

Groggs in Dominica

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Christmas Barrels! *Yes, they finally came!*

It took two weeks longer than it should have, and two hours waiting in port, but the Christmas barrels finally came home. Even then, the “poor” kids had to wait longer while we awaited word from the Grandparents to be available to video chat so they could watch presents being opened.



While the kids really enjoyed opening presents (except the two that customs opened for them), I think their favorite was the food and candy. We haven't had cereal for almost three months. It's just too expensive.



We also received many Christmas cards and letters for the kids from their friends back home. Those were priceless, so THANK YOU to those that sent them and those that helped our barrels get here.

Time's Flying *Six Months Will be Here Soon*

It's been three weeks already since we moved into Holland House. I know that doesn't seem like much but with how busy we've been working on the Holland House to-do list, the time is going to fly.

We have roughly five months now until Sandy moves back and we need to be out. We are still praying about the red-roofed house but are open to looking at any available house in the Belfast area. Just today, a man at the end of the road said the house behind him is available so we'll probably take a look this week.

Reaching Out *Relationship Building*

A while back, Elijah met with a college age student who had been studying in China when Covid first hit. She's the Manager's daughter of the Voice of Life Christian radio station on the island.

An ice cream place was the chosen spot and Metsi helped Elijah learn things Duolingo wasn't teaching her and an app that will aid in her learning

... PRAISE ...

- Our Christmas barrels arrived safely!
- The bank finally received our home bank's letter. We are now guaranteed an account when we go in person!
- Jason has another odd job this week. He'll be replacing all the locks on our previous rental. Jackie, the owner, has been very gracious in all areas. This will be Jason's second job for her and probably not the last.

... PRAYER ...

- A source of income that still allows us to freely minister. This is becoming of higher importance as we see more funds going out than coming in.
- The trade school Jason wants to start in the back of our property. **Check our Gab page for a video link! It's also in this email.**
- Work/Residence Permit application to flow smoothly
- Our own vehicle for work projects and family adventures.
- Continued house hunting.

Chinese. We thought moving to Dominica, there would be no point in Elijah continuing in that language until we found out there's a Chinese Embassy here and we've seen many Chinese working on projects, specifically, a primary school here in Mahaut.

The means God uses to reach people and to encourage us, sometimes isn't what we thought it would be. For instance, a worker and resident of Feed My Sheep, is



Brother Odrick, from Haiti. His English is rough but he's very willing. Jason let him borrow one of the Calvin and Hobbes comic books we brought. When Jason checked on him the other day, he was in his room, feet propped up, engrossed in the book! This is just one small way Jason has shown Brother Odrick that he cares about him. We've also taken him to the beach with us. Jason then gave him some swim lessons after we found out he doesn't know how to swim! It was after this first trip that Brother Odrick started opening up to us and his smile is so big now whenever he sees any of us.

Yesterday, he was also one of five that went hiking to Boeri Lake. If you'll remember, this is where Jason and his friend Tyron went a while ago and Jason wanted to share it with others.

Those others were Nathan, Shevani and Jeremiah. Shevani is Nathan's age and is often found at the Mission even though he has a place to live.

It was a wonderful time where the boys got to be wild at heart.



The Gospel *Slow but Steady we Press On*

We have handed out four Bibles since we've been here. Two were donated giant print editions, given to men from the church that probably need glasses. (It would seem eye doctors aren't normally visited here. There's lots of squinting going on and phones and books brought close the face.)

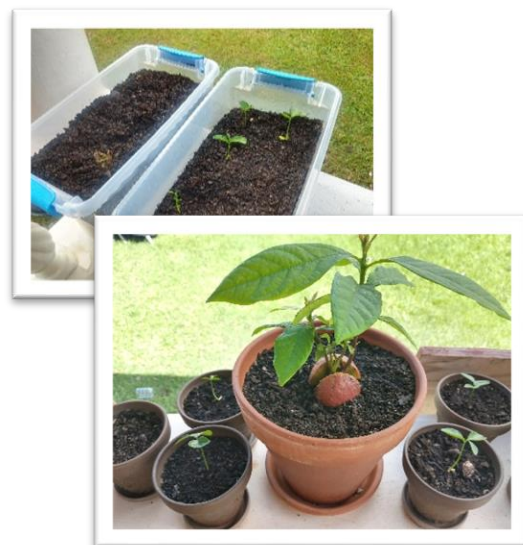
One Bible went to a man on the street that asked for one. Later, he came back asking for another for his friend. Jason told him to bring his friend with him and he'll give him a Bible. The man never came back.

Early last week we made invitations to be sent out via friends for a church in our home. We planned food and Jason prepped, finding a message from Douglas Wilson to share. The kids tidied and cleaned the house and then we waited.

By 11:00 this morning, we had two extra people, one being Jeremiah, who had stayed the night and is also the fourth Bible recipient, and Elijah's friend Layla, who we picked up. God knows who needs to hear what and when so we thank him for the ears that heard the Message and pray for souls to be changed. We thank Him for His provision and our willingness to take a step of faith and pray for courage to stay the course through disappointments of all kinds.

New Life *Green Among Green*

We just can't seem to stop ourselves from growing things. Even though we have nowhere permanent to plant them, and there are fruit trees galore, God has allowed us to sprout several citrus trees of our own and He's provided us with already sprouted Cacao (coco) seeds that are continuing to grow. Along with a beautiful avocado, we also have tomato and lettuce starts.



Jesus is King!

Until next time,
the *Groggs*