

October 25, 2010

Two letters are included—first from Doris re: the cholera epidemic. Second is from Don, who recently took a quick trip home for the funeral of his sister—his thoughts and heart.

Doris says:

“Thought we might let you know how things are in Dessalines. We have had quite a few teams this fall and a lot going on. However, God has been good. Praise the Lord.

In Dessalines right around us, we have not heard of any outbreaks but the hospital is full with cholera patients and Dr. Jerry, who has only been here a little over a week, really has his hands full. Last night they lost two. Today word is that they’ve lost two more. The nurses have been busy night and day without having a chance to eat, and had asked Ruben if he would bring back something for them. We got together and made some Cream of Wheat that was on hand. The hospital called Ruben and asked if we had anything, we could

help out with in the situation. We had some items left over that came in the container—hand sanitizers, alcohol, along with some Depends. (What else could they have used that was any better for the circumstances?) God always comes through at the right time.

You might ask what we are doing here to protect us. All the children were given a bottle of hand sanitizer to put in their book bags along with some instructions—hand washing, etc. Yesterday the Holy Spirit reminded us of a few years ago—the big scare when Aides was rampant and we gathered under the tree and prayed that God would “vaccinate” everyone. In living a holy life for Jesus, he would take care of us. That proved to be true.

We sent word to Milo as to what the Lord had placed on our hearts. At the end of the service last night, we spoke to them. Our counsel to them was after returning home from school, market etc. be sure and wash their hands well with soap. We reminded them of that previous time, and that we believed God was calling us to a life of holiness and if we were faithful to Him, He would be faithful to us etc. They all came and knelt down at the altar as Milo sang and Dad anointed them with oil. We prayed that God would vaccinate them with the Holy

Spirit against this cholera that was spreading so fast. What an experience we had with the Lord as we felt waves and waves of the Holy Spirit all over us. Then we went to the baby dorm and laid hands on them and prayed, just as in James instructions for healing. We were so grateful to God that we had obeyed the Holy Spirit.”

Don writes:

I had heard by email that my sister was failing fast but was told perhaps another 2 weeks or up to a month before the end - it was only one day. So I left the team here at Dessalines and Doris thought it better if she stayed. I flew home...someone with a gift of helps in the States went on line and got my ticket so I did not have any trouble getting on the airplane, as there were no seats left.

My sister that died was the first one born to my father and mother, I was the last one. She was 12 years older than I was. She did things for me when I was young that I never

forgot. Like all families, there are memories of home. I was six years old when she graduated from high school. Later she got a Ford Coop. She went to college and became a registered nurse. But what I remember most is her helping my mother at home. Whatever had to be done, she would sing. One song I remember was, "It's Real, it's real, Oh I know it's real, Praise God the doubts are settled and I know, I know it's real". And as I write this letter, it's real in my heart too. My sister wanted to be a missionary, she never went to a foreign field but she was a missionary at home.

A family member let me use their car - just what I needed - A gift of helps again. (Thanks Bill.)

On the way back into Haiti, I met friends who said my sister Marjorie was their Sunday School teacher when they were younger.

The team that was in Haiti left the day I returned. I wasn't able to see them, but arriving at EGO I see the roof is on the little house we were working on and the hole for the school toilet is dug and the blocks are up. Great job you guys-- you beautiful people! Also, for Milo, Ruben, and all the older children who helped in many ways to make things run better—THANK YOU! The gifts of helps still work today—just like all scriptures in the Bible.

Well I'm here in Haiti now and I'll do my best - the best I can for Jesus - you know it's real in my heart too.

Don