A SECOND GENERATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION

Benji ~ Kerri ~ Ethan ~ Katie

The DRYDEN Family in Port-de-Paix, HAITI

MAY 2021

"Better late than never" is a phrase used by us all from time to time. It is very often followed by the other party responding with "Better never late." Thank you to all churches, pastors, church members, friends and family who have been waiting for an update from Port-de-Paix, Haiti.

The end of February, 2020, my parents Don & Bridgitt (whom we worked alongside since September 2003) turned over full responsibility of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church and all related ministries to us, Benji & Kerri. The reality of that fact really sunk in when he handed me his personal keys (for our shared yard and his personal house) and moved back to the States on June 4th. Kerri and Katie accompanied them during the transition and were not able to return until November 5th. During those five months, Covid restrictions were loosened and church services and ministries began to return to some degree of normalcy. Thanks to technology, church services and Bible Institute classes were shared via social media.

January of this year all Sunday School classes were meeting individually, and services began to gain attendance momentum. Just one month ago there were over 200 in a Sunday morning service! We also had graduation ceremony for 27 men of Grace Baptist Bible Institute in January. Between last October and March of this year, Benji was privileged to perform four weddings of our young people. Brother Kerby, a newlywed, is teaching in the Bible Institute after having graduated from its five year program.

Desroulins Independent Baptist Church is in the capable hands of Bro. Nocles, Bro. Salomon, Bro. Rony and Bro. Masceau, our faithful deacons. Several of our youth group leaders (Kenley, Wilfrid, Johnson, Harry) are helping to support the load of preaching while our family is on summer furlough. Ethan, our second son, is spending the summer with us. We have meetings scheduled already, but will spend needed time with doctors (eye, teeth, general) and family. Katie will begin college at Pensacola Christian College in August and Ethan is in his third year there. Micah, our oldest, lives near Benji's parents and checks in on them from time to time.

Kerri and I plan on returning to Port-de-Paix on September 16th to continue training the next generation of church leaders. Please pray with us about the changes in ministry responsibilities, and for Haiti which is in much need of political stability . We need the prayers and the practice is good for us all!

The Drydens

Benji, Kerri, Ethan & Katie

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