Above, the church leaders from nine area churches join us at their camp property (also pictured at right).

The men have many dreams and hopes for developing this land into a Christian Church camp for their children and as an outreach to their communities. They have a good dream but they have no means to make it happen.

A new church building, pictured at top right, is one of Craig Gates' projects made possible through Christian support. They plan to grow as you can see by the tar paper wall temporarily enclosing the building. Plans to add onto the building are in progress.

At right, the original camp building, constructed in 1992 still awaits the opportunity to become the kitchen and cafeteria for the camp. The shower and bathroom facilities, constructed in 1994 by an FCM team, need some finishing touches to be ready for use. The property has road access, electricity and a well. The potential for a good work to be



done on this property and within these nine churches is immeasurable. One thing for sure, if love could be turned into building materials then the love those church leaders and parents have for their Lord, their Church and their families would provide more than enough to make this camp a reality.

Juan Pablo, his wife and children, opened their home to us after the camp meeting and fed us a delicious lunch. The warmth of their gentle, quiet spirits touched my heart again, just as it did nine years ago. I am praying now that God will lift up another army of prayer warriors and supporters for this work as He has for Haiti, so that we could expand into this area and begin a good work here.

These families are poor materially but rich in history. Uxmal, an ancient Mayan city is not far from Merida. We took one afternoon to tour these ancient ruins of a civilization that existed about the same time as Jesus. Interestingly, they also searched out the best of their population to offer as a sacrifice.



Thank You-

to all those who are praying for the work. Words are insufficient to tell you how special every email, letter, call or note is to me. My strength and ability to persevere comes from God, through you, to me. I could not do this without you.

The financial support has been great! We paid off our loans last year. We still need support for Teresa Murphy's three year commitment. I trust that God is working on hearts right now to make that possible.

We could still use the stability that would come with a few more churches taking us on as a supported mission. If you think we are worthy, maybe you could speak on our behalf with your church leaders.

Levern