



Mission Bon Berger

Milot, de Haiti

January 2020

The Hope of Christmas 2019

Our annual Christmas ministry has been quite a challenge this year. We delayed the shipping of our Christmas container because the government paralysis made it very unlikely we could ever get the container off of the docks in Cap Haitien. Then the situation presented an unsafe environment for our Christmas team, so we had to cancel that.

But in late November Bill talked with the government people in Cap Haitien and felt that we had a small window of opportunity through which we could get the container into the country. So we shipped it in late November. Then in early December it arrived in Cap Haitien. Miraculously we got the container through the customs process and on our compound in record time and with a minimum of difficulty.

Then in mid-January the roads opened up and things seemed settled enough to carry out the ministry. We didn't have a team, so Bill asked Lamar Lyon (*our stateside missionary*) to come in and help with the distribution and preaching. So with the help of our teachers and workers, Bill and Lamar were able to carry out the work during the week of January 27.

The work was an amazing success. We were able to travel unhindered to all of our campuses. The worship services were wonderful. Lamar preached while Bill translated. These were not children's sermons, but a genuine preaching of the Gospel. Even the youngest children paid very close attention. The message was "*The Announcement of the Angels*" from Luke 2:8-14. The focus was on the PEACE they announced, the SAVIOR that God sent, and the GOODWILL of God toward men. In all, 7 services were conducted with over 1800 students under the preaching of the Gospel. Decisions were recorded by the teachers when they returned to their class rooms. Then the names are shared with local pastors. There were quite a number of decisions for Christ.

Since Bill and Lamar were occupied with the worship services, the teachers and workers shared the gifts. So we do not have pictures of that part of the ministry this year. But we do have pictures of some of the preaching services and other related pictures.

Because of the great support of the U.S. churches in providing gifts, we were able to extend "*The Hope of Christmas*" beyond our GSM schools to 3 additional schools: Pastor Maxie Michele's (*he is a graduate of our schools*) school at Grand Rivierre; Pastor Jean Claude Blaise's (*another graduate of our schools*) school at Grand Pre; and a school in Cap Haitien.

Because of the conditions in Haiti this year, it was a miraculous answer to prayer that we had such a complete success in the work. Thank you for praying. God answered your prayers.



330 high school students pack the chapel at Milot for one of the three Christmas singing and preaching services held there.



2 distinguished girls from the Milot high school pose in their uniforms.

(more pictures on back)



◀ our faithful old Daihatsu truck being loaded with gifts.



our Nissan ▶ Frontier diesel being loaded with gifts.



around 260 children packed the chapel at Savane Carree for their Christmas worship service and preaching.



around 300 children pack the chapel at Biclair for one of the three Christmas worship and preaching services held there.

A Time of Testing - A Time for Prayer

We have never shared with you a more critical need for prayer, or a more critical time of testing for GSM. The recent struggles have not only crippled the government, but have also introduced a dark spiritual crisis that is negatively affecting the Haitian people on a personal level. This affects ministries that are trying to serve. Because of the deteriorating conditions in Haiti over the past several years, many ministries have left, or are preparing to leave the country. But GSM is preparing to stay.

Over the next several months GSM will be responding to this challenging environment. To position GSM to meet these new challenges and to continue being able to work effectively in the country, we will be restructuring the ministry to some degree. These changes will require approval by the Haitian government. They may also affect our workers and students. Our hope is that the effects will be positive, and perceived as such.

Keep GSM, Bill & Sandy, the GSM Board of Directors, and the Haitian people in your constant prayers as we navigate these troubled waters.

The Work of GSM

Your support is the means by which GSM is able to provide Christian Education to over 1700 children in grades 1-12, support our Haitian staff of over 140 workers, support our American missionaries, continue the medical care we provide for our staff and students, and continue sharing the Gospel in a multitude of ways. Pray for us. Contact us at any time ...

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