



# DAYSRING MINISTRIES

Walking Hand in Hand with the people of the Light & Peace Missions in Haiti

## Pastor Ronald's Rest and Recovery

May 2010

About two weeks ago, **Pastor Ronald left Haiti** and went to rest and recuperate with family members in Tampa. Although he loved the attention and affection that was showered upon him by the orphans and the people in his congregation, he needed the peace and quiet that only comes from being **"home alone."**

Even in Tampa, however, Pastor Ronald isn't exactly alone. His mother lives with his sister where Ronald is staying, and Ronald's wife and four children are also there with him. Pastor Ronald said that he talks with the kids at the orphanage and he says, **"They miss me!** They are always asking me when we're coming home." Pastor Ronald really likes living at the orphanage with the kids, and he says he misses them, too. He's a good dad to 44 kids!

While **Pastor Ronald was in Tampa** it was easy for me to discuss some important issues with him. We were able to talk about the continuing relief efforts, future adoption possibilities of the orphans, and guidelines for mission trips, among other things.

Pastor Ronald is moving easily now and is just about fully recovered. It was a long and difficult journey through the pain and trauma of a **ruptured appendix**, but there's no doubt that **God was with him all the way**. Everyone here and in Haiti is very grateful to God for His love and mercy that kept Pastor Ronald alive through the long ordeal. And Pastor Ronald is very grateful for the **fervent prayers of his faithful friends and family**.



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**Light & Peace Mission**  
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## Continuing Relief Efforts



**The kitchen at the Light & Peace Mission** is still cooking breakfast for the children and lunch for everyone who shows up each day. Although no one is quite sure how many meals that totals for the day or week, no one really cares, as long as their belly is full!

This is the pot that was used to cook rice for the 156 school children. Now the cooks use several pots that size to prepare rice and

beans for the lunch time crowd. Those 100 lb bags of rice and beans get used up fast.

This is just **one of five tents** that were purchased for the school yard and orphanage that will be used for sleeping quarters. **Sleeping quarters? Yes!** Last week a really strong aftershock sent everyone running into the streets again in fear. With reminders like that, the people are still not willing to sleep inside concrete structures. These five tents will hold



**six bunk beds each**, providing a wind and waterproof sleeping area for at least 125 people. The tents are manufactured by **FarmTek/ClearSpan** and have a long-term warranty. When people decide to return to their homes that weren't destroyed by the quake, these tents can be stored and used again as emergency shelters whenever needed.

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## Orphanage Adoptions

Many people have asked if the children at the orphanage are available for adoption. The answer is **not yet**. The reason is that orphanages need to be in their own building for two years before they can be accredited as a "creche," an orphanage allowed to do adoptions. After the evaluation process, some children may be available, but many are **not truly orphans** with no living parents. Some parents make the heart wrenching decision to leave one or two children at the orphanage because they can no longer afford to care for them. Other children have truly been orphaned by floods, hurricanes and now the earthquake. Many new children at the orphanage need sponsors. Please email [BetsyMintz@gmail.com](mailto:BetsyMintz@gmail.com) for sponsorship info.



## Mission Team Guidelines

It used to be that there were only two or three mission teams a year visiting our friends at the L&P Mission. This year **five mission teams** have already stayed at the orphanage, and five more are scheduled. This is a good thing, but with more and more teams visiting the Mission,



Pastor Ronald and the **Dayspring Committee** in Haiti realized that guidelines needed to be established. The purpose of the guidelines is to be sure

that team visits are comfortably spaced and that team members are aware of the Mission dress codes and other culturally sensitive issues. Mission Teams will be limited to 12 members since housing and transportation logistics need to be considered. Teams need to make reservations well in advance to be sure they do not conflict with pre-scheduled events and activities at the Mission.

## Certificate of Appreciation

So many of you have donated generously and have held creative and successful fundraisers, and to my great distress and embarrassment, **I have not been able to acknowledge** all those wonderful gifts and efforts. I read each note with each check and every letter describing every fundraising event, and my heart wants to drop everything and immediately respond with gratitude. But then an urgent email pops up or the phone rings.

Not only do I want to use this space to say **Thank You** for your gifts, but I want to ask for your forgiveness for my inability to reply in a timely and appreciative way. I'm sorry I haven't let you know how much I care.

Ever since the earthquake, my job as Director of Dayspring has doubled and maybe even tripled in magnitude. I've prayed for helpers, and **the Lord has now brought me reliable and faithful workers** who truly are gifts from God. I look forward to responding quickly and acknowledging everything you've done for our friends in Haiti.

## Somerset Christian College Students Join Mission Team

Seven students from **Somerset Christian College in Zarephath, NJ**, have been working hard to raise money for their tickets to Haiti. They started with a concert back in February to raise relief money for **Dayspring**. From then on they sang and played and raised more than enough money to cover the cost of their tickets to Port-au-Prince. None of the students has ever been to Haiti before, and neither has **Dr. David Schroeder, president of SCC**, who is joining them on the trip. The students think it's **awesome** that their president is going with them!

Everyone on the team is excited and maybe a little nervous. If they've read the **US Embassy Travel Warnings**, I would be too. Yes, Haiti is **still experiencing aftershocks**. Yes, Haiti is **still in emergency mode** after the earthquake. But the people of Haiti are the same today as they were 12 years ago when I made my first trip there. The people of the **Light & Peace Mission** are strong, resilient and humble. They love the Lord and they love one another. **Political turmoil, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes** come and go, but their **joy in the Lord** remains.

**Will you remember this team in your prayers? We'll be in Haiti from May 26th to May 31st. Thank you!**