

International Faith Missions

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Only One—But Someone

There she stood at my pharmacy window - a frail slice of humanity. Eyes wide, shaking with fear, her story began to spill from her lips.

The police had brought her to the clinic because they feared for her life and the life of her unborn child of two months. Her small frame was exceptionally thin. She was bruised, obviously beaten. Her wrists showed nasty red marks where she had been tied with electrical wire. Her body had big ugly welts - down her legs, her cheeks, her shoulders.

She has a small house and a little business to support herself. The man who claims to be her boyfriend comes to her house regularly and beats her mercilessly. This time he came and left her aching with the results. He took her passport, her money, plus her bank card. The police chased after him, but they couldn't find him. So like most cases in Haiti, they will probably not pursue it farther.

I sat and talked to her awhile . She didn't seem to be willing to call upon family or want to bother anyone to come to her house for the night. This would most likely stoke her boyfriend's anger even worse. She said she will just return to her house and if she dies tonight she will just die. I tried to reassure her that if she seeks God with all her heart he will listen to her cry. Even if no one else sees or cares surely our Heavenly Father does. We prayed and then I gave her medicine and some Herba-life shakes. After a little rest on the hospital bed she was gone.

Yes, she is gone -this fragile, but oh so special, slip of a lady. I do not even know her name. Most likely I shall never see her again, and yet she has impacted me more than some of my friends have in all my life. Did she choose her circumstances? Is she not of just as much value as I? Did she never have a chance in life? Does she really know Jesus? All these questions and more - I may have no answers but I am so thankful I trust in an all-knowing God.

I have been born to privilege- Do I live my life like every moment counts? Surely, I can show my light for Jesus. It may be in small ways; it may be only once in a person's life; it may be but a prayer; but all the same I must! How can I not, after all Jesus has done for me?

—Julie Bauman

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Continuing health for Dadou
- Safety for mission staff travelling to and from the field on furlough
- Funds for more staff housing since the lake is taking over current housing
- Funds for expansion to the Children's Home
- Urgent need for a secretary at the home office in Michigan

URGENT:

IFM has an urgent need for a secretary at the home office in Michigan. This can be a volunteer or paid position. Please contact the home office for more details at 517-287-4007.

Financial statements are available upon request.

IMPACTED

It was just another ambulance run; a lady with a liver disease needed to be taken to a hospital in Port au Prince. We were doing our best to get there in a timely fashion, but, of course, we had to slow down for a cow to cross the road. Just as we accelerated, another cow stepped out of the bushes and was hit right in the head by our ambulance. After stopping to inspect the damage to our vehicle, we kept going even though Shea really wanted some steak.

The lady was delivered safely to the hospital and we began our trip home. Arriving in the vicinity of the dead cow, we started looking along the road. After a bit of searching, we spotted it down over the embankment; Shea dragged it up onto the road and went through the bloody process of gutting it, while we girls held the back legs apart and the flashlight so he could see what he was doing. The final step was to lift it into the back of the ambulance and head back to the mission. We had a great big butchering party that night, and it ended with beef in the freezer. That will always be one of my very favorite Haiti memories.

I feel so incredibly privileged and blessed to have spent the last month at the mission. The people of Haiti have taught me so much and challenged me to be more giving. The staff gives so selflessly and unconditionally; the impact that left on my heart will always stay with me. It's so easy to become involved in so many "good" things in my community, but if I do not have time to invest in people, then what am I? Just like the cow left its mark on our ambulance, I want to leave my mark on people's lives when they rub shoulders with me. I will forever be thankful that God allowed Fond-Parisien, Haiti to be part of my journey.

—Melissa Wingard

**Presentations of the
work in
Haiti and the
Dominican Republic
are available from
missionary staff or
mission board
members.**

**Please contact us at
517-287-4007 or
ifm-hdr@juno.com
for more information.**

**Who
will
help
him?**

I was walking down the hallway in the hospital; my attention was turned to a bed with what appeared to be a lifeless body on it. As I got closer the boy reached out his hand and motioned for me to come. He never said a word, but the beckoning hand and the look of despair on his face was all it took for me to know what he wanted. His bed was soiled and obviously very uncomfortable.

What should I do? I was busy so I asked one of the nurses to clean it up. I believe she was as busy as me.

The look on the boys face broke my heart and I thought, "What would Jesus do if he was here? Would he fill the water tanks and stock the shelves and hope someone else helped the needy boy?" The answer was very easy, NO. He would care for the boy, and deal with the water tank and shelves later.

With strength I did not have the minute before, I cleaned things up and got the boy back in his clean bed.

What if this boy was actually an angel and I did not know it? I almost left him lay without helping him.

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for some have entertained angels unawares."
Romans 13:2

—Keith Martin

Vacation Bible School Jimani, Dominican Republic Church Ministry

Hello, God bless you. I want to share about the Bible School Beran held from July 25 to 29, where we evangelized over 215 people throughout the week. It was a very special week because we could preach the Word of God to many people. We received help from Shadasha Ministry with a group of 30 people. They helped on the part of the singing, crafts and games. This group came from Miami, United States.

Jesus said, according to Mark 16:15 "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel."

Also during the week of July 18-23 the young people from church along with Tom and Kiko worked on an annex to the Sunday school classes, and built a temporary bathroom. We ask for your prayers for the spiritual growth of the church and for God to supply the needs for the construction of a church building.

—Emilio Jose Perez Diaz





Michelet Exilus

My name is Michelet Exilus. I am 2 1/2 years old and I love to look cute and always have nice clothing. I like to play with my brothers ,Eddy and Wilson, and also make Veronika laugh. I love rice and beans. I also love when I sit by the window and look at the beautiful view we have.

I always loved to take care of special needs children and always said that I would be thankful to God if he gave me the opportunity to go to the mission field to care for one. Here he is, a precious gift from my Father above. It's been a blessing taking care of him because I never saw myself taking care of a child like him. He was brought to the children's home when he was 9 months old. When he got to the children's home he was very malnourished. Because of the lack of good vitamins and good nutrition he now suffers from what we call rickets. In the past 2 years he's gone through a lot. Mitch(as we call him here at the children's home) has had 2 caregivers that took care of him, so I am his third one. Can you imagine one of your children having so many caregivers in a short time? I can't imagine but I know how it feels to go from hands to hands. Mitch has some disorders that I am working with; he has RAD which is Reactive Attachment Disorder. I had read a lot about this but never thought I would end up having my hands on this type of disorder. Mitch is a very intelligent little guy. He says full sentences and loves to talk. The best part about my job that I enjoy the most is bed time; we get into his bed and cuddle together until he falls asleep. He loves when I read stories to him and rock him. I spend a lot of time training him on how to eat everything he is given to eat and also to play with the other kids. With his disorder it's very easy for him to go and cuddle with everyone he sees even if it's a total stranger, so I also spend lots of time bonding with him. Over all he's a very sweet little boy! I praise God for him!

Please pray for him.. That he would be able to somehow grow out of this attachment disorder and for his physical health as well. To fix his joints he would need a medical visa to be able to go to the states and get surgery.

Pray for me as I minister to his life.

—Sulley Pacheco

I feel richly blessed by God to have spent the past month at IFM. One of the first memories I treasure is riding to IFM from the airport on the back of the pick-up. The heat, dust, wind whipping my hair, sights and sounds of people, and the beauty of the mountains will always be etched in my memory. It was so good to finally be experiencing what I had dreamed about for so long!

Another of my favorite memories also includes a pick-up truck ride. This time the staff at IFM was heading up the mountain for a hot dog roast. I found it quite amusing how many adults, children, food, and firewood can fit on the back of one pick-up. We lost the package of spoons to the wind but I think everything and everyone else came along. Twice the truck over heated and we had to stop while Shea poured water in the radiator. The first time it happened we just laughed and waited. The second time some of us decided to walk the rest of the way. Such is life in Haiti. It is rarely, if ever, predictable and has taught me many lessons in flexibility!

It was a wonderful evening roasting hotdogs and marshmallows under the stars. The view was awesome over-looking the lake. I was amazed at how much fun people can have without all the modern conveniences at their fingertips.

Transition with me now, to a small village where most of the villagers are Haitians. They were deported back to Haiti from living illegally in the D. R. Thus it is very poor, definitely a cultural experience. Picture: cement houses, animals roaming where ever they chose, and naked children playing in the lake. The smell of sweat, urine and who knows what else was something to get used to. Lots of children everywhere with too much time to think up trouble and starving for love. If I think about their future for too long it makes me sick to my stomach. This is where Mel and I went with Sheila to teach a girls class.

One girl, in particular will always tug at my heart. It was the afternoon that we made beaded bracelets with the girls. Monike looked to be about 12 years old. How does one describe the mixture of love and longing, even hope, that sparked from her eyes? She told Sheila in Creole that she wants to come to Canada with me. It makes my heart ache. If only I could take her with me.... change her future. But I'm thankful for the chance I had to hold her tight and show her affection if only for a short time. I pray that God draws her to Himself.

I'm thankful to the staff here for welcoming me as part of the IFM crew for these past 4 1/2 weeks. The friendships and memories will remain a part of me for the rest of my life. May God bless you all as you carry on His work in Haiti.



—Sara Brubacher









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— WAYS YOU CAN HELP —

 <p><u>General</u> I would like to contribute \$ _____ to be used where needed most.</p>		<p><u>Dominican Republic Outreach</u> This \$ _____ is to help bring Christ to the D.R.</p> 
<p><u>Aid for Orphans</u> I am donating \$ _____ to aid orphans not in the IFM Children's Home.</p> 	<p><u>Disaster Relief</u> Please use the enclosed \$ _____ to help relieve the suffering in Haiti following the earthquake of 2010.</p> 	
<p><u>Children's Home</u> I wish to give for the operating expenses of the Children's Home \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ one-time donation</p> 	<p><u>School Sponsorship</u> I wish to sponsor # _____ children at \$15 per month/\$180 per year. I am enclosing \$ _____ as my initial payment and understand that I will receive a picture and more information.</p> 	
<p><u>Hospital</u> I would like to help provide quality medical care in Haiti.</p>		<p><u>Medical Relief</u> I would like to help those who cannot afford the medical care they need. \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ one-time gift</p> 
<p>\$ _____ construction \$ _____ where most needed</p>		<p>\$ _____ operating expenses \$ _____ cholera treatment</p>
		<p><u>Food Pantry</u> I wish to help stock the church's relief supply for the poor within the church. \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ one-time</p> 
		<p><i>Any Sponsored donations received above and beyond the present need will be used for a similar cause.</i></p>

**INTERNATIONAL FAITH MISSIONS
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