

“Hey Kids, Remember...”



Haiti is a small nation but it is filled with big needs. More missionaries are needed there. Pray that God will send more missionary workers to Haiti.

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GREAT COMMISSION KIDS aims to nurture a love for missions that will encourage children to be active in the Great Commission throughout their lives.

This quarterly publication is mailed free to individual children or adult leaders of children.

Contact the editor at: elinor.young@worldteam.org.

GC Kids is a service of World Team:
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Issue 26: Haiti

God Wants More Workers

Missionaries have been in Haiti for about 100 years. But it still needs more workers to finish reaching everyone for Jesus. It needs workers who will help Haitian Christians reach their own people.

Other areas of the world have never had any missionaries at all.

In either case, there are not enough workers to finish the job of reaching the world for Christ. That is why Jesus said:

“There is such a big harvest of people to bring in. But there are only a few workers to help harvest them. God owns the harvest. Ask him to send more workers to help gather his harvest.” (Matthew 9: 37-38, Easy-to-Read Version)

Could this be you?

From Missionary Kid To Missionary In



Growing up in Haiti was really fun at times, and really hard at times. We had to depend on the Lord a lot. For instance, we liked to go to a nearby beach. On normal days the beach was 20 minutes away, but it was 30 minutes away if it rained and the rivers were high. High rivers made things tricky because there were no bridges and we had to drive through the water. But whatever happened, my siblings and I always had loads of fun playing with our Haitian friends.

Our parents had a rule that at home we had to speak English at the table. They

made that rule because we only spoke Creole, even among ourselves, and so were not learning English.

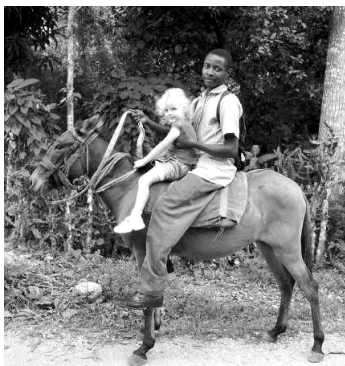
I missed out on Christmas and other fun occasions with my relatives in the US and Canada. However, in Haiti we had lots of adopted "aunts and uncles and cousins." That is what we called the other missionaries and their children. We really were one happy family.

It was a great life. I accepted the Lord in Haiti when I was five years old and as I grew up always had something to do to help my parents' ministry there.

When I was about seven, my mom was going to do a Vacation Bible School in a village called Marie which was about six miles off the



Some of us "MKs" on an outing.



"MK" Ellie Christensen on a donkey

main road, and even that main road was a dirt road. I went along to help. We rode on donkeys to get to the village. We crossed the same river about ten times as it snaked around the mountain ranges. We went up and down the mountain side, and finally saw the little town way down in the valley. They told us most of the people had never seen "white" people before.

It was a fun week. I helped to tell the Bible stories. Most of those kids had never heard about the Bible as this was the only church and was fairly new. Even adults came to the lessons. I also helped teach songs, do crafts, and play games. Several children accepted Jesus as their

In your imagination, think about how the man in the photo would feel about trying to harvest a big field of wheat by hand, all by himself. How would he feel?

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.....

What do you think he would want? (Unscramble the letters for the answer.)

L P E H



Of course, in Matthew 9:36-38, Jesus wasn't talking about a real wheat harvest. He used that as a picture of all the people in the world who do not know about Him. Like ripe grain that is ready to be harvested, people all over the world are ready to become true Christians, but there are not enough people out there telling them about

Jesus. The few who are in the "harvest field" need help. They need other workers to come and help them tell people about Jesus.

That is what this missionary does in Haiti. He teaches in a school that helps pastors and church workers to know how they can better reach their nation for the Lord.



Read again the bottom of page 4 to remind you about some of the kinds of workers the Lord needs for His harvest fields. Then write a prayer, asking Jesus to send workers where they are needed.

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.....

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20 and more

Matthew 9:36-38

³⁶ When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, ...

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." -NIV

In these verses, Jesus talked about harvesting grain like barley or wheat. This is what wheat looks like. It has heads that contain the grain, or seeds. The heads must be cut off and the kernels of grain removed so they can be ground into flour.



When Jesus was on earth, people didn't have machines to harvest wheat or other crops. All the work had to be done by hand.



Savior. We were so happy as we went home even though it was on donkeys and in the rain. It felt wonderful to do that for God.

When I was in the eighth grade, one morning we had just oatmeal to eat at breakfast, not the regular oatmeal and toast. When my dad read the Bible (we always had a Bible reading every morning and every night), then prayed, he asked the Lord to supply our needs. He told us, "We are out of money for the month, and we have run out of food. We have no flour to make bread or money to buy fruit and vegetables." Dad added, "We might have oatmeal again for lunch, because we don't have bread."

We prayed hard that the Lord would give us what we needed. A bit later, my dad was asked to drive into town on his motorcycle and get the mission mail, because the person who usually did that couldn't go that day. Can you believe it? There was a letter from my grandmother, with a \$5.00 bill inside. She never sent

cash in a letter, but God told her to send it this time. Dad stopped at the store and bought some groceries. We had a regular lunch and enough food to last until the end of the month. "I will supply all your needs, according to my riches in Glory," the Bible tells us.

Some of these experiences while I was a child helped me to know that it is important to go to people who don't know Christ and tell them about Him, and that God can be trusted to take care of us. I also learned that living in another culture can be fun. When I was still very young I wanted to be a missionary when I grew up. I was—and am! I have served God for over 31 years in many countries including Haiti and the Philippines. Praise God that we can share Christ with others in this way. ■

By Joyce Throness





Facts About Haiti



Haiti is a small nation in an area of the world we call the Caribbean. It is the western third of the island of Hispaniola. Haiti is about the size of the state of Maryland and is not far from Cuba which is, in turn, not far from Florida, USA.

Poverty, corruption and little access to education is true of most of the population. In fact, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. That was true even before the big earthquake in 2010, from which Haiti has still not recovered. Most of the people have no way to get back to how they were after earthquakes, hurricanes, floods or other natural disasters that destroy their sources of food and pollute their water. Not even their government can help them.

Seeing that there is no lasting hope in anything they can do, the people of Haiti are turning like never before to the Gospel. More missionaries are needed to go and help the people of Haiti. Haiti needs missionaries who can:

- train and coach pastors and other church workers
- Teach Christians skills they can use to make money and help other people. (medical, educational, mechanical, building, domestic, media, etc.)
- Help Haitians get the right skills for the Christian radio and TV station.

Could the Lord want you to be a missionary there some day?



Harvest Places and People

Places
 Romania
 Peru
 India
 Nigeria
 Haiti
 Middle East
 Greece

People
 Orphans
 Hungry
 Poor
 Sick
 Lost
 Misplaced
 Forgotten
 Homeless
 Unseen



Hands for the Harvest

There are many places and people around the world that need more hands to help reach people for Jesus. Can you find these places and people in the puzzle below? (The words go down, across and diagonal)



Attitude Check



Mira Meefirst: I don't see how helping just one person in Haiti can do any good in a country with so many needs, Otto.



Outreach Otto: Remember, Mira, God cares about every person. By helping the people of Haiti and sharing with them about Jesus, who knows what will happen. You might even be helping a future pastor, a doctor or even the future president.

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