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## Galatians 6:2

We are bearing the burden of our brothers and sisters in Montrouis. Life on the street has been very difficult and challenging for so many that call Haiti home. We have been able to provide many families with supplemental food support. We have a lot of individuals that are sponsored and received food monthly; however, there are many more that need charitable assistance. Along with all of our faithful supporters, Learning to Hope in Haiti had a Christmas Giving Tree and that allowed us to provide us meals for many families. Thank you to everyone for your generosity! The cost of everything in Haiti has increased, the currency exchange fluctuates, and transportation to obtain items is challenging. Your faithfulness allows Supply and Multiply to be the hand and feet of Christ.



## A reflection from the mission trip to the Dominican Republic ministering to the Haitian Community...

Not all chains for visible. Haiti's sons and daughters shamed out of speaking their heart language because they are largely unwelcomed guests in the Dominican Republic. Racism is repulsive. I'm not judging Dominicans. We are all perpetrators and victims of the consequences of Babel's Tower. Divided. Dispersed. Victims of our own conceit and self-love. Racism. Nationalism. Fear. These are oddities universally common to the human condition. God hates them. They reflect the worst parts of our fallen nature.

Not all slavery looks the same. Haiti's sons and daughters relegated to sugar cane labor in communities called "bateyes." Living in a foreign land, only slightly but significantly wealthier than your homeland, under constant social stigma and with great difficulty of anything like legal representation, is just repackaged serfdom. A person isn't free until they are entirely free to be themselves unfettered by legal and social rejection. A man is not truly free until he is free to look another man in the eye as an equal. No woman is free until she is seen as more valuable than the price of her flesh.

These are among the things that stung my eyes and stabbed my heart while on mission last week. But they are not all that my senses took in. My heart was warmed by a Dominican Pastor named Pedro who chose to plant churches among Haitian people because, in his words, "Christians should go to those who suffer most..." My spiritual brother

plants churches among those his culture rejects. A portrait of the love of God in Christ for everyone one of us.

My soul was touched as my Haitian brother Dago spoke Haitian Creole to a little Haitian boy, living in an orphanage, "Remember who you are. God hasn't and won't forget you and neither will we." I saw my wife's capacity to love anybody on display. I watched my kids and several of their friends befriend boys just as other kids. Their actions said. "We're all the same. People in need of friends, friendship, love..."

Our life loving Haiti and her people is as heart-building as it is heart-crushing. Everywhere I find Haiti she is beautiful and resilient. She is often oppressed but always hunting for hope. I need her so much more than she needs me because she teaches me that true hope is eternal, real freedom is internal, and friendship and family are my greatest treasures in this difficult, sometimes despicable fallen world.

I'll be prayerfully processing this trip for months to come...

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." - Philippians 3:14 (ESV)

-Pastor Chris Surber



Our dear friend who is known by many as "Gwo Boss" or the foreman on the home build site went home to be with the Lord last night, the 21st of January. Charlestin is our ministry director Gary's brother in law. Many people have known him since 2015 as the boss that oversaw most of the Supply and Multiply house builds and other construction projects. He always had such a generous heart and truly loved that his trade and talent was used to bless so many with safe, stable, and beautiful housing. Our hearts are grieving this loss deeply. We praise God that "Gwo Boss" knew the Lord and we cling to the promises of seeing him again one day! Please join us in praying for his family and friends that are grieving.

Our school students are doing great! We have 89 students enrolled in school. They have started back to school after the Christmas break. The instability in Haiti has caused some difficulties for some students especially the upper grades, vocational, and university students. The children have been able to attend school safely, teachers are able to come to teacher, and we continue to pray for schools to stay safe and open!

## Ministry in the Bateyes (Dominican Republic)

These communities are of Haitians that primarily work the sugar cane fields. The Batey work is a modern form of slavery where Haitians are paid less than \$2.00 American dollars for 12-14 hours of labor. Since the Haitians who originally filled the bateyes were not legal immigrants, their children have often been denied citizenship papers because they are considered to have been born while in transit. Without citizenship papers from Haiti either, these children of Haitian immigrants cannot go to school nor can they receive the benefits of other public services. Source: Wikipedia



Security to ensure that people do not run away from their designated field.



Medical Clinics were provided to people in areas where they had not seen doctors in over two years!



Sharing the store of Noah's obedience and pointing to the Christ for our eternal hope!



Treating the kids with popsicles and blessing the local market.

## Matthew 25 House

The residents at the Matthew 25 House are enjoying the fresh cool breeze that January has brought. They are thankful for their windows that Harvest Bible Church blessed them with last year, so they can close up the house when needed.

This month we have had two residents, Jeffies and Fanny that have spent some days in the hospital. Fanny has made a full recovery, Jeffies is in need of your continued prayers. He is having some heart complications that is causing fluid retention and hard to control blood pressure. Our of our staff members, the night security guard's Lickson, his twenty year old daughter was called home to be with the Lord after a short illness.

We are so blessed by a caring staff and covet you prayers for full health to be restored for the residents!

Thank you to every one that helped us collect items and/or purchased from our Amazon Wish list to bring on mission. We had over 2000 pounds of everything from medical supplies, infant formula, underwear, sheets, games/sport items, feminine hygiene, soap, toothpaste/brushes, and so much more!







A huge Thank You to the Children's ministry of Southside Baptist Church in Suffolk Virginia. They collected so many great items. One Batey received swings for their playset! The smiles on the children's faces was priceless. The children in the boys home loved running alongside the shoreline with kites. Everything was greatly appreciated and brought joy in such difficult situations.



Thank you to Thomas Edison Congregational Church in Fort Meyers for your donation of solar light blubs! We were able to purchase 50 light blubs and bless many homes. This light allows children to do school work, medical clinics to have light after dark, elderly to see their steps, and are a blessing in so many ways from practical to safety.







Thank you to First Congregational Church of Naples for the collection of peanut butter, canned meats, pillowcases, adult diapers, and many other needed items!

Thank you to Liberty Spring Christian Church for their collection of underwear. When we reached out to them they quickly accepted the challenge. We were able to bless so many!





Thank you to GHW homeschool coop group for the collection of medical and hygiene supplies. We were able to see over 200 people at medical clinic, leave behind stocked shelves, and restock our ministry site in Haiti.