



Thank you so much for all of the support you are to my family through prayer and encouragement!



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Special emphases:

Thank you in advance for your efforts to gather used Sunday School and VBS materials around your churches to send to the Caribbean! Quality materials are hard to come by, and many of the DS's are concerned about what their teachers can (or cannot) find at local books stores. Thank you also for your prayers for our family. They mean so much!

Jamaica Trip Update!

“The power of the Lord came upon Elijah, and tucking his cloak in his belt, he ran...”

This is the verse that God gave me Sunday morning January 27th in Jamaica’s Boulevard Nazarene Church. Our team of 8 had arrived in Kingston, Jamaica the night before. All of the medications that we had worked so hard to inventory correctly for customs were being held at the airport. Prayer requests were e-mailed across the country as literally thousands of people prayed that the medications would be released and that God would bless our week. I was the only doctor on the team, and I was intimidated by the numbers of patients I would be expected to see. I was used to seeing 20 patients a day in my Yakima, WA Family Practice clinic. We were hoping I could see 50 a day. “Lord, help me!” I prayed. Then He gave me that verse. Elijah outran Ahab’s chariot as

the Lord broke a three year drought in a downpour of His power. (see 1 Kings 18) Hmm, God’s power and my cooperation, “Okay, Lord, let’s do it!”

The first day we started seeing patients at the most needy church in Jamaica. I wrote the directions for the medications each patient would need, working in faith that the Lord would provide the medications. By noon I had seen 26 patients, and then Tami, one of the nurses, offered to be my assistant. She wrote as I talked to patients and examined them. She distributed patient education materials to adults and stuffed animals to the children. The total for that day was 69. “Wow, Lord, and I am so excited for tomorrow!” And yes, the medications arrived just in time to give out to all the patients who had been

waiting there all day. God is good. The next day I saw 96 patients and 105 the following. I was so amazed at what was happening, and I felt really good that we were delivering quality care as both chronic and acute medical issues were treated. Diabetes and hypertension were rampant. Skin infections and parasites were impressive. There was such desperate poverty, but the people praised God for his rich blessings. The total for the week was 457 patients helped in five churches and their communities. The pastors of each church had all the contact information to follow up on all the new people. I think God held up our medications for the weekend so over 4,000 more people could participate in this medical mission trip through their prayers. Now we can all praise Him together! Giving God glory is a party everyone should be invited to attend.

Sunday School & VBS Materials Needed!

When it costs \$220 to ship 15 books to Belize you begin to not be picky about what you get! We need your help! Shipping costs to the Caribbean nations are exorbitant, and so many of the more needy countries cannot afford good Nazarene curriculum for either Sunday

School or Vacation Bible School. Nazarene Publishing House has been incredibly helpful in providing at or below cost material for our mission work, but the total cost is still too high. District Superintendents have asked if there are churches in the US

using the Nazarene curriculum (for any age group) that would be willing to send their used materials to the field. This would enhance Holiness teaching and be a huge blessing to the leaders that have requested these used materials. See: Mail to Miami!

Poverty in Haiti

By JONATHAN M. KATZ -- PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

It was lunchtime in one of Haiti's worst slums, and Charlene Dumas was eating mud. With food prices rising, Haiti's poorest can't afford even a daily plate of rice, and some take desperate measures to fill their bellies. Charlene, 16 with a 1-month-old son, has come to rely on a traditional Haitian remedy for hunger pangs: cookies made of dried yellow dirt from the country's central plateau. The mud has long been prized by pregnant women and children here as an antacid and source of calcium. But in places like Cite Soleil, the oceanside slum where Charlene shares a two-room house with her baby, five siblings and two unemployed parents, cookies made of dirt, salt and vegetable shortening have become a

regular meal. Though she likes their buttery, salty taste, Charlene said the cookies also give her stomach pains. Food prices around the world have spiked because of higher oil prices. Oil is needed for fertilizer, irrigation and transportation. Prices for basic ingredients such as corn and wheat are also up sharply, and the increasing global demand for biofuels is pressuring food markets as well. The problem is particularly dire in the Caribbean, where island nations depend on imports and food prices are up 40 percent in places. The global price hikes, together with floods and crop damage from the 2007 hurricane season, prompted

the U.N. Food and Agriculture Agency to declare states of emergency in Haiti and several other Caribbean countries. At the market in the La Saline slum, two cups of rice now sell for 60 cents, up 10 cents from December and 50 percent from a year ago. Beans, condensed milk and fruit have gone up at a similar rate, and even the price of the edible clay has risen over the past year by almost \$1.50. Dirt to make 100 cookies now costs \$5, the cookie makers say. Still, at about 5 cents apiece, the cookies are a bargain compared to food staples. About 80 percent of people in Haiti live on less than \$2 a day.



This article was passed along via e-mail. It has been edited to fit the space here, but the whole article can be found here:

Google News

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hql474CjaGOUz7nsk4ZcTtdpxUAD8UEQVRO0>

Over 100,000 Haitian Nazarenes are even now involved in their District Assemblies. Please pray for Haiti. Also see the

Haiti Links here:

<http://www.caribbeannazarene.org/wcaribbean/Haiti/home/tabid/110/Default.aspx>

Cuban Theological Degree Graduates

The work continues! This year, Cuba's district assembly began with an inspirational commencement ceremony. On Jan. 22, 2008, over 500 Nazarenes gathered in and around the chapel of the Nazarene Bible Institute in Havana and celebrated together as five Cuban pastors accepted their diplomas in cap and gown.

Ruben Fernandez, president of the Nazarene Seminary of the Americas in Costa Rica (SENDAS), was there to present master's degrees to these five, who studied through the extension program taught by SENDAS professors dedicated to extended visits to Cuba.

SENDAS assists 19 on-campus students and 163 others through the Nazarene Bible Institute's extension program in other parts of Cuba. Their vision: "We are working...to graduate people not only with theological formation but also so that they will be able to train other leaders."

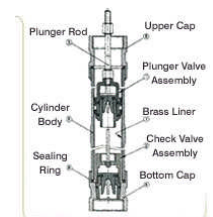
Haiti Water Project

"Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst...For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water." Rev 7:16-17 What a glorious day that will be! You have all heard of the problems

faced by the people in Haiti, but churches there are finding an innovative way of raising people to new levels of life! Through the Haiti Water Project churches are providing clean local water for their communities, thus relieving

Some of more than 6 hours of work as the walk to rivers and puddles for drinking water! Now people come to the church for water! From a low-cost cistern project to a new well, see ways you can help at:

<http://www.caribnaz.org/water>



A well could help revolutionize life for a Haitian village!

Prayer Requests!

I think I will start a prayer request column, so you can use this Newsletter to say a prayer for us when you have time. Thank you also to the many of you who pray for us regularly. The Caribbean is a spiritually dark place, but with Christ, the Son of the Living God, the gates of Hades will not overcome the church. So, we need prayer! ☺

1. Office Personnel: a Spanish Field Strategy Coordinator, health, interactions, and ministries of the missionaries in the CRO.

2. Monte Cyr's (NYI) extended family – a tragic death of his niece in Idaho.

3. Commitments in Jamaica would be followed through, and the churches there strengthened.

4. Rosie and I will be speaking to Lehigh CoTN next weekend

5. Health for the family: Rosie's knee infection and Grace's tummy – fun stuff! ☺

6. Books for Pastors smooth shipping and funding.

7. Pastor Darin, of Redland Nazarene, broke his arm in 10 places in a boating accident. Please pray for good recovery, and his family. He is already doing better, and had a major surgery today.

8. Good tuition break for the girls at Rainbow school for next year as well – what a HUGE blessing that has been this year!

9. All ordination events will go smoothly in the Northwest in April. Thanks for your prayers!



The medical team to Jamaica was a bunch of miracles in a row! Please read the first article, or for even more of the story visit our website at <http://www.kerribbean.com/miracles/>

Books for Pastors Update

Did you give to the Books for Pastors project two years ago? It is an effort to build the libraries of those who have few resources to buy their own books for ministerial study and preaching. A volunteer working here was very excited to see her dollars actually went to a real live cause, and a real live person was tasked with

finding the books, filling out paperwork to request the books, ordering the money for the books, ordering the books at the cheapest price, finding inexpensive shipping, and getting the books to the Districts in the Caribbean. The volunteer called me a poor schmuck! ☺ So I let her help

me sort and package over 3,000 VBS packets and books heading out this month! Please be in special prayer for me, as this project continues to run into snags, and I cannot help but suspect a spiritual fight with all of these issues! Thank you for your faithfulness, and I look forward to more reports later!

Books
For
Pastors:



Books in English, Spanish, and French or Haitian Creole, and only English uses an ISBN system! ☺

Discipleship...The Key to the Future!

We hear the term "discipleship" so much that I am surprised that you even chose to read this section! ☺ Did you choose it first, or read something more interesting first? And yet, what was it that Jesus called us to do, make converts, or make disciples? Is there a difference? If there is a difference, how do you make disciples and still concentrate on making converts? It is quite

apparent that Christ was serious about discipleship. Although there were large crowds that followed Him, Jesus seemed to really focus intently on a select few people rather than always diffusing His teaching energies to a large group. Yet, this small group of people were so well disciplined that they created a movement that is larger than any other

religious movement in the world, and is also the fastest growing religion too (believe it or not!). So what does that call us to do? Be part of making disciples. Who have you asked to disciple you? Who are you actively discipling? I would love to hear your stories, so please write and let me know what discipleship looks like where you are! Go, make disciples!



Making Disciples One Conversation at a Time!

If you want a great book that explains discipleship the way I am promoting it here on the Caribbean Region, read this book by D. Michael Henderson!

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**Learn more! Come visit us
at www.Kerribbean.com!**

Working with you to make Christlike
disciples in the nations!

Scheduled Deputations:
Feb. 16-17 Lehigh Acres, Florida
July 21-25 Youth Camp, Florida
Anaheim District, May 2009

Mail to Miami! (Sunday School and VBS Materials)

If you can help in sending materials to the Miami office we can distribute from there. If you would also like to help with funds for that distribution that would be incredibly helpful as well. The address to send materials to is:

Caribbean Regional Office
13261 SW 124th St.
Miami, FL 33186

There are all kinds of places to visit on the web if you are interested in learning more about: (If you are reading this electronically you should just have to click on links!)

The Caribbean Region: <http://www.caribnaz.org>

On the Kerr family: www.Kerribbean.com

The Jesus Film: <http://www.jfbp.com> and www.caribnaz.org/JesusFilm

The Nazarene Church: <http://www.nazarene.org>

There's lots more! Just e-mail us if you have other questions!



*What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb,
If I were a wise man
I would do my part,
Yet what can I give Him--
I give my heart.*

Christina Georgina
Rossetti



“Why This Waste?”

This is what everyone asked when the woman poured the alabaster jar of expensive perfume on Jesus' head and feet. Did she give without hesitation or did she question why God was asking her to give up her life savings in this way? What matters is she obeyed. My dearest friends and family asked the same question of me. Why are you not practicing medicine anymore? After all that training and investment, what is the church thinking? I also questioned why God would call me to be a doctor and then ask me to give it up. But I knew this was his plan, so I obeyed.

I told many of you that I felt like Abraham laying Isaac on the altar. Over a year went by without practicing medicine. As I participated in the medical mission trip to Jamaica, pastor Marty on our team presented a devotional to us about the woman pouring perfume on Jesus' feet. Jesus honored the sacrificial obedience of that woman even when it seemed like a waste. I still am not sure what God will do with the medical training he has given me. Working in Jamaica to serve the most underserved, felt right. Being in ministry as a missionary is right. Being

able to spend time with my little girls rather than being in a clinic 50 hours a week is right. God has a plan to bless our family. He is good and worthy of trust.

Nothing is a waste when it is placed in his hands.

*East Jamaica District Superintendent
Rev. Grey and his wife*

