

A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Katie

The DRYDEN Family in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

October ~ December 2023

The Apostle Paul spoke of looking forward, and we are doing just that. We are looking forward to what the Lord has in store for us and the ministry in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. While looking forward, we will also take a short look back at how the Lord has worked in the last three months.

As a YES answer to Benji's big prayer for 2023, my dad ended his earthly suffering on November 27th. For Thanksgiving, the week before his passing, all four children and most of his grandchildren were around Dad. Wonderful lifetime memories were made! We ask that you pray for Benji's mom Bridgitt that God would lead her into a new ministry of service.

Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is still being led by several national deacons and a couple young men who grew up in the church, graduated from Grace Baptist Bible Institute, and have been leading the youth group. The past few months has seen three salvations on church-wide soulwinning, and a general desire to have a closer walk with God.

For many years, DIBC has chosen a passage of Scripture to learn as a whole church. In 2024, we will be memorizing 1 Peter 3:1-12, and our year's theme is "Be ye all of one mind" from verse 8. Each year that we have chosen a passage and a theme, we have been tested accordingly. We are trusting the Lord to encourage the church (the members themselves) to use the spiritual gift (s) given to each one of us to further the church, grade school, and Bible Institute.

We are praising the Lord for 185 children enrolled in Desroulins Independent Baptist School. There were several church men who took the initiative to form a governing board to oversee the functioning of the school, and most of the twenty school staff are church members. With skyrocketing costs of living and a tense political over-tone, the attendance of the students is constantly fluctuating. Please help us pray that these children continue to receive not just a good social education but also a great Christian education.

Grace Baptist Bible Institute recently accepted seven new students into its five year program. These men study through all the books of the Bible, some in more detail than others, along with helps courses in leadership, preaching and family life. It is with great joy that we are preparing a graduation ceremony for 34 men on Saturday, January 27. Benji is planning a trip to Port-de-Paix to take part in the graduation and to reconnect with our ministry family.

The goal of church planting missionaries is to work themselves out of a job. The Lord perfectly orchestrated the details of the past 16 months to "force" some movement toward DIBC becoming indigenous. Too often, these words are used: "The missionary will do it." When the missionary is absent, someone (s) has to keep things moving in the right direction. Praise the Lord for godly men and ladies, and help us pray for the right spiritual leader.

*Serving in Port-de-Paix & Baldwin,
Benji & Kerri Dryden*

MAILING ADDRESS: Unit 1075-BIMI / 3170 Airmans Drive / Ft. Pierce, FL 34946
UNITED STATES PHONE #: 618-403-0271 / E-mail: benjidrydenfamily@yahoo.com
HOME CHURCH: Calvary Baptist Church / 901 N Olive / Flora, IL 62839 / (618) 662-4996
Baptist International Missions, Inc. / P.O. Box 9 / Harrison, TN 37341 / (423) 344-5050