

TRUST WITHOUT BORDERS

Volume 1, Issue 4

On the Mission Field of Athens, GA

June/July 2018

School and Work Update

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close. I only have 3 ½ more weeks of summer courses. It has gone by fast but has been so rewarding. I am beginning to sense that part of God's plan for this part of the journey might have something to do with counseling. I am excited to see how His plan continues to unfold. Fall semester begins in August and I will be taking another full load of classes – The Book of Romans, Systematic Theology, The Great Commission – Evangelism, and Spiritual Warfare & Victory in Christ. When fall semester is over, I will be half way through with my degree program! ☺

On the work front, things have been quiet around the college. I have been working on cleaning and organizing our library. We had a lot of books donated to the library so I have spent time sorting through to find the good ones, cataloging, and shelving the books. I have also been working to organize and sift through old documents on the computer in preparation for moving all these documents to a new platform soon. I continue to be blessed by the support and encouragement from the staff. I am also blessed to be led by an amazing boss who truly has a heart's desire to grow me into an amazing leader. I learn new things everyday that will effect the way I lead people. She is the epitome of servant leadership!

Personal Update

I spent a week in June on a mission trip with Athens Church to Oban, Haiti. I had been on mission trips before but something about this trip was different. For starters the trip was mostly comprised of other people who volunteered in Waumba Land. There was a mother and her 13yr old daughter and a father with his 16yr old son. Out of the other 14 team members, I only knew the couple that was leading the trip. I had seen some of the faces of the people in Waumba but did not know them personally. I went in thinking that I would probably get close with one or two of the team members, as I had on previous trips. However, from the time we hit the airport until we returned, all 15 of us were always together. There were no small groups of people getting close or bonding. We were like a family. There was no drama, no one got sick, and everyone gave 100% everyday! At meals we switched up where we sat so we got to know each other better. At night, after debriefing about the day, we played games. It was awesome.



Another really great thing about this trip was that we worked with an organization called 410 Bridge. The cool thing about this organization is that they go into the communities and raise up a leadership council (pictured above with our whole team). They empower the council to make the decisions on what their community really needs. This helps the community to become self – sufficient and not depending on mission teams coming in to do all the work. In Oban, they have two projects going on – the banana tree (seen below) and the goat project. In both of these projects, a family is given a certain number of trees or goats. They are to take care of the trees or goats and once they produce, they give one goat or splice of trees to a family without. After they give one away, the rest of the produce is theirs for consumption or for selling. Not only does this help a family become self – sufficient but it brings the community together.



Part of our trip was spent learning about how these projects affect the community. The other part of the trip was focused on women and children. We had two mornings where we did a VBS type program with the children. We focused on JOY by sharing a Bible story, playing games, and doing a craft. I had the privilege of leading this part! ☺ (pictured on next page) The amazing thing is that in the midst of their lack of material things, they have abundant JOY! Another morning

"Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders; let me walk upon the waters, wherever you would call me; take me deeper than my feet could ever wander; and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior." Matthew 14:22-33

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we spent time with the mothers of the community. We shared about common struggles as Christian moms and encouraged one another. We gave the women journals we had made and then spent time serving them. We painted their nails and laughed with them, giving them some time to focus on themselves, which is something that they don't get to do. The ladies even wanted to paint our nails (pictured below).



One day we also walked the community and prayed. We prayed for rain, spiritual growth, and blessings for the leadership council. Then we spent the afternoon at a ladies home learning how they cook and prepare their food. These ladies cook outside over an open flame in 100+ degree weather! I tried, unsuccessfully, to grind up some of the ingredients (pictured below).



As I have processed all that I experienced on the trip, I have come to realize two huge impacts for me. First in the midst of their struggles, they had abundant JOY – so should I!

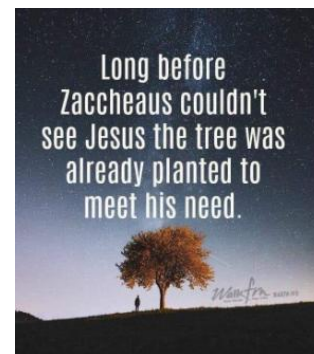
Secondly, God knew that I needed a second family to be with me through the personal trials of the week and the weeks to come. I am forever grateful for all the prayers and support!

Your prayers are crucial for keeping my armor on tight in the midst of the battle. We all know that the devil wants nothing more than to attempt to ruin God's plans.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the people of Haiti during this time of civil unrest
- Please see the email devo for specific prayer requests!

Financial Donation Information



As a missionary to the city of Athens, I am still in need of consistent monthly donors to raise \$3,000 per month to cover my expenses. Any amount helps and is greatly appreciated. Would you prayerfully consider becoming a regular monthly supporter?

If the Lord leads you to support me financially, you can access online giving [here](#). You select student scholarship in the drop-down box and type my name in the comment box. You can also mail donations using this form. You can make one-time gifts, as well. All donations are tax deductible.

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