



Mission Bon Berger Milot, de Haiti

December 11, 2007

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come"

"Arise, shine; for thy Light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy Light, and Kings to the brightness of thy rising" – Isaiah 60:1-3

In these verses, the prophet Isaiah announces to us the great event that we would simply call "Christmas". He describes the coming of the Messiah and the effect He would have upon the world. A terrible spiritual darkness enslaved the people of the earth, and the Light of His coming would bring hope, freedom, salvation, and joy to the people. Today there is no darker land nor greater need than Haiti. And it is wonderful that we are seeing the Light of His glory rising in the hearts and lives of the people we serve. Thank you for being a part of GSM and helping to carry the Light, Hope, Salvation, and Joy of Christmas into the darkness of Haiti.

"The Work of the Gospel"

And now here is a brief report on what is being accomplished ...

The **Medical Team** in November was a great blessing. We ministered to nearly 600 children and adults. There were 19 first time professions of faith. The names of these children were given to the pastor and principal in Milot. They will follow-up on these decisions. It was very encouraging when the principal of the school in Milot came to us asking for the names of these children even before we had the chance to give them to him. Read a personal testimony from the medical team elsewhere in this newsletter.



The **Christmas Team** is en route to Haiti even as I am writing this newsletter. We have a wonderful team of 9 people that are going in to help with the distribution of the Christmas bags. In case you don't know, every year a number of our partner churches supply over 2000 Christmas bags for the children and staff of our schools. After the bags are distributed, the teachers and children gather in the church building to hear the gospel story. Bill & Sandy host a staff party during which they give Christmas bags to the workers. It is a wonderful week for everyone.

We have about **8 buildings that need new roofs**. One of our goals in 2008 is for roofing teams to come in and help us get these roofs installed. Perhaps you could recruit a team out of your church. If not you could help by joining with individuals from other churches. Let us know.

A **Feeding Center** for the school in Milot is another of our goals for 2008. At this time, the one meal we serve at the school at Savanne Carre is all we do. Bill & Sandy have a vision to expand our feeding program. They want to start by providing a meal for the children at the school at Milot. The first two things that are needed to move toward fulfilling this dream are two special ovens to equip the center, and a new roof for the building we will be using. \$5000 will supply the ovens, and a good roofing team can keep us dry.

Again, our **Christian schools** remain the core of what we are doing. Everything else flows out of this work and the great host of relationships and activities this involves. Pray for our teachers and principals. We are thankful for their faithfulness. We want them to grow in their ownership of the missionary vision of GSM. One of Bill's greatest desires is that we could pay them more. Pray for Bill & Sandy as they continue the daily work of maintaining and improving our 3 Christian schools: *changing hearts - changing children - changing a nation - one child at a time.*

"The Fruit of the Gospel"

We want to continue introducing you to some of your Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ. So here is our biographical sketch for this month. Meet ...

Guy Etienne



One of the first things you need to know about Guy (*pronounced Gee*) is that he is our fine and dedicated principal at the school in Milot. But now you need to know the rest of the story Guy was born in the fall of 1970. He was growing up as a happy little boy, but when he was 5 he suffered a great tragedy. He went with his father into the garden to gather food for the family. He waited below as his father climbed to the top of a tree to gather breadfruit. First, breadfruit began to fall, then came his father. He fell to the ground and died instantly. His mother could not support all the children, so Guy was brought to the orphanage GSM was providing at the time. Guy attended school with GSM for 11 years and then completed his education in Cap Haitien. He would soon go to work with GSM as a teacher in Milot. And it wasn't long until he became our principal. Today Guy is married with a son and a daughter. He has also taken in and is raising an orphan boy who suffered a crisis similar to his

own. Thanks be to God who is our Great Redeemer and Healer. And who continues to bring blessing out of tragedy. And by the way, Guy is the principal who sought out the names of the children our medical team led to Christ this past November. Thank you for helping us to continue "*bearing much fruit*".

A Medical Team Testimony

I am Lamar Lyon. You may have come to know me as the new “Director of Operations” for GSM. Or, it may seem easier to just say “administrator”. And it is out of this capacity that I needed to familiarize myself first hand with how a medical team carries out their work. So, I had the great opportunity to go as a “gopher” or lay person with the November team. GSM has around 2000 children enrolled in our schools. And since the average Haitian has virtually no access to medical care, GSM strives to meet the medical needs of these children. It is as if we have our own practice. Our goal is to send 3 teams during the school year. We keep a medical record, and do our best to keep our children both spiritually and physically healthy.

This trip turned out to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. And it all has to do with how God flowed through the lives of these medical missionaries to touch the people’s lives with the love of God. The most beautiful thing to me was watching these missionaries spend time with each child. The goal of this team was not to see how many people we could run through the clinic and then boast in great numbers. The goal was to touch people with the love of God, and to spend as much time as each child needed in order to do that. Our



doctor and nurses each had an interpreter. Each took time with the children to talk about their physical needs. But then they would go on to minister to their spiritual needs as well. “Quality, not quantity” became our theme. Lay people manned the “registration table” and the “vitals station”, and were the first to relate to the children, offering warm smiles, greetings, gestures, and even a bubble machine for the little ones. Then after the nurses and doctors, people would finish up with final instructions and warm farewells at the “pharmacy”.



And then there were the “house calls”. There were some elderly people that could not get to the clinic, so we went to them. Again, to see the love of God come from so far away to reach into these homes and touch these people was a grand moment.

continued ...



And then there was the evangelistic ministry of Ron Smith. He is on the GSM Board of Directors and is known in Haiti as the “White Haitian”. This is because he spent more than 20 years in Haiti, and is fluent in the language. As the children would wait in small groups to see the nurses, Ron would just sit and visit with them. He would teach them songs, ask them questions about

the Lord, and share the gospel story. Often, when an individual seemed especially open, he would just sit one on one and talk with them about the Lord. Nineteen children ages 9 to 16 made first time professions of faith in Jesus.



In all we ministered individually to 571 children during the week. I know they have experienced the love of God, for they were touched by His love, through this wonderful team.

In the hope of God’s love and salvation,

Lamar Lyon

So until next time, from all the folks at GSM, Merry Christmas, and thank you for your continued prayer and support ...

In Christ’s service,

William S. Younger &
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 administrator

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