

Here is an update on the 4000 to 5000 people living on the seminary campus in Port-au-Prince. The seminary is in the middle of a lot of what was very high density housing for the poor. Most of which is now rubble. People are camped out on the grass and many now are under tarps but still outside. Fortunately it has not rained yet since the earthquake. For those who are left alive, life still goes on. They finally got some food.

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From David Schmid

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING. We had 4 Haitian policemen who came in uniform and helped keep things calm. The men were able to unload the truck taking rice, beans and oil to each of 7 "zones" on campus. There the zone leaders were to disburse the food. God answered prayer and things went much better than expected. There were a few snags.

The worst thing is that some thieves from down in the valley had made their way into the crowds. When the rice, beans and oil had been distributed to the zone including our upper front yard I suddenly heard a commotion and looked out to see 2 men with boxes and a few others running off the end of the patio. I ran outside and when I looked over the wall they were escaping with the beans and oil for this zone. The people got rice but not the beans and oil. I was so upset and wanted to just shake those that stole it. People were unhappy but resigned to it. It never ceases to amaze me how people are so used to disappointment that they can overcome it. I wished I'd been quicker to get out and stop them but more than likely I'd have been pushed off the patio edge or whatever. So things are quiet on campus and people are grateful for what they received.

God receives all the glory for what was provided to people today.

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Cindy's update follows. Rejoice with us!

During times when it seems like God is standing afar off and we don't understand the situation, we must remember that He is sovereign and sees and knows all and He is accomplishing what honors Him, what will advance His Kingdom, and what is best for us. He is our rock and our faith in His sovereignty is how we stand and continue each day.

"But you, O God, do see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand. You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them, and you listen to their cry." Ps 10:14, 17

- He has provided pure drinking water for those on our campus and in the surrounding community through two systems Samaritan's Purse set up.
- He provided over 200 large tarps that have helped to provide shelters on the campus and out in the community.
- He provided tents to help give shelter to families of the national church organization we work with here.
- He used churches in the Chicago area who had contacts in the Dominican Republic to arrange for a large shipment of food supplies and fuel to reach us.
- He protected our men driving the trucks to pick up this delivery from outside the city. He protected our men who did a bank run - not a hold-up, but exchanging and withdrawing funds.
- He sent medical teams who have poured out compassion and care for the hurt and sick.

- He arranged for the food that was supposed to have arrived last Saturday to finally arrive today. And to be honest, we were anxious because there was a lot of potential for disaster. But again, He answered prayer and helped the distribution to happen without any major problems.

He does see, consider, hear and encourage!

God has also used you all to encourage us. Thank you for your prayers, your emails (I haven't been able to respond to them all), Scripture you've shared with us, and contributions that many have sent to CrossWorld.

God has also helped me to accept the fact that what was "normal" life for us here before, will most likely never be again. He has helped me to release that expectation and to accept and adapt to a new "normal." I admit it makes me sad, but also helps me to move on to hopefully be used of God in new ways He has planned. We continue to covet your prayers.

So, we're making progress. If you were to visit our outhouse, you'd appreciate that we now have a toilet seat! J It was salvaged from one of the damaged houses on campus.

Two days ago a Haitian lady, a friend of mine in the community, brought me a gift!!!! She had purchased 7 grapefruit for us. In the midst of need and distress, she gave to us. Amazing!

Wednesday, a small group of youth met in our yard with 2 of our Seminary students. Two of the youth accepted salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Life goes on. Many of you have asked about coming down to help. Commercial airlines have still not started up yet, so it is hard to find a way to get in. But don't worry. There is no quick fix for the situation here, so there will be plenty of opportunities in the months and years ahead to join a team and come on down to be involved in a project.

Well, this is long enough. I started this yesterday, but only succeeded with 2 lines, so changed the date and continued today. We're all planning on doing something to take a break this weekend - maybe a movie, maybe a game, maybe just resting, maybe a book. I hope it works - we all need it.

Love and blessings to all,  
Cindy for Bruce too