



Supporting the Haitian ministries of Sam Rice, R.N.

January, 2009

Gospel Growers, Inc.
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Dear Sponsors and Friends,

If you have been following my blog on the Gospel Growers website you are aware of how we closed out the year 2008. Because of a gift from Ronni and Jim Guerriero's life group, which meets in their Southlake, Texas home, the church in Dariol was able to celebrate this past holiday season. The church was crammed with Christians and non-Christians alike who had gathered that evening of December 31st to celebrate God's faithfulness during 2008. A wonderful time was had by all, except the pig who had the starring role in the feast.

The year of 2009 has started off quietly enough. It has been raining lightly on and off since the 1st. This is not usual. We are hoping this is a sign of God's blessings for this new year. The pitimi is being harvested and it is a bumper crop largely due to all the rain from the heavy rains of last years hurricanes. All the dry stream beds are still flowing with water. Weather experts are already forecasting 9 hurricanes for 2009—believe me, we are already praying for weather mercies.

Things are still difficult in the mountains where whole tracts of rain sodden land broke away from rock beds and slid down into valleys. These people lost land, crops, trees, and in some cases livestock and homes. They had to leave the area and relocate elsewhere. Others whose land did not slide have moved anyway due to fears that this could happen to them. For the first time in decades some areas are without people residing in them.

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Ephesians 2:8—10

For Gospel Growers 2009 will be a time for consolidating and developing our spiritual gains—the 4 churches of Sauvage, Dubois, Coraile Labe, and Metayer. We are already planning a 3 day retreat for the youth which will be held during Carnival week in February. This will keep them occupied and away from Mardi Gras activities. The mornings and afternoons will be spent by participation in discussions on different topics and lectures, and some fun things as well. They will be housed in different school rooms of Dariol School sleeping on mats at night. The women of the church will help prepare meals. Evenings will have evangelistic services which will be open to the community. Oh yes, the youth are all required to spend some time in the neighborhood visiting homes and evangelizing. All in all, this yearly event has always helped in focusing our young people on Jesus and in bringing more spiritual growth for both them and the community. Five to six churches will participate and there could be around 150 kids converging on Dariol the week of Mardi Gras. Pray with us that it will be a blessing to all.

WE at Gospel Growers thank you all for your continued support, prayers, and encouragement as we work to establish and extend God's Kingdom in this little part of the world.

God bless you and may the Lord protect and prosper you in 2009.

Together in Service to the LORD, Sam

Remember my new personal address in Haiti that delivers to me each week in Cayes. Now I don't have to go to Port au Prince where so much of the violence is. Please make a note of this new address, but please, please, do not send money here! Continue to send all checks and donations to our Smithville Office.....Thanks, Sam

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