

# Haiti Happenings

Shaina Thiner

“... and when the song was raised... in praise to the Lord,  
‘For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever,’  
... the house of the Lord was filled with  
a cloud, so that the priests could not stand to  
minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the  
Lord filled the house of God..”

2 Chronicles 5:13-14

Please continue to pray:

1. Protection over our people as they serve in Haiti during a time of great instability.
2. For peace and hope as Wilckly and Dee move forward in expanding the ministry across the island.
3. For wisdom, clarity, health, energy, and peace for them and all under their leadership.
4. For the means to continue providing for all those under their care in Haiti and the DR.
5. For peace for Haiti and its people.

## Dear Family,

Often when I am completing my daily Bible readings I find myself going through the motions, eyes simply moving across the page taking the words into my mind but not into my heart. And then a verse I have read a hundred times, or a passage that before seemed trivial jumps out at me and I can scarcely find time enough to meditate on or journal about it.

The above verses did that for me last week. Realizing that a cloud of God’s glory so completely filled the temple that the priests were unable to do their jobs – jobs that had been assigned to them *by* God, by the way – suddenly became so significant to me. Having grown up in a church-going family and knowing who Jesus was since before I could talk, without working against it my walk as a Christian can easily become rote. In fact a tendency I have often fought is prioritizing service in and of the church before my relationship with Jesus.

When I read these verses denoting God’s response to Solomon’s completion of the temple I saw them as a visual picture of God reminding everyone just WHY and FOR WHOM they had built this structure. It wasn’t about the ornate, beautiful building...it wasn’t about the priests...it wasn’t even about the sacrifices God Himself had commanded them to regularly make. It was about HIM. He came in and clouded over the inside of the temple to the point that the priests had to STOP MINISTERING and just bask in His glory.

Our (the Dorcés’ and my) current state of waiting and hoping and “just” praying as it concerns Haiti can make it easy to allow feelings of uselessness and impatience to enter our hearts. We are so used to serving and ministering and helping and DOing. Being made to sit still feels almost wrong. We have all had to fight lies with which the devil has tried to discourage us: lies that we aren’t doing enough, that we aren’t doing our jobs, that we are making the wrong choice.

But God is constantly and consistently combatting those lies by reminding us He knows what He is doing, He is still in control, His plan is best, and right now His plan for us is to be still, know that He is God, and bask in His glory. I remember those flights to Haiti when we would go through a cloud in the air, and how disorienting it was, not being able to see up or down or anywhere out the plane window, but the pilot and the navigation system knew exactly where we were going, and when we finally burst out of the mist and could again view our surroundings the sun appeared ten times brighter.

Sometimes that cloud, as misty and confusing as it makes life seem, is God Himself, willing us to stop, trust, and SEE HIM, even if we can see nothing else.

Blessing Hearts  
MINISTRIES

With Love in Christ,  
Shaina Thiner

# Family Update

We got to end last year/begin this year with a fun Christmas trip that included a visit to our Minnesota family, exploring a zoo, defeating “enemies” in laser tag, and solving an escape room puzzle (pictured below top)! We have also enjoyed time with our family in Illinois (Easter egg hunt pictured below center) and relished the times at home between basketball, track and church activities (Easter egg dying pictured below right).

Though the year also brought due to my we were so time that allowed family to travel together for her remembering and family. It was the original Ascones together in 8

Thank you prayers for me immediate and



beginning of the some sadness grandma’s death, grateful for the for the Ascone and spend time service, grieving as a first time the 7 were in a van years!

for your love and and my family, extended.



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