



***RUNNING FROM* VODOO**

May 25, 2015

Dear CERT Family,

There are so many needs around the world. It is not unusual for us to receive two or three requests per week for assistance. We prayerfully look to the Lord to give us guidance. As much as we would like, we cannot respond to most of the requests.

We recently received a request for assistance from Haiti. **The more we researched the need and communicated with our prospective partners in Haiti and prayed, the more we have felt God leading us there.**

However, it wasn't clear to us why God would be adding to our ministry load at this time, but **we are committed to following wherever He leads.** In April I made a short fact-finding trip to Haiti to meet with our new ministry partners. Now we know why God wants CERT International teams in Haiti.

Haiti is the poorest nation in the western hemisphere. *For over two hundred years they have been subjected to foreign exploitation, corrupt leaders, political instability, and numerous natural disasters.*

The forests have all been cut down, the water is polluted, the soil is depleted, and there is widespread poverty. But worst of all, Haiti has a long history of deep spiritual darkness.

Voodoo has been the dominant religion for centuries. It is demonic and frightening and has kept the entire nation in spiritual bondage. **For most of Haiti's history over 90% of the people practiced Voodoo.**



However, **in the last 15 years a dramatic change has and is taking place.** People in the younger generation (40 and younger) are afraid of Voodoo. They associate Voodoo with all the evil and trouble Haiti has experienced.

THEY ARE RUNNING FROM VODOO INTO THE ARMS OF JESUS

Today a great spiritual awakening is occurring in Haiti. Churches all across the island are filled to capacity and overflowing. *There are signs and billboards everywhere proclaiming the greatness of Jesus.*

Even secular radio and television stations play Christian programming. Voodoo is in great decline. **Less than 10 % of the population now practice Voodooism.**

Along with the spiritual awakening has come political stability. ***For the first time in the history of the country, there have been two democratically elected Presidents in a row.*** Both have served their full terms. That has never happened before!

Also, there is now a great emphasis on education, job creation and industry. ***There is hope and excitement in Haiti and JESUS IS THE REASON!***



Into this exciting turning point in the history of Haiti, **we believe God is calling CERT International to send short-term mission teams.**

Our new partner in Haiti is Grace International. *Grace is a Haitian Christian ministry that includes over 260 churches, 3 orphanages, a widow's home, a small hospital, more than 65 Christian elementary and high schools, a vocational training program, and a large scale feeding program that provides hot meals to over 2000 children per day.*

The ministry model of Grace International is:

"GIVE THEM *JESUS*; GIVE THEM *EDUCATION*; GIVE THEM *JOBS*."

This is Haitians ministering to Haitians to achieve long-term sustainable change in their country, and it is all founded on faith in Jesus Christ. **CERT International will send short-term medical/dental teams to help strengthen and assist with Grace's long-term vision for the renewal of Haiti.**

Our first team to Haiti will be September 19-27, 2015. We are in need of healthcare professionals of all types (especially dentists) as well as general helpers of all ages.

God has called CERT to be involved in a great work for our Lord in Haiti. Please pray about going with us in September. If you cannot go, then please pray about sending a generous gift to help pay for the work God will have us do in Haiti.

As always, your gifts are tax deductible. CERT's overhead is less than 1%. You are assured that 99% of what you give is used to serve hurting people like those in Haiti.

Thank you in advance for your generous partnership.

God Bless You,

Jim

Jim Mersereau
Vice President of Operations

P.S. Your gift of \$15, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000 or \$_____ is greatly appreciated. Our pledge to you is with God's help to be the best stewards possible of the funds you donate as unto the Lord.



JIM AND CHILDREN OF HAITI

Saving Lives & Healing Hearts Since 1974