

ON THE ROAD...



Pursuing God's call to encourage, exhort, and equip leaders and congregations
A newsletter from Henry and Millie Buckwalter to family, friends, and prayer partners

SCHOOL OF MINISTRY LAUNCHED IN HAITI

We give glory to God for the spiritual hunger for God's Word in Haiti. Sister Anita Charlestin's (picture) vision for Haiti was launched several years ago. Her father, a former church planter and pastor, invited her to return to the area of Haiti where she grew up in order to encourage the pastors in the Marmont Region. They were experiencing disunity and discouragement. As a result of her visit, the pastor's league of seven congregations was revived with a new vision. Since that time, the league has grown to over twenty congregations. Anita,



who is credentialed as a missionary by Gospel Light Community Church, Bridgeport, CT, and HFC, has led several teams to visit and minister in that region.

The most recent visit was in April 2018. I reported then that 125 pastors and leaders from the area gathered for a three-day leadership training. They never experienced an event like that in their area. A 45-page booklet with Bible teaching notes in French Creole was given to every participant. There was tremendous appreciation and affirmation expressed by the participants.

Since 2018, travel into the Marmont Region has not been possible because of danger on the road to this remote area plus COVID-19 restrictions. In January of this year, I shared a vision with Gospel Light's Haiti Mission's Team, a vision for leadership training using a digital format. I suggested we make videos of teachings, complete with interpretation in 30-40-minute segments followed by discussion questions.

After several months of prayerful consideration and planning, the goal was set to start classes in September. We anticipated no more than 50 students.

Through relationships, the Lord supplied a director for the school, Pastor Clerat, who lives in Port au Prince, located approximately five hours from



Marmont. In addition, a dear friend of the ministry, Sister Pauline, who lives in Gonaives has been helping us with translation of teachings and making copies. One goal is for each student to receive extensive notes of the teachings, which will enable them to teach others (II Timothy 2:1-2). When the director and translator received the first teachings (via Google Drive), they expressed a strong desire to have these teachings in their regions of ministry. In summary, both the director and the translator have 70 students taking the class. In Marmont, there are approximately 100 students. Originally, we anticipated having 50 in one location. By God's



grace, there are now 240 students in three locations. This number includes 32 pastors and represents 44 congregations. Praise the Lord!

The classes are held one Saturday each month. Initially, we thought there would be three one-hour classes (divided into six 30-minute segments) per day. After each 30-minute segment there are several questions for discussion listed in the notes. We



thought each discussion time (*picture*) would be around 30 minutes. However, because the students so enjoyed the discussion times, each segment often lasted an hour or more! Therefore, only four teachings sessions are being given per day, with discussion following each teaching. We are adapting to necessary changes as we proceed.

Many of these students walk quite a distance to get to the classes. For example, one pastor and several of his leaders walk four hours each way, over the mountains, to attend the classes. As a result, the school determined to provide three meals for everyone.

Other pastors from other regions of Haiti have contacted Anita, expressing their desire for classes. Even in the Marmont Region, quite a few had to be turned away because of capacity issues. The current classes will continue until May. There will be an evaluation as to how we will proceed moving forward. In the meantime, we give glory to God for the spiritual hunger to learn and apply God's Word in Haiti.

I'm very grateful to Pastor Pedro Vazquez from Gospel Light Community Church, who is serving as the state-side coordinator for this ministry, along with the team that is faithfully serving with him. I also work very closely with this team via Zoom discussions.

HOW YOU CAN PRAY FOR THIS MINISTRY

- For God's spiritual protection over Sister Anita Charlestin and the ministry. Her organization is called "Gospel Light Missions International," a 501(c) 3 organization.
- For Holy Spirit-anointing on the teachings.
- For Pastor Clerat, the Haiti director, and Pauline, the translator.
- For financial provision. The costs for this ministry have increased significantly due to the expenses for the food, for the Director and his travel from Port-au-Prince with a couple of other pastors who assist, for the translator, photo-copying, for the students, etc.
- For students to be spiritually equipped and for them to experience spiritual transformation as a result of these classes.
- For Pastor Pedro Vazquez, the Gospel Light Missions team, and me, as we continue to seek God's direction for this school.

Over the years, I don't think I have ever made an appeal for finances in this newsletter. However, if you would like to make a contribution to the school of ministry, here is how you can do it. Please make a check payable to **Gospel Light Missions International** (a 501 (c) 3 organization). **100%** of what you give will go for its intended purpose. Send your check to:

**Attention: Widukind Nicholas, Treasurer
Gospel Light Community Church
222 Charles Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606**

Thanks so much for your prayers for this ministry and your prayerful consideration to financially give.



Pastor Claret, Director of Gospel Light Missions International School of Ministry in Haiti, and his wife Nadège.