

Letters from Haiti



JANUARY 2013

A Note from Larry

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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A look back....

On January 12, 2011, the earth shook in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. During the 34 seconds of the earthquake, buildings crumbled and fell and thousands of people lost their lives. On that day, our house mother, Dada and her sister, Luciana, were both away from the house. Dada was riding in a "tap tap" (a Haitian taxi) in Port-au-Prince, and Luciana, was in Croix-des-Bouquets standing along a brick wall, waiting to catch a ride home.

Luciana is a strong, independent woman who does as she pleases. She has raised six daughters and a son on her own and she views the world in her own way. She is opinionated and few would argue with her. It is impossible to not love this wonderful Christian woman. On this day, as Luciana was standing by the wall, a man walked by and told her to come away from the wall. Luciana immediately listened and in that moment, the ground began to shake. As Luciana struggled to keep her balance, that same wall fell. If she hadn't moved, if the man hadn't told her to move, she would have been crushed. Luciana shared this story with a group of people on the one week anniversary of the earthquake. We sat in the yard of Dada's home, in the light of an oil lamp with 100 other people, and listened to stories like Luciana's. We had all come together to thank God for spar-



ing the lives of those around us. It was a wonderful experience and we sang and praised God into the night.

Dada also shared her incredible God story from the day of the earthquake. As she was riding home, the tap tap began to move all over and she thought they had been in an accident. Soon she realized this was not the problem as rubble and dust were everywhere. The tap tap stopped and everyone got out because it was damaged. Dada stood in the street, surrounded by chaos, and as her mind went to her 10 children at home, she prayed. In that moment, God to sent her a tap tap. She got in and the tap tap took her all the way home. All of us were amazed and many stood and openly praised the Lord. You see what most of you who read this don't understand, is that there are no tap taps that come straight to Ganthier from her location. Normally, Dada would have to change tap taps at least 3 times to get home; but not that day. She arrived home to find her children, a little scared but well, in the care of one of our staff members, and her

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Nancy Wadhams
sponsorship@servantsgift.com
www.servantsgift.com

CONTACT INFO

Servants Gift
Box 271
New Windsor, IL 61465
www.servantsgift.com
larry@servantsgift.com



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home still stood with only minor damages. As she told this story, one week after the earthquake, she gave loud and wonderful praise to God.

Another story came from a young lady who had been badly injured in the earthquake. Part of a wall fell on her and her leg, causing her to be unable to walk. She lay in the street until finally being freed, and through a number of events was eventually brought to Dada's house. Upon arrival she was in great pain and in need of medical help. Dada had nothing to offer her but prayer, so that's exactly what our little family did. Dada gathered all of the kids and several members from the community to come and pray over

this young lady. The next morning when she woke up, she was once again able to walk. As she shared her story one week after the earthquake, she still had the marks from her injury, but none of the pain.

There are so many stories of God's glory surrounding the time of the earthquake in Haiti 3 years ago. Many memories were made that day, some wonderful, and some I wish I could forget. However, through it all, one thing remains the same...God and His unchanging love for His children, who are all created equal and in His image.

In Christ,
Larry

School Progress

The school continues to do well. We now have playground equipment and the enrollment is up to 60 students, with expected enrollment of around 100 students when we can provide chairs and supplies for everyone. Funds are still needed to finish the bathrooms and pave the area in front of the school. Thank you for your continued support.



Fundraising

We are excited for a new opportunity to raise funds for our friends in Haiti. Servants Gift is teaming up with The Apparent Project, www.apparentproject.or, to sell bracelets made by Haitians themselves. Part of the funds will go directly back to Servants Gift, while the remainder will be given to the families who are making the jewelry to help them provide for their families. The cost of these bracelets are \$8. Orders can be made by contacting Larry Roberts at (309) 371-8937 or via email at larryjroberts67@gmail.com.

Getting Involved

There are several ways to get involved with Servants Gift:

- Child sponsorship
 - For more information contact Nancy Wadhams at sponsorship@servantsgift.com
- Larry is available for speaking arrangements.
 - If you are interested in hearing more about his trips and testimony please contact him at larry@servantsgift.com
- Monthly financial support
- Be a prayer partner
- To be added to our newsletter mailing list, please send your email and mailing information to Stephanie at steph@jasonmckee.net.

Prayer Requests

- Health for Dada and all the kids
- God's guidance through the school construction
- Sponsors for all kids
- Medical clinic
- Stability in Haiti
- Project Papillon team
- Godly wisdom for Larry as he follows God's vision for Servants Gift
- Our new partnership with LY-PEDHA



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