

# Where There is Water There is Life Water for a Dry and Thirsty Land

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# **NEWSLETTER**

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## A Mother's Fight for Clean Water

In Kabet, Petite Rivière de Nippes, Haiti, people have to walk over an hour to reach to an unprotected spring where they get the water they use for their basic needs. You can well imagine that the consumption of this water will have serious consequences on the health of the villagers.



Rosemarie, 47, mother of ten, can tell you a lot about what she endured and what she still endures today because of the lack of a protected water source in her home town. Recently her eldest daughter nearly died because of cholera. She promised herself never to live this nightmare again. Then she decided to go to a nearby village to draw water.

Unfortunately, going to the neighboring village well didn't solve the problem because there is never enough water for all the people who regularly go there. And almost every day this perilous quest for clean water ends in a big fight. So, despite the long trip on foot, Rosemarie returned home empty-handed. However, this woman of faith does not get discouraged as she shares with us:

"I hope that one day God will give us our own well so we will not have to fight for water or become ill with cholera. My children will have a chance to survive, go to school and have a better life than the life that I have." Rosemarie continued, "Having access to clean water here in my village of Kabet would be an amazing gift from the Lord. I will keep praying every day."

Due to the population size of the village, the people of Kabet are in need of three water wells. On behalf of them and especially for Rosemarie, we appeal to your generosity and ask you to contribute in drilling these wells and answering the fervent prayers of this mother who, like you, is worried about the fate of her children. With your help you can change the outcome for her children and many others if another cholera outbreak would occur in Kabet.

Please contact us at: Water for Life, PO Box 456, Kalona, IA, 52247 or visit our website: www.wflhaiti.org

### God has Sent His Angel Before Me

Fabienne has not always been as serene as you see her today. We would rather describe this woman as a magnet to tragedy. Fabienne can neither read nor write, knows neither her age nor that of her two children. However, she wanted to share with us her experience of faith and love. Please, listen to her:

"I really thought this time was really the end. I had just given birth to my little boy when Hurricane Matthew destroyed my house. Without any roof over our heads, we—husband, daughter, baby, and I—were swept by the winds and the rain. We were so scared that we would not get help. We were hugging one other in our efforts to keep the children warm. But we trembled so much, and waited for the death

which we were convinced was to come shortly... After what seemed like an eternity, a neighbor came to help us and welcomed us into his one-room house already full with people. Fortunately after the storm good weather returned; my husband and I decided to start over, and we built a shelter from the remains of our house."



"As if that was not enough, several months later while we were still trying to recover from the hurricane, my husband had a motorcycle accident and broke his leg. We thus found ourselves living in a hovel with no income."

With a sparkling look filled with faith and thanksgiving Fabienne continued:

"Despite all this, God has not abandoned me to my sad fate and as we often say in my country, God never gives an ordeal without having prepared the rescue. So, thanks to Water for Life's hurricane relief housing program, my family has found a home, and my husband is slowly recovering from his accident."

"Of course we had to sell our cattle (our last savings) to face the medical expenses and to survive all this," she said. "But I can tell you today that through these difficulties we have gained much more faith and

trust in the Lord. Indeed, my family has experienced the love of Jesus Christ, for God has sent us his angel with every obstacle we've faced."

On behalf of 64 families that are



beneficiaries of a home through the Hurricane Relief Program that has come to an end, we thank our prayer partners and financial supporters for being "angels and archangels" of God.

"God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them." Hebrews  $6:10~(\mathrm{NIV})$ 

#### Let Us Not be Weary in Well Doing

We've asked a recent visitor to write about his experience in coming to Haiti...

Greetings from Quakertown, Pennsylvania! My name is John Schreier and during the dates of August 2nd - 10th, five of us from Calvary Chapel Quakertown (CCQ) had the privilege of visiting our friends in Haiti to see what the Lord was doing and to deepen our relationship with the brothers and sisters at Water for Life. I am pleased to write a brief reflection from our blessed time which was spent fellowshipping, joining in with the work of the ministry at a church conference in Pine Forest and observing a tremendous mobile medical clinic held not far from Les Cayes.

Even though it was my third trip to Haiti, again, I was deeply affected to see the need for clean water everywhere and efforts of especially the children to carry large buckets for hours to their homes. The physical needs are never ending and can haunt you. Trying to understand the needs of the people in the country of Haiti is impossible. Where would one start? We are so blessed to be friends with the folks at WFL because they are doing something, and they are doing it right. What a beautiful



ministry of practical love WFL demonstrates! WFL offers ways to clean water, to some a new home due to hurricane damage and now with the mobile medical clinics (MMC) they reach out with a healing hand... all in Jesus' name!

However, the spiritual need for the true Gospel to be believed on is paramount. What an opportunity Water for Life has to proclaim the Good News of the Living Water which leads to everlasting life since they have so clearly demonstrated compassion for the people in need. As was Willis Miller's original vision, they might then care Who we know if they know that we care. It is strange to see the name of Jesus and Bible verses everywhere, but when talking to people about the simple Gospel it was very obvious the country's deep roots in other religious practices have muddied the waters and much of what is called Christianity is superstition and based on hedging against fear of evil spirits. To be sure, there are many genuine believers, but there is the greatest need for the full Gospel of Grace to be proclaimed and the whole counsel of the Word of God to be taught in the churches. This is where we at CCQ pray to come alongside WFL as we move forward together.

One of my highlights of the trip was trying to encourage the servants of the Lord who are full time at Water for Life. The needs are so overwhelming that the team faces day in and day out. They need our encouragement and support in the battle. Pastor Dave led a study in Psalm 19 on the day when the whole WFL team met for worship and devotions. I also shared from a few verses (Gal 6:9 and 1 Cor. 15:58) to remind them not to grow weary in doing good and also that nothing they do that is done for Jesus is in vain.

Being at the MMC was, well, overwhelming. Over the two days we were there, nearly 800 people were seen. 800. The sheer amount of work it takes to get out there and do it right is astounding. WFL did an incredible job of setting up the clinic and running it with love. From checking the people in and getting vitals, to the dentistry, to the eye exams, to the OB-GYN checkups, to the on-site treatment of precancerous lesions, to the pharmacy, to the explanation of taking the medicine and instruction of basic hygienics, this was a wonderful, monumental effort. And again, it affords plenty of time to engage people with the Gospel and to share the truth of the Great Physician while they wait!



Overall, we at CCQ just wanted to say thank you to our dear brothers and sisters for having us and taking such good care of us. We sense an undeniable fellowship with each other because of the love of our Savior and the unity of the Spirit in the work He has called you to do. We look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store as we partner together in the work of the Gospel. To everyone reading the newsletter, pray for the power of the Holy Spirit on the work and through the workers in Haiti. God Bless.

#### A Call to Love a Lot More

Greetings once again to all our wonderful friends!

Thank you so much for all your prayers! Praying is so important, because through prayer, God can move through people, through circumstances, and make things come together just like He wants. And that's what we want.

As Joy and I have traveled to several churches, it has been so encouraging for us to hear people say they are praying for us and for the work of Water For Life! So please keep it up because there is power in prayer!!

On a different note, as we keep saying—there continue to be so many villages asking for water because they don't have access to good clean water. Our board has been talking about this continued never-ending need and has decided, with much prayer, to purchase another drill rig so we can make a difference for more people than ever. A drill rig like we need, to drill through difficult rock formations in the mountains is very expensive. Together some people have pledged \$400,000, but the donors would like to see if money could be matched to bring the donations to \$800,000. That is a lot of money! But to purchase the rig and the necessary added equipment it requires will take all of this amount!

The wells my dad drilled 35 years ago are still pumping, giving good clean water today. The pumps will break down from time to time due to wear and tear, but the wells are still good. That is why a well rig is a good investment. Twenty-eight years ago it cost \$200,000 for the rig we bought then, but it is still able to drill. God has sent us to help the Haitian people with water; we are drillers for the Lord! It's you who have been and are a huge part of giving the people water. We are a team! So pray and listen to what the Lord is telling you. We love you all, and are thankful to be a part of the team.

 $\sim Leon$ 

#### — August 2018 Statistics —

Wells Drilled: 7

Hand Pumps Installed: 6

People Served: approximately 2,100

Pumps Repaired: 41

People Served: approximately 14,350

Mobile Clinic Outreach: 701 persons