



# DAYSRING MINISTRIES

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

## November 2010 Mission Trip Memories

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The very best thing that ever happens on a mission trip to the **Light & Peace Mission** happens the moment we step off the bus into the yard of **My Father's House Orphanage**. Each team member is greeted by fifty kids who give each of us a gentle kiss on the cheek. How could heaven be any better than that? I'm at my home-away-from-home once again!

The children at the orphanage are an impressive bunch. Despite their desperate backgrounds of abandonment and neglect (at best), they are loving and caring toward one another, respectful to adults, and serious about their school lessons.

Before the earthquake last January, there were approximately 30 kids. Now there are 50. From my observations, **the two groups have become one happy family**. Amazing!

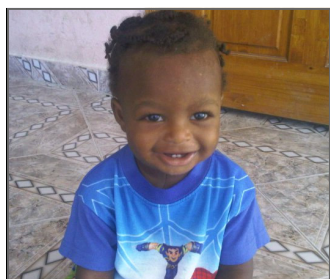


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Little Steve (1 yr old)



The whole bunch!



Dinner out in the yard

During our visit to the Mission, we stayed at the orphanage. Since there were screens on the windows and it wasn't too hot, we all decided to sleep indoors. Some of the kids slept inside, too, but the boys were happy to let us use their room while they slept in the tents.

Our meals were wonderful, **starting off the day with hot coffee**. Our main meal was either turkey or chicken, with a variety of rice and beans, red potato salad with beets, and veggies. Are our teams the only ones to actually gain weight while visiting Haiti?!

## 20 plus Ladies and 1 Man



The number of our widows seems to grow each visit, but we still only have one man. After the orphans, these ladies are my favorite people. They so appreciate everything we do for them and they're very generous with their hugs and kisses, just like the orphans.

We did a wonderful craft project with them...a wall hanging that they created themselves. They loved making it! Does anyone have any suggestions for a name for this elite group?

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## Cholera in Haiti

Cholera is still making its way through the towns and villages. The latest figures shows that almost 1200 people have died and 18,000 more have been infected. In a country of nine million people, the percentage of people affected by cholera is small, but it's an overwhelming number for the hospitals and workers who are responding to the emergency. Large **non-governmental organizations (NGOs)** have established clinics in strategic parts of the country, but are already overwhelmed by the large numbers of patients. The **Dayspring Mission Team** that arrived Nov. 13th delivered bags of IV solution and rehydration packets to the **Light & Peace Clinic**, preparing them for possible patients from the neighborhoods surrounding the Mission in Bon Repos. For more information about the cholera epidemic in Haiti, its possible source, the riots that have taken place, and the desperation and fear existing among the people, go to <http://www.foxnews.com/world/2010/11/19/worries-troops-caused-cholera-haiti/>.

## Sunday Morning at the Mission



To avoid the heat of the day, church begins at 6:30 and is over by 9 o'clock. The sermon on the Sunday that our mission team was there focused on the fear that cholera has brought into the hearts of so many Haitians. Pastor Harry told the people that our Mighty God wants to protect and deliver His people from all diseases, but that the people themselves had a responsibility to do what is necessary to prevent disease. He stressed washing hands and boiling drinking water. Pastor Harry acknowledged that Jesus came to save us, but each person also needs to use the knowledge God gave us to keep ourselves safe.



While we were in Haiti, the team drove over the Artobonite River where cholera is believed to have started and also drove past Cite Soleil, a large slum in Haiti where cholera has affected many people. There is no clean water or sanitation in that area, and the ditches along the side of the roads flow with raw sewage. Most Haitians know about washing hands and boiling water, but since water is so scarce in some areas, it is used for cooking rather than washing hands. Steams and dirty rivers are sometimes the only source of water.

## Beethoven Needs a Sponsor

I don't need to tell you that **there are always kids at the orphanage and school kids that need sponsors**. That's how Dayspring pays for the food, clothes, medical bills, and staff at **My Father's House Orphanage** and the teachers' salaries, books, and lunch at the **Light & Peace Christian School**. There are always bills to pay and things the kids need, and **we always need more sponsors** for the our kids. If you're interested in a child sponsorship, please contact our Child Sponsor Coordinator, [BetsyMintz@gmail.com](mailto:BetsyMintz@gmail.com).

Security at the orphanage is an on-going need. We have a huge 10 ft wall and a guard at the gate 24/7. Our biggest deterrent to unlawful entry onto the orphanage property, however, is our giant Rottweiler puppy named **Beethoven**. Beethoven is a friendly and lively pet for the kids at the orphanage, but to outsiders, he appears as a ferocious animal that would eat them up for breakfast. And that's exactly what we want outsiders to think.

We've discovered, however, that Beethoven is a bit on the thin side. Although he gets fed scraps and leftovers, you can imagine that might not be enough to sustain a dog his size. So, it was suggested that we get a sponsor for Beethoven. If you're interested in sending a monthly donation toward his food, we'll send you his photo and paw print for your fridge. Thanks for considering this need!

