

# Espere Kay Newsletter - April 2018



## **Bon Fet Pak!**

Greetings Friends of EK,

In this month's newsletter, instead of putting requests at the end, we will share prayer requests throughout. Please join with us in praying. Thank You!!

A belated, "Bon Fet Pak," (Happy Easter) to you all! On April 1, Easter Sunday, we all went to service together to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We returned to the house for a delicious Haitian meal, ending with American cookies. Yum! It was a blessed day. We hope your Easter was blessed too! The next day all the young adults returned to school. Our High School students are now in the process of finishing up their last semester of this year. Please pray they do well in their studies and pass to the next grade. Please pray especially for Stevenson who is preparing to take the state exam and then graduate.

## **Fast and Prayer Service**

*"So we fasted and earnestly prayed that our God would take care of us, and he heard our prayer."  
Ezra 8:23*



The first Wednesday morning of every month is prayer and fast service at church. We sing praises, read scriptures and people take turns praying for the church, Haiti Teen Challenge, other church ministries, the country, etc. There is also time set aside for people to give testimony and thank God for what He is doing in their lives. Near the end of the service they have someone present a little message. This month Deb was asked to speak. She spoke on Daniel 6 (the story of Daniel and the Lion's Den) and asked the people to consider if they are walking in their faith in an uncompromising way, much the same way Daniel did. The Pastor's wife, Suzette, did the translating.

## **Monthly visit to LHO**

*"Learn to do good, seek justice, help the oppressed, defend the causes of orphans, fight for the rights of widows." Isaiah 1:17*



Okay....so this is one of the most fun things we get to do here as missionaries... it's our monthly visit to LHO to see the little kids. This month we brought out a large book about endangered animals written in French. The younger children were amazed by the beautiful pictures of real animals from around the world. The older children took turns reading about the animals, helping them practice their French. It was a big hit! We have left it for all to enjoy. Dave also spent some time playing American Football with the boys. Some of the village boys who were getting water put down their containers and joined in. It's always fun seeing them just be little kids for awhile. Two of the girls had dish duty and one of the older girls was fixing a piece of clothing on the sewing machine. At the end of our visit the children gave thanks and ate their midday meal. Afterwards we all gathered together to pray for the children and staff and then said goodbye. We are praising God for such a nice visit. Until next month.....

## Evangelism in the Ravine

*"But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him. And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him. And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them." Romans 10: 14*



At the end of the month we took our second trip down into the ravine. God always has a different plan each time so we are never quite sure what will happen. At the first house, the woman said she had faith in Jesus but she seemed a little hesitant to talk with us. We gave her a Bible along with a few tracts and then ended by praying with her. She was happy with everything by the time we said goodbye. Secondly, we met a young lady, Darlin, who said she goes to church and she knows about Jesus but she had never prayed to accept Him as her Savior. We asked if she would like to and she said yes. Dave led her in prayer. We ended our time by giving her ideas of what to do to help her grow in her faith and by giving her a Bible. Please pray for this seed planted to grow deep roots. Our third stop was on the top floor of a house where a group of young ladies had gathered. We asked them about their faith and they all said they had accepted Christ. It turns out they are a dance group who perform in churches in the area. We gave out Bibles and prayed with them. Finally we ended up at our old friend Davidson's house. We have told you before about this young man. He loves to debate about religion and still has not accepted Christ. He does not believe in Heaven or Hell and believes he is god because god lives in him. We shared the truth of the Gospel with him again along with his aunt. She is Catholic and says she believes in Jesus. We gave them a Bible and let Davidson know we are praying for his salvation. We told his aunt about some of the concerns regarding the Catholic faith. It was getting late so this is where our time ended. Please join with us in praying for Davidson and his aunt.

**Pawol Bondye a**  
**The Word of God**

*“All scripture is God-breathed and is used for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servants of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*  
2 Timothy 3: 16-17

“Take this mountain weight. Take these ocean tears. Hold me through the trial. Come like hope again.” (from, “Even When it Hurts,” by Hillsong) It’s amazing that our God wants to carry the weight of all our trials if we just let Him. He truly is our hope in everything. We can bring our troubles to Him through prayer and reading the Word and He helps us deal with whatever the situation is. He is so faithful to listen to us and will give us answers if we are still and listen to Him. Over the last year and a half many of our trials at EK have had to do with conflicts. First there are those between people here in the home and then there are those for the young adults outside the home (school, etc.). We found out early on our young adults do not always handle conflicts well. They don’t possess many skills in this area. It is a shame based culture here in Haiti, meaning people will avoid rather than deal with conflicts. The problem with that is, nothing gets resolved. At the same time we were realizing all of this God, in His infinite wisdom, brought Biblical Counseling into our lives. For those of you who do not know, Biblical Counseling is a very effective type of counseling that can be used with believers in Christ. It discerns desires, thinking and behaviors that God wants to change. In other words, it shows us the root of our problem (usually sin). It then uses the Word of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to change those desires, thinking and behaviors into ones that are in one accord with His Word. The Word is the chief diagnosing tool, the remedy and the change agent. We have adapted this practice to life at Espere Kay. When conflicts or issues arise, we follow a three step process. First, we pray to God for the wisdom to show us what the problem is and define it Biblically. Second, we turn to the Word of God for scriptures that apply to the situation. Third, we apply what it says. As a Christian, this process makes so much sense. We shouldn’t be surprised by how well it works, after all, this is God’s Word. *“For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” Hebrews 4: 12* The fact is, through God’s leading, we were already applying many of the principals of Biblical Counseling before we knew it existed. When Deb started the classes and learned what Biblical Counseling was, it became confirmation from God that we were on the right track. In this month’s newsletter, we wanted to share how applying these principles has been working here at EK because it has truly been eye opening and life transforming. It has not only helped the young adults but us in our own walk with Christ. We wish we had known all of this earlier on in life when we were raising our children. We hope it will bless you and your family to learn more. Below we would like to share an example with you of how this all works in applying it to a real life situation.

One of the biggest conflicts we had to face here at EK is disunity. For example, a situation occurred months ago where some of the young adults were angry with each other and refused to forgive. We immediately went to the Word to look up scriptures regarding unity in the body of Christ, how we are commanded to love one another, anger and forgiveness (forgiving others as Christ forgave us). As is so true of many of life’s situations, there were some heart conditions in some of the young adults that needed to change. Dave and I then took the scriptures we found and shared them with the group at Bible Study. We discussed the need to apply these Biblical truths to our lives. This in turn led to conviction and conviction turned into forgiveness. We are now able to meet as a group once more and all the young adults are talking and hanging out together as if nothing happened. This is just one small example. It has been amazing to see how lives and hearts can change.

If you have any questions about Biblical Counseling, want more information on the subject or want to know more about how we are applying these principles here at EK both in our lives and in the lives of the young adults, just send us an email. We would like to encourage you in any way we can.

God bless, Deb and Dave