

# Where There is Water There is Life

## Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

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Enhancing Trust

Volume 27 | Issue 7

## NEWSLETTER

July 2020

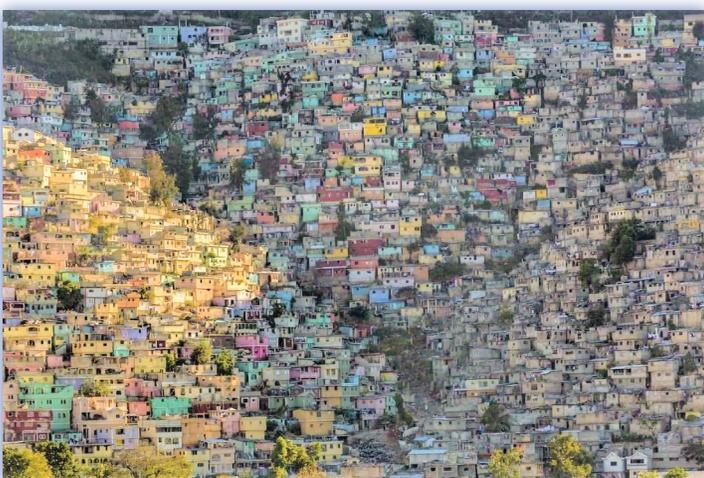
### The Mite Experience

As life slowly resumes in many countries, over 100,000 new cases of COVID-19 have been reported every day worldwide. In many countries people have been laid off from their jobs and are struggling to provide the basics for their families.

**In Haiti:** With a population of 11.2 million, we are still only at the beginning of the COVID-19 epidemic, with a total of 4,000+ officially diagnosed cases and more than 80 deaths recorded, according to the latest official report from the health authorities. The experts fear more than 20,000 Haitians will die from Coronavirus.



Since March 19, a state of health emergency was declared in the country of Haiti, leading to the implementation of several measures including recommending systematic hand washing and wearing a mandatory mask in public places. While schools, universities and churches remain closed, most people are forced to return to their economic activities because unemployment insurance does not exist in Haiti. Even before the onset of the health crisis, the UN already estimated that more than 40% of Haitians needed emergency humanitarian aid, and the unemployment rate was already as high as roughly 70%!!!



If you take a look at this one small part of a mountainside in a city in Haiti, you can see why social distancing is not even a remote possibility in that area, and how quickly the disease can be passed from one person to another. The country's medical system is not able to cope with a massive influx of patients. The solution therefore consists of reducing the risks of contamination while allowing citizens to continue working. So, at Water For Life, we had to slow down some of our other projects to focus on providing clean water through water well drilling and the pump repair program. As a matter of fact, from March through May 2020, we have been able, thanks to your support, to drill 34 new wells and repair 159 existing wells to provide or restore water to a total of more than 67,550 people. Now think of the more-than-1,900 wells drilled by Water For Life that are pumping water today! We estimate that more than 665,000 people are able to drink good clean water today, thanks to God's faithfulness and people's generosity. Praise our mighty God!

Unfortunately, more than 60% of people living in remote areas of Haiti still do not have access to the clean water they need that would allow them to wash their hands systematically in order to control the spread of the virus. We remain in an emergency state and continue to receive such a quantity of drilling requests which we cannot fulfill due to lack of financial resources. We are very aware of the financial crisis all over the world. However, we have nowhere else to lift our eyes other than to the Lord Jesus Christ and His disciples for prayer and financial help for the Haitian people. We appeal to your generosity to continue to empower them to protect themselves from the virus by providing them with access to water for hand washing.

May the Lord say to all of you what He said to this poor widow in Mark 12:43, *"...Truly I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box."*

### No Worries in Jesus!!!

As we are writing this article, all over the world, someone is crying over the death of a loved friend or family member hit by the Coronavirus. In Haiti, we are sensing it as a growing storm raging and taking lives daily. If you know Haiti you can imagine the amount of stress, fear, and anxiety we are experiencing as we are counting daily the ever-growing numbers of people being infected by the virus and multiple dozens of deaths. The healthcare system in Haiti even in normal times is very inadequate and really not ready to face such a daily-growing disaster.

At Water for Life we want you to know that we keep praying for you, and we are also counting on your prayers to strengthen us in our faith in Jesus' promise in Matthew 6:25, *"So I tell you, don't worry about everyday life..."* v.27 *"Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not,"* said our Lord Jesus.

In Haiti we have nowhere else to turn other than to the Word of God; in Psalm 121:1-3 we are told, <sup>1</sup>*“I look up to the mountains; does my help come from there? <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the Lord who made the heavens and the earth! <sup>3</sup>He will not let you stumble and fall; the One who watches over you will not sleep.”* (NLT)

In the midst of this storm we are still experiencing the faithfulness and compassion of our God through His faithful servants to the needy people of Haiti. The staff of WFL in Haiti and Iowa, on behalf of the people, want to express our gratitude to all of you who have made it possible to keep serving the people for over 35 years.

We want to say a special thank you to all of you who have contributed to buy the new rig and water truck, those who have paid for the shipping and insurance, the longtime friends who organized a fundraiser of barbecued chicken that allows us to pay the custom fees in Haiti, and all of you who keep contributing to buy casing and all the other needs. Your sacrificial contributions in this time of recession and financial crisis are worth a lot, and have been such a blessing.

May our Lord Jesus lift your gifts to the Father, multiply them and provide for the of thousands of people in need of water, health, food and education.

#### From Leon's Desk

Greetings to all our wonderful friends! It is such a joy to write to you all and tell you what's happening in Haiti and also things I have been learning. I hope this newsletter can be an encouragement to you.

There are so many things happening in America and all over the world. One can see many people are not happy and content in their lives; they want change; they want something else. Now is the time that we as Christians can tell others the Good News—Jesus is the Answer! In addition to dying in our place for our sins, He demonstrated how much He cared for those who were looked down upon by others, for whatever reason—sin, race, ethnic differences, disease—and has shown all of us the same eternal Agape love, and bids us do likewise to all. He came to set us free from fear, from anger, from hardness of heart. We, as children of the Father, need to stay focused on Him and keep trusting in Him. No matter what comes our way. Isaiah 30: 20-21 says, <sup>20</sup>*“Although the Lord gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes you will see them. <sup>21</sup>Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’”* We are promised that we will go through testing and trials, but that is how we grow to become what He wants us to be. We can look at how a beautiful pearl is made. It all starts because a grain of sand enters an oyster and begins to irritate it, so layer upon layer, the oyster forms a pearl around that grain of sand to protect itself from the irritation!

As we rise above our circumstances and let the Lord cover us with His love, we will become the pearl of great price. Jesus bought us with His own blood. He loves us more than we really know.

As we spend time with the Lord we can hear His voice saying, “This is the way; walk in it.” So let's keep our eyes on Jesus as we go through many difficulties in our lives. As I talk with my Haitian friends they are always an encouragement to me.

Many of them have learned and continue to learn how to trust the Lord even in the midst of difficulties.

I always think of the very basic necessity of life—water. While we have it in abundance at the tip of our fingers inside our houses, not everyone in this world does. How beautiful, then, it is when as a body of individual believers, we come together and seek ways to help those not blessed like we've been and provide that basic need to a village. People are so thankful for a gift such as this! But without your prayers and support it doesn't happen. Together we make a team for the glory of God.



As Water For Life hears the cries of people, of villages, for a well and hand pump, we pass that message on to you. As we see others in their need, we open our hearts to their cries. The Lord has blessed Water For Life with the necessary equipment to bring this precious liquid to many villages. But we do need your help to keep responding to the cries.

Thank you so much for responding to the cries of the people as from the Lord himself in your generosity.

Beloved, let us love one another. Let's freely give just as we have freely received. Jesus' Love is what we want all to see flowing out of each of us!

Be encouraged as children of the Lord; we are the victors in the end. He is preparing a place for each of us who've accepted Him as Savior and Master. I am loved by the Father, just as you are.

~Leon



#### — May 2020 Statistics —

Wells Drilled: 14  
Hand Pumps Installed: 16  
People Served: approximately 5,600  
Hand Pumps Repaired: 76  
People Served: approximately 26,600