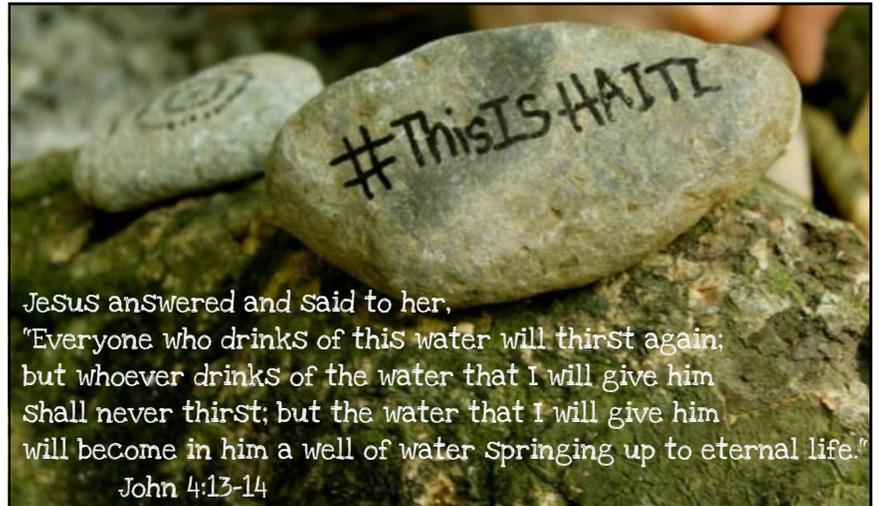


Frontier Camp in Haiti

Frontier Camp sent its ninth mission team to Haiti this January. The “team” actually consisted of 3 smaller groups, all with different objectives, yet with a common goal of furthering the development of the first Haitian Christian youth camp located in the northern village of Tse Guinea. We praise God and give Him the glory for all of the progress at the camp: building a new roof, improving electricity and plumbing, and getting the radio station transmitting. Most importantly, Haitians came to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and grew in their relationship with Him. Jacob’s Well Ministry Center provides clean water and sanitary latrines for the village, a village school, church, and periodic medical care as well. This report details our January 2014 trip. We want to say “thank you” for your support and prayers, and encourage you to keep praying for the ministry in Haiti!



Je.Su.S answered and said to her,
“Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again;
but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him
shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him
will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”
John 4:13-14

Advance Team

On Dec. 18th, Gabe and Konrad, two long time summer staffers and Haiti trip veterans, left for Haiti on a month long internship. Their main goals were to inventory and gather needed supplies for the FBC-Grapeland team coming later to build a roof, and to do various maintenance projects such as tractor work, equipment repair, plumbing projects, and mapping out electrical systems. When the FBC team of four men arrived on Dec. 28th, along with two other FC staff (Robert and Riley), Gabe and Konrad had almost all of the metal gathered and the team was able to get started on building a roof for the Dining Pavilion. Using the small welder our team brought last year, they spent the following week assembling a beautifully built dining pavilion roof. Some of the guys also worked hard to upgrade the shower-house plumbing. We were so thankful for the work the interns and the FBC team completed. It prepared the way for our team to come facilitate day camps for the kids. The work they did will be useful to many teams, pastors conferences, and campers in the future!

Days 1-2: Travel and Arrival

The main camp team of 20 conducted a packing party on Thursday, Jan 2nd at the Monson’s house. After squeezing personal gear into the 10 pound carry on and personal item per person, we were able to fit team gear into the 50 pound checked bags. After much shuffling and strategic packing, we ended up with just one extra checked bag...a huge success for the amount of gear we needed to bring to Haiti. We flew out of Houston’s Hobby Airport and landed in Fort Lauderdale around 10PM, collected our baggage, and then started check in for our flight to Cap Haitian, Haiti at 3:00AM after spending the night in the airport! We landed in Haiti early Friday morning, and loaded onto the Valcin’s big truck after paying to get the radio equipment through customs. After a smooth ride to the camp, the team unloaded our luggage, sorted the camp gear, and enjoyed discovering all the improvements at camp since the trip last Janu-

ary. A new radio station had been built where a former depot was, the kitchen had been upgraded with tile and some additional walls, a road had been built up the mountain to the radio tower, and the new dining pavilion roof was almost finished. We ate lunch and took a short nap prior to going on a camp tour which ended with playing games with the kids in the village. Many played hand clap games, duck duck goose, and some other Haitian favorites until the older Haitian teens started a soccer game against a nearby village team. With the FBC team leaving the next morning, a few members of the camp team joined in to help finish attaching the remaining few pieces of metal to the roof, and we enjoyed the very first meal (delicious chicken and rice and beans) under the new roof that evening, along with our group’s evening devotion studying the book of Jeremiah.

FBC team & Interns w/ new Pavilion Roof!

(Top, l to r):
Konrad and
Gabe, (Bottom l
to r): Robert,
Riley, Than,
Eddie, Truman,
and Lemuel



Haiti 9 Team (from l to r kneeling) Grace, Lisa, Autumn, Hans, Tomas.
(from l to r standing) Hope, Jenny, Kathryn, Moriah, Maris, Sarah, Natalyn,
Will, Gillian, Audrey, Api and Dan, Ashlyn, Jack, Greta, Nicho, and Zach.

Days 3-4: Camp Prep, Staff Training, and Church

Saturday and Sunday

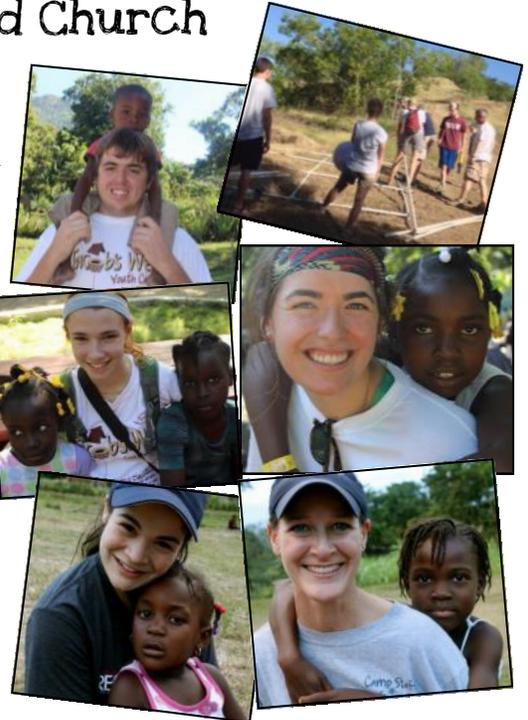
Early Saturday morning, our team woke up to the Haitian noises of roosters crowing and dogs barking after a night full of the same noises. This is Haiti! The FBC-Graveland team had already left around 5AM for Port-au-Prince to catch their flight home. We enjoyed the day we shared with them and were thankful for the Pavilion they left behind, which provided a great meeting place, eating area, and planning spot for our team!

After our first Haiti breakfast of pancakes with Mamba and homemade guava jelly, we got to work preparing for day camp. Each of us was assigned to an activity to teach for camp, so we worked to get all the supplies gathered, making sure everything was ready, and mowing activity areas (with machetes of course!). The archery range was

mowed with the tractor—a first! Another group of guys worked on fixing plumbing and electrical issues around camp. The afternoon was spent in the village, playing with the kids—doing Haitian hand clap games, attempting to learn to talk creole, soccer, and more!

On Sunday morning, we joined the village church for worship. It is always a highlight of the Haiti trip to be able to worship with our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ. The youth choir performed for us and sang beautiful harmony. What a treat!

After lunch, the Haitian camp staff attended staff training where they went through the activities and learned their roles at camp. This year we had few new Haitian staffers including a few former campers stepping up into leadership roles with a desire to evangelize and disciple the youth! Praise the Lord!



Camp Kids donate 9-Square-in-the-Air game

Every year, the “camp kids” (the children of the Frontier Camp full time staff) raise money and donate it to purchase something special for Jacob’s Well. The hand washing station they donated last year is still used at the village school.

This year, the money they raised through collecting cans, doing odd jobs around camp, etc., went towards the supplies for a new game...9-Square-in-the-Air. 9-Square is a new favorite at Frontier Camp and is a mixture of 4-square and volleyball that allows up

to 9 kids to play at a time, constantly rotating new kids in as players get “out.”

During Staff Training, the counselors picked up the new game quickly and enjoyed playing a few rounds with the FC team. During camp, the campers enjoyed learning the game and got to be pretty competitive. Ironically, the only beach balls we could find for sale in Texas in the winter were red, white, and blue and had the statue of Liberty and the Declaration of Independence written on them. The Haitians enjoyed trying to read

the English words. Will, Natalyn, and Elizabeth took on the challenging task of teaching the new game to the campers.



Days 5-7: CAMP at Jacob’s Well!

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday we assisted our Haitian friends in running day camp starting around 9AM and ending around 4PM. Prior to the kids arrival, we finished final prep for the drama team and received the final pieces to finish building the 9-Square game just in time! Check-in

(including hand washing and receiving a camp bracelet) went smoothly on Monday morning, and camp got off to a great start.

Each day the campers did a couple of activities in the morning followed by Bible Exploration (singing and drama), then lunch followed by more activities and another Bible Ex. before going home. In the end, each of the 10 cabin groups rotated through 8 different activities throughout the week and heard the story of Ruth performed by our American team and narrated in Haitian Creole.

This year, we had sunshine and no rain, so the activities went almost exactly as planned. There was a slight delay on Monday for lunch when the kitchen crew thought there were only 130 campers, but there were actually 180! Monday lunch took 2 hours to serve and eat, but it did not phase the campers at all (and it was delicious!!!) The Haitians did a wonderful job singing with their campers, and teaching Bible verses to help pass the time. Our American team learned a lot about what patience looks like that day.

ACTIVITIES

The cabin groups rotated through crafts, memory verses, riflery, archery, sports, baseball, steal the bacon, and pitball (Ballon en Folie)/9-Square. Most of the activities were led by a Haitian leader assisted by two of our team members.

In crafts this year, the little boys made and decorated paper airplanes and colored pictures and cards while the girls made hair bows out of felt and pipe cleaners, bracelets with beads on pipe cleaners, and also colored pictures and cards. Many wore their bows around camp for the rest of the week.

The Memory Verses activity this year had a neat new twist. Audrey worked with the kids on learning the verses. They repeated the verse out loud over and over until almost all the kids memorized it. Often you could hear the cabins chanting their verses throughout the day. Api followed with a



CAMP continued

puppet show with the assistance of Fronzie, a Haitian who speaks excellent English. The puppet along with the "wordless book" provided a fun way for the kids to hear the Gospel!

Riflery and Archery, two of the more challenging activities to teach through a language barrier, went well this year (quite a few arrows got lost in the tall grass though). It is always challenging in these activities to find the balance between helping the Haitians teach (and making sure it is safe) and stepping back and letting them take ownership over the class. Some Haitians did better than others, but overall, it was good training for them to take responsibility for their activities.

On the sports field near the village church, we had three activities: Sports, Steal the Bacon, and Whiffleball. Older cabins played competitive soccer games, while the younger cabins did some relay games and races for sports. Steal the bacon went well again this year, as many of the Haitian staff helped lead and most campers now know the game. Haitian staff led an interesting version of whiffle ball (pitching from the side), but we didn't change it because our team was excited to see them take charge.

Finally, Ballon en Folлие (Pit-Ball) added

9-Square this year. The campers played both games and enjoyed learning the new game especially. New games are always hard to teach, but with the translator help of Liz Valcin, it went smoothly.

BIBLE EX.

Each day the campers went to two Bible Exploration times consisting of singing and drama.

Poupette and Andy, both former campers who are now serving as camp leaders, led the singing time.

The first two days (4 Bible Drams) were the Story of Ruth, acted by Americans and narrated and explained in Creole by Peter Marc, the Haitian camp director. He emphasized how Ruth and Boaz were faithful—great examples of good character in a time and place where no one else was following God. The kids really enjoy watching the American team act out the dramas.

On the last day, the Haitian leaders did a Gospel drama acting out Christ's death for us and how he washed away our sins and made

us right with Him again. We ended camp with a Royal Campfire, similar to that at Frontier Camp. We gave the campers the opportunity to share what they had learned during the camp days. A few mentioned that they learned about the Bible Drama and about Ruth, and one girl got up and shared that she believed that Jesus died on the cross for her sins. It was so encouraging to hear that we have a new sister in Christ! To conclude camp, both campers and staff enjoyed cooking and eating delicious s'mores.



Work Projects Around Camp

Along with running camp, our team also worked on various work projects throughout the week, some big and some small.

One 'small' project that turned into a week-long adventure was fixing the plumbing in the shower-house. A group of guys (mostly Hans, Jack, and Robert) worked long and hard on finding leaks and problems, replacing PVC, gluing pipes, putting in new shower connections, and more. Finally, after a long week of frustrations, many puzzled looks, and multiple trips to town to try to find parts, they had the hot showers working consistently with minimal leaking. Whoop!

On Wednesday evening, after working three long days of camp, we finally received the supplies needed to bury a wire from the city power pole to the power station (about 100 yards through thick and rocky soil). But our team didn't let tiredness from camp prevent them from putting forth the effort to finish strong. They worked all evening and even into the night on Wednesday to dig a trench, feed the wire, and lay PVC pipe. Headed up by Gabe, Konrad (working the back-hoe to dig in the places the tractor could reach), and Gillian, with the help of almost all of the team and a few pick-axes and shovels, the task was completed with just a few blisters

and sore arms. Wire was laid so that the final connection to the city power could later be made. City power, a semi-consistent power source, will be used whenever possible. Generators, battery invertors, and solar power will be used as back up for the times when the city power is not available.

Dan Wales from KHCB Radio and his wife Api were also on the team this year. Dan's main goal was to get the radio station broadcasting so the Gospel could be brought to the Limbe Valley area. Various issues such as power surges, lack of power on top of the mountain, wrong size wire, etc., made the task very challenging. Gabe and Robert helped Dan connect wires, outfit the studio, weld windows and door "anti-thief protection" for the transmitter building on top of the mountain, and get the radio transmitting to the local village. After finally burying a wire up the mountain to a larger transmitter, on Saturday afternoon, they were able to finally broadcast further...a success! Please pray for the final needed step...a consistent power supply (such as generator back-up or an inverter) to make the station run continuously, even when the city power fails.





Days 8-9: Return and Tying up the Loose 'Wires'

On Thursday morning, a group got up early and hiked to the top of Double Head Mountain behind the camp, a steep, approximately 2 hour hike, which provided great team bonding! At the top of Double Head, you can see a good portion of Northern Haiti and the ocean. It was great to take in the beauty of God's creation!



After returning to camp and doing some packing for the next day, we enjoyed a relaxing afternoon at a beach none of our teams had visited before. The great waves there led to some exciting bodysurfing contests! On the way back from the beach our team witnessed a bad motorcycle crash. Most accidents in Haiti have no emergency response. God definitely put us in the right place at the right time as our first-aid trained staff, including a certified first responder, were able to provide emergency care using ample amounts of supplies we just happened to have on hand. We pray our efforts not only provided physical help, but also showed the gathered crowd an example of Christ's love when most onlookers were unwilling to care for the victims.

and the radio up and running. Robert, Gabe, Konrad, Jack and Greta assisted Dan and Api Wales in burying wires up the hill and connecting the electricity to the big radio transmitter.



Finally, on Saturday night, the radio was able to transmit all the way to the nearby town of Limbe!



On Friday morning, 18 members of the team loaded up for an uneventful trip home, where they were greeted by friends and family. Due to lack of space on the returning flight, 7 of the 25 team members stayed for an additional day and were able to assist in getting the electricity

We are so thankful for your prayers for our team. God blessed this trip in so many ways and we are always amazed how the Lord uses different situations to teach and grow us. Please continue to pray for Jacob's Well Ministries and for what God is doing in the village of Tse Guinea! For more information go to:

www.jacobswellcamp.org

or email hmeinardus@frontiercamp.org

Thanks for your Support and Prayers!

