



“Hey God, It’s Me Again!” says a young Haitian man on his social media status.



Words are difficult to find to describe the current conditions in Haiti. The nation has spiraled into great chaos. Chaos that easily fits its common definition, behavior that is so unpredictable as to appear random. The destruction, fear, and death that has taken place leaves no one out of the ripple of its turmoil.

“Thousands of people in Haiti’s capital and other major cities have organized new protests to demand safer streets, more affordable goods and the resignation of Prime Minister Ariel Henry.” (ABC News)

A missionary sent this plea for prayer “Well what I’ve warned you of for a couple of years, is happening. The people are finally pushing back, in a big ugly way. Revolution is not pretty or safe. They have taken to the street in mass to protest and 90 percent of the roads are totally blocked, cement walls built across many. The country is locked.”

Pearl Buck wrote in *The Good Earth*, “the test of a civilization is the way it cares for its helpless members.” The leadership of Haiti is failing. The world is failing to intervene. Both of these realities are complex: politics, money, greed, lack of resources, and the list can go on. While we sit here and see the videos, read the reports, and talked to those we minister with and too, we lack answers to difficult situations and questions.

The Dominican Republic has even reached out to the United States and expressed the need for help. (Miami Herald)

A young man that has grown up in our Bible Clubs and School Sponsorship program wrote yesterday and said “My mind isn’t as strong as you think, and I’ve never stop praying for a change in this difficult situation, but I feel like them prayers never been answered. I’m losing it, I don’t think I am that optimist anymore, I’m not that confident guy who always has hope that things are gonna get better and I will get through any though situation I might be in.”

Another missionary spouse recounted in retrospect what was going on with her husband a law student trying to get to school to take final exams when their bus was overrun by gangs. She sat at home in a panic he did not see and he was experience firsthand the dangers of the current days. “I didn't see my husband dive into the thick, desert shrubs as bullets hit the ground all around him. I didn't see his peers, the country's future lawyers, the needed change-makers of Haiti get shot and cry out for help, or tell their friends to leave them behind, or quietly take their last breaths.” “I didn't see my husband start running towards a group of people in the distance, just hoping they were not the enemy. In Haiti's current war, there's really no way to tell. I didn't see him make the risky move to go back to save a classmate who was now barefoot, thorns embedded in her feet, and stuck in a pit of mud.”

A notice was received from Missionary Flights International that due to unrest they could not fly. An informal notice that the American Airlines staff could not get to the airport and flights were canceled. Mission Aviation Flights and Agape Flights have had various scheduling cancellations and changes to accommodate the unrest as well. Flights are unpredictable and even if they are operational that does not mean that one can safely travel to the airport or runway.

Many people ask where is the reporting on these issues? It is challenging because there is no order. Two journalists were killed while reporting.(ABC News) There was a group of seven that were reporting when attacked.

The cost of everything has gone up, while wages for work are very low if they even exist. Since 2018 many organizations humanitarian and missionaries have pulled out of Haiti or scaled back their work. Mission teams and tourism is almost nonexistent. That means that there is little income coming from external sources. To understand a cost comparison, here is one example; Haiti’s gas in August was estimated at 250 Gourdes and in the Dominican it was 669 Gourdes. However, the average monthly salary in Haiti was \$111 US and in the Dominican \$675 US monthly. That means that the gas price was a little more than 250% higher in the Dominican BUT they are paid 608% more in wages in the Dominican. (I will also note that that is the government set price for gas in Haiti, but often times it is not available at the gas stations and you have to buy it from the underground market.)

We are cautious what we say on social media. We will take every precaution to keep our ministry family and other missionaries protected in any ways that we can.

Why do we share all of this heavy news with you? One, we share it because the Bible says in Galatians 6:2, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ."

We cannot bear our brothers and sisters burdens if we are not aware of their plight. Two, we read in Romans 12:12, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." We need your prayers.

Lastly we need your encouragement and support "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9.

We need you now more than ever to join with us in prayer for the Nation of Haiti. We need your continued financial support for the work that we are doing in these difficult days. We have no American missionaries or mission teams on the ground at this time. That means that the financial blessings and network for ongoing support that mission teams brought has ceased. That means that food and supplies we would purchase for teams is not being bought either; therefore, limiting our support in the local community.

The start of school has been delayed by the government for many schools. We are praying for the roads to be safe or for the gangs to come to a truce for school children to attend school; however, as of today that has not happened. Please know that we have paid the schools, purchased books and uniforms, and are anxiously awaiting this day as our many of you that provide school sponsorships.

Our ministry site is currently safe, though supplies are low, difficult to obtain, and very expensive. Our director, Gary is a humble praying man of God and we are blessed beyond measure for his daily leadership and wisdom.

We will keep our eyes fixed on Christ as walk this journey.

In His Service- Pastor Chris Surber



"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."
Hebrews 12:1-3

"May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!" Psalm 72:4



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