

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

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To all our sponsors and supporters we wish a very Happy and prosperous New Year under the cover of God's grace

According to the book of Ecclesiastes to everything there is a season, and so it has become apparent to me that this year of 2013 will be a season of change for me. I have worked as a field missionary in Haiti for thirty years, but in the past few I found that I needed to take more time to travel to the states for fund raising purposes. Unfortunately, the reality is such that some of our older supporters have passed on, some have decreased ability to aid and others have been adversely affected by the current economic downturn.

The Gospel Growers Board and I have talked over the possibilities available to us to continue this vital work among the Haitian people. It has become very expensive to maintain an American missionary in Haiti due to the great rise in insurance costs, transportation and just day to day maintenance. In fact, several Haitian staff members could be supported with this amount of money.

It has been a joy to see how the young men and women whom I have discipled over the years step up to participate in the evangelizing of their own people. All the ministries we are engaged in: clinic, radio station, several Christian schools and 3 newly planted churches, are being run by young people hand picked by me.

I will oversee the work from the United States, then a select committee of four young men will work under my instruction to accomplish what is necessary in Haiti. This committee will be responsible to send reports and to communicate with me by cell phone or the internet. I am also encouraging them to send photos in order for us to keep up to date with all that is going on there.

gospelgrowersinc@aol.com Haiti is very stressed due to a drought last spring and a hurricane this Fall. Both of these events have damaged their fields and crops. Hunger is felt now more than ever. Family members living in the States or Europe used to send funds back to their relatives in order to help, but now they are less able to do so because of the global economic crisis.

This is a time of hardship in Haiti. Port-au-Prince is still plagued with crime, and diminishing infrastructure. Occasional flare ups of cholera still occur, and medical resources are strained and lacking. President Martelly has been trying to do what he can, but the odds are so overwhelming that it has been impossible without outside help.

If you visit my facebook page, you will be able to see all that is happening at Gospel Growers. I will be adding new photos from Haiti as I receive them, so if you 'friend' me you will have the opportunity to see them. My page is listed as Sam Rice. (You'll find a picture of me with glasses and a green sports shirt there.) Also, I have started a facebook page for Gospel Growers, Inc., as well. In addition to these resources, there is the Gospel Growers website at www.gospelgrowers.org where you can find my blog.

Our newest outreach has been to partner with a young man near Cayes who has a small radio station there. It will enable us to send the Word out to a different part of Haiti. In these days preceding the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, it seems imperative to spread the Gospel as quickly and as often as possible.

We are hoping and praying that you will continue to help us to reach out to the Haitian people by the means we are engaged in, and join us in praying that the funds will continue to be made available.

I will be serving Gospel Growers on a volunteer basis and working as a geriatric nurse as a means of supporting myself.

May the Lord bless and keep you all!

Sincerely, Sam Rice