THE POWER OF COLLABORATION
BUILDING A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR MISSIONS TO HAITI

32 TESTIMONIES TO BOLSTER YOUR SPIRIT, PAGE 28
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MISSIONARY MEN:
Lott Carey’s Men on Missions initiative is providing new ways for brothers to flex their muscles. Lott Carey Herald Deputy Editor Mike Tucker says their work is a microcosm of needed work to restore Haiti.

GO, GO, GO:
Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley explains why it is vital that men are deployed in service and how the Men on Missions program makes it happen.

PICTURE BOOK:
An eight-page Photo Essay captures precious memories in Haiti—building, laughing, and hoping. Life goes on.

POETRY PRAISE:
Two men. Two poems. Two perspectives. One faith.

SMILE:
Tucker with Fanaty Cheri in Lambi Village.

COLLABORATION:
Lott Carey says collaboration is one of the best “best practices” a missionary organization can follow. Contributors agree:

Bishop Sarah David, African Methodist Episcopal Church
Lott Carey President Gregory K. Moss, Sr.
Jonny Jeune, Grace International

Moss: Servant, not boss.

SPLASH: Gary Spann sponsored two orphans while in Haiti.

SOLID: Our center spread features two-page exterior of new duplex.

TOUCHED:
Vernon Hammett’s “joy deep inside.”

32 TESTIMONIES:
Men on Missions has sent four teams to Haiti and two more are scheduled before year’s end. Testimonies by Team 3 are playing on LottCareyTV on YouTube, and excerpts are presented here.

TUDE:
Ben Abdelrahman raps it up.

About the Writer-Photographer
Mike Tucker is Deputy Editor of the Lott Carey Herald and supervises production of LottCareyTV on YouTube. He has traveled with Lott Carey to Liberia and Louisiana but says his recent trip to Haiti was profound. “To witness the joy of the Lord in such dire circumstances is inspiring and humbling,” he says. A two-time winner of regional Emmy Awards for writing and producing, he creates distinctive print, broadcast, and online products through his company, Tucker Multimedia LLC, and teaches a Politics and Communications seminar in the Capitol Hill Internship Program. He formerly taught journalism at Bowie State University and Howard University, and has reported and written for The Detroit News, USA Today and WUSA-TV-9 in Washington, D.C. He earned his M.A. from George Mason University and a B.A. from Brooklyn College.

Lott Carey Herald/August 2013
Lott Carey’s Solution to the Brother Shortage

Men on Missions Creating Spiritual Synergy and Positive Results

By Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley

With rare exception, men represent a much smaller percentage of church congregations than women. Lott Carey’s Men on Missions is working to address that challenge by deploying men for service in the world’s most needy mission fields.

The year-old program accepted the challenge to send out 100 men on short-term missions assignments to help build houses in Haiti for people left homeless by the devastating earthquake of 2010. To date, we have deployed more than 80 men, and we will surpass our goal following the year-end assignments.

Is it working?

To put it simply, “Yes.” The program is not only an effective missionary tool but is transforming the lives of those who are being served and who serve. The American brothers who journey to Haiti say the spirit of the people humbles them. They say shared labor and experiences have created new friendships and lifelong bonds.

Pastors, spouses and peers say their loved ones return with the courage to engage in local projects and embrace family commitments with more gusto. Many of the reinvigorated male missionaries return with fewer clothes (as they share what they have with others) but more faith and commitment. And they share their powerful witness freely. They are sharing their testimonies more powerfully and more freely. They are maturing as disciples and challenging other men to follow Jesus with them. Additionally, men who have traveled to serve along with their pastors are bearing witness of closer relationships with each other. Congregations are witness to stronger bonds of friendship and brotherhood between male pastors and male congregants. Because men grow in faith through doing the work, we are discovering deep insights that can help congregations reach more men and help them mature in Christ.

Our Men on Missions teams work alongside our project partners, and Haitian brothers and sisters who need shelter. Teamwork is bearing fruit as Haitian families move into houses they build. Our men are learning there is nothing quite like being on the ground?

This edition of the Lott Carey Herald celebrates collaboration—coming together, working alongside the Haitian people to create a synergy that creates a whole that equals more than the sum of its parts. I like to call collaboration “God’s increase,” because we plant, we water but . . . well, you know the rest.

Be blessed as you read the various perspectives on collaboration and view the colorful photographs that illustrate or testify to its results. Share this issue with friends and neighbors, then take a few moments to write me a short note (about 50 words is enough) stating what you believe is the power of collaboration, or your thoughts on anything found in this issue. You may email comments to me at LottCarey@LottCarey.org; or send them by mail to 220 l Street, NE, Suite 220, Washington, D.C. 20002.

Together,

David

Collaboration Empowers Missions and Your Spirit

Coming Together for the Common Good Helps All

Commentary by Bishop Sarah F. Davis

A good hymn may contain meaningful and theologically correct lyrics on paper. It may even have a moving and catchy tune. But without voices and musical instruments to lift it off the page and into the ears and hearts of listeners, it lacks impact and does little for the lyricist and composer’s reputation. There must be collaboration between songwriters and performers for the hymn to take flight.

I view collaboration in ministry in much the same way. Collaboration is coming together for a common goal that serves the common good. With the work of the Kingdom here on earth, our common goal is doing ministry and delivering services to those in need. That means providing the best, most comprehensive ministry possible. It is uncommon that one organization, church or individual has all the component parts to provide the best service. Rarely, does a single entity have access to all of the networks or channels capable of facilitating efficient delivery. Only when we come together and work towards a common goal are our services and we successfully blessed.

It will take the power of collaboration to restore Haiti, and as I think about the life-altering earthquake that shattered the nation I am encouraged by the show of camaraderie that has taken root among various organizations feeding people, caring for their medical needs and building houses for the homeless. It is collaboration that is bringing the expertise and resources to help Haiti rise again.

Collaboration brings different people together for a mutually beneficial relationship. Isn’t that what true ministry is all about as we try to live out the life of Jesus? Collaboration allows us to work together, building consensus despite our differences. Our spheres of influence increase exponentially when we pool our resources, so here are some suggestions as you collaborate:

• The reason for collaboration is for the benefit of those we serve, not so we can feel important and indispensable. The focus must always be on providing help to those in need in an effective, productive and dignified way.
• Stop worrying about what you don’t have and move forward with resources you do have. Often, using existing finances, expertise and volunteers will make what we’re spending and whom we’re sending more efficient. Don’t complain about having just five loaves of bread and two fish; feed who you can and the Lord will provide the increase.

Bishop Davis is Presiding Prelate of the 16th Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, President of the Council of Bishops for her Denomination, and Vice President of the World Methodist Council. She lives in Kingston, Jamaica.

Lott Carey Herald/August 2013
PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI—Earthquake. For many, it has become the defining word for this island nation that lies just 700 miles off Florida’s coast. The 7.0 magnitude quake killed an estimated 300,000 and left more than 1.5 million homeless. That was in January 2010. So “earthquake” and “Haiti” is an understandable association.

These days, with the launch of dozens of nation-building initiatives in the aftermath of the soul-shaking disaster, it almost seems unnecessary to dwell on the deadly event. It’s important, yes, but Haitians want to move on and not lick their wounds in a perpetual plea for help. Don’t dare, they say, make the mistake of defining Haiti by the earthquake. To do so misses its rich history, troubles that existed before the quake, and a dogged determination to make things better.

The Haitian people are like the terrain in this rough, tough and mountainous Republic. They’re still hurting from the quake—longing to know the fate of missing loved ones, struggling sometimes to make a living, praying that better days are on the way. But while they wait for their change to come, they seemed to have adapted a sentiment from the film, *The Shawshank Redemption*—“Get busy living or get busy dying.”

So life goes on, despite horrible economic conditions and an unemployment rate of almost 41 percent. Haiti endures because its people have seen hard times before. They’ve experienced colonial periods that led to the establishment of the first black republic in the world. They survived a string of political strongmen, and they will continue to build a better future because they must—more than a third of the 9.9 million population is 14 years old and younger. That’s a lot of future.

Why Ask Why?

I arrived in Port-au-Prince to capture—in photographs, video and words—the work of Lott Carey’s Men on Missions program. There are 32 other brothers from a variety of churches that make up Team 3 of this Caribbean adventure. Soon, we all will be sweating under a Haitian sun guaranteed to fry an egg on the hood of the rickety bus we’re in. But work comes later. For now, it’s time to take in all there is to see and hear between the Toussaint Louverture International Airport...
MOVING ALONG: The earthquake didn’t destroy everything and the spirit of the Haitian people is evident everywhere.
in Port-au-Prince and our hotel in Léogâne, about 22 miles away. It’s time to live and learn.

I quickly discovered that high school French is essentially useless. Haiti’s official language is French-based, but Haitian Creole is an independent language with influences from West African languages. As spoken by everyday people, a bilingual brother says, it can even include some Spanish (Haiti shares its entire eastern border with the Dominican Republic.) Luckily, the prep book provided by Lott Carey provides a few dozen phrases, more than enough to help me find a restroom.

As we bounced along RN2 (Route Nationale #2) the guys experienced Haiti in their own ways: some snap pictures continuously, others scanned the vendors and streets side to side (as if watching a tennis match), while others sat in silence looking at what lies ahead.

For me, this would become an odyssey of high and low emotions because of what I have and what Haitians do not; because of how relatively easy my life is and how theirs is quite difficult; because I am continually asking, “Why?” to my God, who loves us all yet permits so much pain.

Some may call my crisis in faith sophomoric, simplistic, and unworthy of a mature Christian. So be it. Let those who judge come to Haiti and see a mother washing her child in dirty street water; let them gaze on a gas station attendant’s shoes so worn he could barely keep them laced to his feet; let them try to eat as children watch waiting for you to surrender your meal.

Of course, veteran Christians and missionaries may not fall victim to questioning. They may have it all figured out, but after I settled into the hotel and all during the week as I documented the work, as I traveled, as I observed, I asked why.

In Léogâne, Gressier, Carrefour, Port-au-Prince and Cabaret, the questions flooded my mind. I verbalized some, kept others to myself. The answers cited or discovered included colonialism, depletion of forested areas for sugar cane planting, political upheaval, economic debt, and vision.

Despite (or perhaps because of) the questions, I was blessed with an experience of a lifetime: The colorful motorcycles, cars and trucks known as “taptaps” that form the major transportation network on the island; beautiful waters and plants; succulent grilled sunfish, wicked traffic jams, vendor-choked streets, controversial United Nations peacekeepers patrolling, and the constant presence of rubble and smoke in some areas because of a devastated infrastructure.

All my experiences lead me to believe what you see in this issue of the Lott Carey Herald will make you want to be a missionary.

Men on Missions: A Chance for the Fellas to Step Up

The Lott Carey initiative known as Men on Missions is definitely part of the solution in Haiti. Helping to build houses solves a multitude of health and psychological issues for those living in tents and wood structures.

Men on Missions is essentially a call to Christian men to engage in missions around the world. Haiti is the focus for the initial thrust. To date, four teams have deployed and two more are planned by the end of the year.

The impact on both the visiting missionaries and the community is profound and can be seen on the faces and in the work ethic of those depicted in this issue.

My psyche needed to put a few of Haiti’s social, economic and political issues in context as the Men on Missions Team 3 started each day with prayer and worship and got on the road.

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TENTS: There are still too many homeless, a frustrating sight for missionaries and aid workers. Many didn’t even have this meager housing.

GENERATIONS: Marie Esterlin, seated, with her grandson and daughter-in-law, Madame Misou.

LOADED: Four children get a ride to school on motorbike.
COMMUNITY: There’s little time for pity and doubts in Lambi Village or anywhere in Haiti. There’s work to do, friends to visit and families to care for.

Haiti: Continued from Page 6

the bus for a day of hard work and witness.

Lambi Village:
The Place, the People, the Prayer
Lambi Village is in Gressier, a municipality of 26,000 about 13 miles from Port-au-Prince. Lott Carey is partnering with Grace International, a nonprofit based in Florida with primary operations in Haiti. It hopes to construct 70 homes on six acres.

It is here, in this tiny oasis of hope, that I find the answer to my questions:

The answer comes after seeing too many people still living in tents; after a grateful mother with two children thanks me for a portable first-aid kit; after a young man smiles when I hand him my tee-shirt.

The answer comes as I watch a father help his son with homework using available sunlight because his home is awaiting electricity; as dozens in the small village transform themselves into entrepreneurs to earn a living; as I buy art and jewelry, inhale bottled water, and watch a woman lovingly prepare the meal for the Community Feast.

The answer comes as kids crowd around for candy, when those living in tents unselfishly invite us into their living spaces; as young and older women make countless trips to the pump for freshwater, then hoist and carry their loads atop their heads; and when I see Lott Carey’s missionaries work alongside Haitian workers, lifting, straining, grunting, hammering, painting, climbing ladders, building foundations and, finally delivering homes.

The answer comes when I remember that the essence of 1 Corinthians 3:7 is more than an agricultural metaphor: Some plant, some water, but only God gives the increase. I guess I knew that all the time, so . . . it’s back to work—at home, in Haiti, or wherever the Lord leads.

Lott Carey Herald/August 2013
Micah Leonard McCreary: Uniquely Qualified to Serve

Pastor and Psychologist Brings Distinctive Skill Set to Haiti Missions

Editor’s Note: Dr. McCreary is a Renaissance Man on missions. He’s Co-Pastor of Spring Creek Baptist Church in Moseley, Va. (along with wife, Jacqueline); is Associate Professor of Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, and is a missionary who believes that with enough prayer and sweat, change will come to Haiti. He is now exposing VCU students to the thrill and satisfaction of missions (see story on Page 9). McCreary shared his thoughts about the island nation with Lott Carey Herald Deputy Editor Mike Tucker while the two were in Lambi Village in Gressier.

Mike Tucker: Professor and Pastor? That’s a unique combination. When you came to Haiti to help earthquake victims in 2010, what did you find and what surprised you most?

Micah McCreary: I was literally blessed by the strength and the pride of the people, to see how resilient and persistent they were in such a tragedy, in such despicable situations. Although it was painful to see and to watch, one of the joys was to be able to watch pastors working with them and witness their faith and hope.

Tucker: What is your training and what exactly did you do for the people?

McCreary: I am a preacher’s son, and so I’ve been in church my whole life. I did my undergrad training at the University of Michigan, engineering; but then became a youth pastor while in undergrad, and came to Virginia Union, and did my seminary training in pastoral care, counseling, and youth ministry; worked as youth pastor and youth director for about three or four years. And then when I was working with the young people, they said, “We need help with our family, we don’t just need you to preach to us and teach to us,” I went into psychology and did my doctorate in counseling psychology, then got my license in clinical psychology.

Tucker: Some of the best sermons I’ve heard help me live a better life and help me with everyday problems. What exactly did you have to deal with in Haiti? What was the hardest thing to overcome?

McCreary: The language. I worked on psychological care, and even pastoral care. Language was so critical to be able to speak and be able to touch someone on a deeper level. Typically, emotions you have to uncover have to be through conversation. And so when you can’t talk to someone, it becomes difficult to do it not being fluent in Creole or French. So those experiencing trauma, pain and hurt met with my interpreter and me in groups in the evenings, and I would give them scenarios that represented their pain and situations and then ask them to act them out the next day. They’d come back the next morning and they’d act out their play.

Tucker: The arts—music, drama and art therapy—coming to the rescue. They couldn’t tell you how they were feeling but they could draw it, or act it out or sing it.

McCreary: Yes. A true psychologist is an artist and a scientist. You’ve got to be able to do the magic of art and the discipline of science. The combination really makes it happen.

Tucker: Any of them memorable?

McCreary: Several scenarios were just awesome. In one scenario, three widows who lost loved ones in the earthquake act out their pain—one came in, hair braided up with ribbons, torn clothes, and a flashlight, saying, “I’m looking for my loved one.” Another came holding an empty blanket, saying, “I’m looking for my baby in the earthquake.” People were just feeling the pain. I stood up with my arms out, started singing Precious Lord, Take My Hand, pulled one of the elder mothers up, and she started singing the tune in Creole. I grabbed for one of the elder mothers in the group and she stood up and she picked up the tomb and started singing it in Creole. (Tears flow from his eyes.) Before you know it, we had circled those women with that song began to hug them while they experienced their loss and the pain.

Tucker: Even now, years after the experience, it’s clear that empathy can be painful too. What’s in your heart now, in December 2012, as you complete your second mission trip?

McCreary: I didn’t want to come back. I think I was so traumatized. But I knew I had to because I knew the men from my church would be with me, and I wouldn’t be alone. On the first trip all I had was the interpreter, but this trip has been different because it’s
been 32 men working together. It’s still painful though.

Tucker: Seeing the need and the conditions here has led me to get angry, get depressed and ask, “Why can’t this change?” What range of emotions have you experienced and how have you handled it?

McCreary: The strength comes from being able to do something, and I think the painful piece is when you see people who can’t do anything about their plight. But one of the powers of the Haitian people is that they are doing something—just watch the young men on their motorcycles, using them as taxi cabs and making money that way.

Tucker: Innovation.

McCreary: Everybody’s an entrepreneur. Everybody’s trying to produce. I wish there was a better system, a better structure. The pictures that you see are often political pictures of what the government’s doing, or it’s pictures of the pain. We in the missionary community are working to build a foundation. And there are widows, elderly men, and children working together with us, even if it means no running water and building by hand. It’s powerful and life changing.

Tucker: Lott Carey very much believes in working alongside people, not telling people what to do. What in your mind is the strength of collaboration? How does it enhance missions?

McCreary: Lott Carey works with organizations that are here. These organizations know the people, know the terrain, and can really work out some things so we can start on a positive footing. We’re not on the political side, we’re not on the poverty side. We’re in with the people, and that’s where Lott Carey’s strength comes in.

Tucker: What do you think of Lott Carey’s emphasis on getting men involved in missions?

McCreary: It’s a powerful vision. Men have so much to give. We feel compassion but we just don’t like games, we don’t like to have our time wasted. I won’t make the sacrifice unless it’s something that’s meaningful and these missions are. I’ll be going back to the university and bringing students back and the nine men who came with me will bring others from the church back.

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**Small Island Has Large Impact on Students**

By Ben Meade
Virginia Commonwealth University

When a group of seven students and one kindergarten teacher volunteered for the VCU service-learning Haitian Empowerment Program, they knew they wanted to make a difference in Haiti.

What they didn’t realize was the effect Haiti would have on them.

VCU students Brea Mangrum, Mariam Nadri, Attallah Muhammad, Darrell Haley Jr., Latessa Miracle Allums, Jessica Watts and Zel Hawkins spent three weeks this summer in Haiti as part of a life-changing trip. Amirah Bohler, a kindergarten teacher, joined the students.

The trip’s leader, Micah McCreary, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology in the College of Humanities and Sciences, had previously visited Haiti twice since a 7.0-magnitude earthquake devastated the small island nation in 2010.

“This trip was a culmination of the previous two,” McCreary said. “My first was for guidance, the second for service. On this trip I went as a guide as well as a teacher. After two weeks, I counseled the people, and the students did all the teaching.”

Part of that teaching included helping children learn English and social studies at Grace International’s Lamartiene School in Port Au Prince during the group’s first week in the country. The second week they volunteered at the Grace Village Home for Girls and Boys in Carrefour. Finally, they assisted with the construction of Lambi Village, a small village being built in Gressier.

Students not only taught, they learned about Haitian culture, education, health care and building construction.

“Being in Haiti was a great experience for me,” said Muhammad, a senior VCU psychology student. “I definitely want to return again. The culture is really something special.”

The lessons learned in Haiti will stay with the volunteers forever, and they are eager to share not only their stories, but the impact the trip made on their lives.

“It was very life-changing,” said Haley, a senior VCU psychology student. “It changed my perspective. I now know what I really want to do is help people. I know what my goal is now.”

The students returned inspired by the Haitians’ fortitude despite the hardships they face daily.

“They don’t complain about hunger be-
The Woman Behind Men on Missions

Kathi L. Reid Loves Avoiding the Spotlight . . . Most Times

She’s usually on the move — going to Haiti or just returning from the island nation. She prefers blending into the background but the pastors, ministers, deacons, and laymen participating in Lott Carey’s Men on Missions initiative know she is behind the cookies, fruit, and extra portions at dinner or convenient flights that allow them to return to their flocks in the U.S. She is also largely responsible for a volume of material that prepares them for what they will see, hear, smell, taste, and touch when they land in Port-au-Prince and move to the construction project at Lambi Village.

Kathi L. Reid is the point person in a spirited effort to restore Haiti, devastated in 2010 by an earthquake. She is program Manager for the African-American Baptist Mission Collaboration (AABMC), a partnership of five historical Baptist conventions focused on Haiti—Lott Carey; National Baptist Convention, USA; National Baptist Convention of America; National Missionary Baptist Convention of America, and Progressive National Baptist Convention. Ms. Reid is perfectly suited for this role, given her extensive missions background in church planning and information technology architecture.

Ms. Reid, a Baltimore native and member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, is anything but a publicity hound. But Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Lott Carey, made it clear he wants readers introduced to Ms. Reid, who received her MBA from Mercer University in Georgia, and bachelor’s from Towson State University in Maryland. So after repeated requests, she agreed to a brief conversation with Lott Carey Herald Deputy Editor Mike Tucker about the work of Men on Missions and ongoing needs to bless the people of Haiti.

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Team Leader Credits Collaboration With Success

Deacon Tony Taylor Gets His First Taste of Foreign Missions and Loves It

You could say Tony Taylor is a natural leader. As the go-to man on Team 3’s short-term mission to Haiti, Taylor handled the planning and administrative duties with aplomb. He led his Team in morning praise and worship, solicited input and suggestions from the other 31 men in his charge, and sweated in the white-hot Haitian sun, confident that sacrifices today would pay off tomorrow for those in need. Taylor, a Deacon at Convent Avenue Baptist Church in New York City, took a break from his duties to talk with Lott Carey Herald Deputy Editor Mike Tucker about the value of collaboration in missions work and why this, his first foreign mission, is so special.

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TEAM LEADER: Deacon Taylor says collaboration must continue for Haiti to rise again.
The need to mentor more men into missions and the power of collaboration became apparent during a recent trip to Haiti with the Pastoral Excellence Network providing leading-edge projects and information to church leaders. I have been to the island nation several times since the terrible earthquake that struck in 2010 but this dual notion of more men and increased collaboration grew as we worked in Lambi Village and toured projects in the area.

Lott Carey decided a long time ago to develop best practices to strengthen missions and ensure that it builds relationships with people who are doing like things. The decision to come alongside and work rather than assume Lott Carey knows best makes all the difference. Our leadership style is based on service, which is based on the priorities of indigenous people. This humble mindset has created powerful partnerships for Lott Carey around the world.

I’ve been asked do I consider myself a missionary first or a pastor. That’s an easy one to answer: I consider myself a child of God who is willing to come alongside as Jesus did. And as I go, I’m building relationships to help people rise. That investment pays dividends when I come back to the U.S. and my church and deal with my own people.

The Lott Carey method of missionary work explores that metaphor of teaching someone to fish rather than giving them fish, the assumption being that teaching them will help them provide for themselves for a lifetime rather than one meal. Too many well-meaning people assume the folks they’re trying to help don’t know how to fish. Lott Carey sidesteps the assumptions and builds relationships by listening to and learning to the people we’ve come to serve. Perhaps we each have resources the other can plug into.

A lingering problem in missionary work is a Eurocentric view, an imperialistic attitude that we are better. We may have access to resources that some people do not have, but does that make us better? Of course not, so adopting the idea of coming alongside is really the best practice in ministry that I’ve seen.

Adding more men to our missionary ranks is essential if we are to grow this best practice. Certainly, the continuing contributions of women in the field are inspirational and educational. Lott Carey’s push for more men is in no way sexist or ungrateful. It is a simple acknowledgement that there is untapped spiritual power and muscle that can be put to use for the good of people who are struggling.

Men on Missions serves as a role model to those who want to take up the missionary banner but are hesitant for one reason or another. They may wonder about living conditions, safety, the food, missing work, whatever. But I can tell you firsthand that when the people of Haiti see groups of African American men step off the bus, pick up shovels, picks and hammers, their hearts leap. It verifies and dignifies the kinship between our cultures.

Several young men in my church who recently engaged in short-term missions in Haiti came back on fire. That makes my job easier because they’re touching people and spreading the excitement. Men like doing pragmatic, practical things. They like to see the end result. It’s not so much about words. It’s not so much about theology. It’s about getting in, it’s about sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ by using their hands and bringing a vision to fruition through pragmatic practical projects, such as building houses for Haiti’s earthquake victims.

I’ve been blessed to visit many cultures with Lott Carey—Haiti, Italy, Guyana, Jamaica, India, and South Africa. I’ve learned to appreciate what I have and to understand that people all over the world know our God. And when they exercise faith in the sometimes-dire situations in which they live, it emboldens my faith and helps me to appreciate God even more.

All we should be careful about is why we do missions. The people in the countries we visit don’t need our pity. They need our resources and our prayers. It’s important to check our attitude. Don’t assume they don’t know God. Some of them know more about Him than we do.

Dr. Moss is President of Lott Carey and Pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, N.C.
Behind Mission: Continued from Page 10

Tucker: I had to threaten to tattle on you to Dr. Goatley before you’d sit down and talk to me.
Reid: (laughing.) That’s the only reason we’re talking now.
Tucker: You don’t seek attention or crave praise for your work? That’s sort of anti-diva behavior.
Reid: My reward is seeing God glorified in the work Men on Missions is doing. So, you’re right, I’m not diva material and I can live with that! I’m inspired by what we are doing in Haiti.
Tucker: Men on Missions: Why the emphasis on gender?
Reid: To be certain the brothers are given ample opportunity to expand their work and vision in the field by performing actual hands-on labor. Disaster response is one of their key objectives; with the work we are already doing here and its great need, Haiti makes sense. So here we are.
Tucker: How have the men responded?
Reid: All the men have said their lives have been changed. They feel they have something to give to Haiti, so when they return home they share that experience with other men. I have not heard one man say he does not want to go back. They are on fire, praise God! And their work continues…several have sponsored kids in Lambi Village and at the boys and girls home.
Tucker: What did these men on missions tell you?
Reid: That they never had the opportunity to serve in such a physical way, helping build a house and knowing it is helping a family. There was also a psychological component.

Team Leader: Continued from Page 10

Tucker: It must be exciting to witness what’s going on here.
Taylor: It’s empowering, it’s awesome and it puts everything in perspective about why we do what we do as Christians.
Tucker: What’s in your heart right now as you think about your work as a missionary?
Taylor: I feel humbled but I feel despair because I can’t put an instantaneous fix on their problems.

“I feel humbled but I feel despair because I can’t put an instantaneous fix on their problems.”

joining organizations already on the ground?

Taylor: Collaboration and missions go hand in hand. If we were to come to Haiti on our own—even with a willing heart and willing spirit—we would be lost. You need somebody on the ground; you need that prep work to develop a winning team.

Tucker: So you believe collaboration will expand as a best practice in missions, as budgets tighten and political situations change.

Taylor: It has to grow and prosper. With budget tightening, no one entity can do it alone. Lott Carey can’t do it alone. Grace International can’t do it alone. It takes a team effort.
Tucker: What one item provided by Lott Carey proved invaluable?
Taylor: The prep book was excellent. It got everybody in a mindset for missions. I don’t mean from scratch because to belong to Lott Carey, you have to be missions-minded. The book brought it all into focus—this is when we get there, this is what we do, etc.

Tucker: You told me earlier this is your first mission abroad. How has it changed you? How has it impacted your Christianity?
Taylor: As I said before, I’m more humble. I’m here with 31 guys from all over the country—Detroit, Chicago, the Richmond area, D.C. area, and New York. We’d never seen each other but we bonded immediately. We were ready to do missions right then and there.

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BALANCE: Sis. Reid gets into the spirit, toting loads the way many Haitians do.

Some said just the ride from the airport to the hotel had a big impact on them because they did not realize things were that bad as they passed rubble, endured bone-crunching potholes, and witnessed an infrastructure in desperate need. Until they saw it with their own eyes, these men did not know Haiti’s suffering was so overwhelming and humbling.

Tucker: But things look brighter when the men reach Lambi community.
Reid: Oh, yes, because they see the tents and wooden structures that serve as transitional housing, and then they see the end result—permanent housing. Some of the men get to see the transition—the tents being torn down, families receiving keys and Bibles and finally, moving furniture into their new homes. Seeing and sharing the joy with the new homeowners is a great experience.
Tucker: You’re constantly zigzagging between Haiti and the U.S. How do you measure progress?

“All the men have said their lives have been changed.”

Reid: One family or one person at a time. Because the level of devastation was so great, restoring Haiti is going to take a very long time. When I first visited Haiti, after the earthquake in 2010, there were more than 1.5 million tents. Today, there still around 320,000 tents; that’s too many. Analysts estimate that it will cost in the hundreds of millions of dollars and many years to clean up Haiti. Thanks to Lott Carey and our partners we are on the ground making a positive impact in helping Haiti rise again.

Tucker: What can people do to help?
Reid: God is being glorified in Haiti as we build more houses and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We need their continued prayers, more disciples willing to go and share Christ’s love and more money so that there will be a steady stream of progress. And that stream turns into a torrent of good will, construction and changed lives. Haiti is still in serious trouble. Too many Haitian men, women and children are still homeless and hopeless. Too many are hungry. But our Men on Missions program will and has made a difference because everyone who participates believes what’s written in 1 John 3:18: “Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”
ambi Village is a fountain of hope, faith, and hard work. Schoolchildren don bright uniforms while others begin their day of play. A parade of women, balancing buckets of water atop their heads, crisscross the ground where lumber, caging, and paint are moved and transformed into housing. Lott Carey’s Men on Mission initiative is partnering with Grace International, a collaboration that is bearing fruit as families left homeless by the 2010 earthquake move from temporary tents and wood structures to permanent concrete homes. Laboring together. Missionaries and Haitian workers. Praying. Sharing. Dreaming. Life goes on.

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**INTERIOR:**
Temporary one-room wood structure leaves little space for Fenelon Laveau, her husband and their five children. Exterior shown in photo below right.

**EXTERIOR:** Temporary wood structure with cooking space on the side. Interior shown in picture above.

**INSPECTION:** Team members visit temporary tent housing in Lambi Village.
YEARN TO LEARN: Ramontio Jean-Baptiste, left, gets help with his homework from father, Delva, in the doorway of their Lambi Village permanent home. Electrical utilities are still pending for many villagers.

SPACE: Interior of permanent housing provides more room and stability than temporary housing.

SIGN OF THE TIMES: Lott Carey’s partnership with Grace International is rebuilding communities.
HOME: Duplexes will eventually provide permanent housing to those living in temporary tents and wood shelters. The porch feature satisfies a cultural preference, providing a space to welcome visitors and greet passersby.
SOLID: Fenel Jean Simon, a mason, lives in Lambi Village with his wife, son and two other family members.

MISSIONARIES: Michael Woolfolk and Freddie Byrd prepare metal cages for home foundations.

TOGETHER: Lott Carey missionaries work alongside Haitian workers preparing lumber for use in new home.
WAITING: Notrelie Roseval holds little Beninda, while posing with son Wilson and Daphne.

INFRASTRUCTURE: In and around Port-au-Prince clean water and garbage disposal continue to be major challenges as officials address health and environmental issues.
FRIENDS: Aria St. Vil (in straw hat) lives in temporary housing with five other family members. She was injured in the 2010 earthquake when a concrete wall fell on her but continues to recover.
Entrepeneurs Reflect Haiti’s National Spirit

People Use Old-Fashioned Business Techniques to Earn a Living

As construction proliferates in Lambi Village, work continues among the people who are moving from tents to wood structures to permanent housing. That work is earning a living, and if there’s one thing Haitians know how to do is turn any skill, knowledge or need into a business.

Experienced missionaries say Haitians are among the most enterprising people on Earth because despite hard times, they use what they know to launch and maintain business—from selling water, breads or sweets on busy streets to repairing motorcycles.

In Haiti, entrepreneurship is not some abstract, academic exercise that allows for test marketing, promotion, and product polls. It’s real life, nitty-gritty, need-it-now enterprise that can be the difference between eating and not eating.

This republic of almost 10 million remains the poorest in the Americas, with an unemployment rate of nearly 41 percent and an adult literacy rate of about 50 percent. It shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic, which has a similar population but boasts a gross domestic product (GDP) seven times larger than Haiti’s. While diplomats, activists, and aid groups wrangle with the social, economic and political reasons for the disparity, what are the people to do when there are few jobs?

Become an entrepreneur.

No one in Haiti is sitting back having a pity party. They’re starting and expanding business, doing whatever they can to build, make or sell something that creates legal income.

The whole country is a giant market of goods and services, and Lambi Village is an inspiring representative of that national spirit.

—Commentary & Photos by Mike Tucker

TAILOR: J.N. Baptiste Rene and his sewing machine stay busy sprucing up clothes and cloths.

COOK-CATERER: Jannette Marcelim stirs up savory meals of vegetables and rice for sale, and caters the Community Feast, a time to enjoy food, friends and new construction.

GROCER: Toussel Pierrette is a busy mom who makes a living selling eggs, soups, candy, gum and other goodies from her porch.
Rescue, Relieve, and Restore. That’s the mission of Grace International Inc., a non-profit registered in the State of Florida with primary operations in Haiti. The 40-year-old organization is a family affair founded by Bishop Joel Jeune and wife, Doris. Their son, Jonny, is a Program Director, responsible for overseeing housing construction in several communities on the island. (Read Jonny’s commentary on collaboration, Page 23.) Grace International says it also manages 270 churches, 65 schools, three orphanages, a medical/dental clinic, a pediatric hospital, a home for elderly widows and a university. When the earthquake hit, more than 25,000 people took refuge at Grace Village. “They have a breadth of experience and service that is making a difference in Haiti,” says Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley, Lott Carey Executive Secretary-Treasurer. “We thank God for our partnership and continuing collaboration.”

— Text and Photos by Mike Tucker

OPPORTUNITY: Missionary Zebby Wheelock reviews variety of programs offered by Grace International during visit by Men on Missions.

GRACE HAITI
Girl’s & Boy’s Orphanage

Passionate: Founders Joel and Doris Jeune have built Grace International into missional powerhouse. A commentary by their son, Jonny, appears on Page 23.
Men on Missions: “... when it comes to collaboration, Lott Carey does it right”

Brothers Represent Christ, Serve as Role Models

Commentary by Jonny Jeune

The importance of collaboration of ministries within the missions context comes down to efficiency and fulfilling the last commands of Jesus to us here on earth. How can different ministries serving the same Lord be at odds in witnessing for Him? This can’t be pleasing to the Master, so collaboration is key.

God places ministries around the world to represent Him. And if an organization such as Lott Carey supports these already established ministries, then Lott Carey receives equal credit for being the missionary on the ground. This is not only pleasing to God but provides a good witness to all of us who need salvation. It shows that there is one God, one church.

Collaboration enhances work in our own country, Haiti. God has handed us a huge assignment—rebuilding Haiti—and one entity cannot do it alone. God purposely sends other members in the body of Christ to join this work. Since God is behind the work, He sends the right collaborators to fulfill our needs. We thank God for collaborators like Lott Carey who move by faith and join in work already started.

Expanding collaboration is necessary if we are to move to higher levels in our work for the kingdom. This can only happen with education in collaboration concepts and best practices. We must understand the folly of operating in selfish little boxes to gain recognition for ourselves rather than the missions. That why having partners like Lott Carey is a blessing. Its missionaries are experienced and sensitive to world cultures.

In Haiti, for example, Lott Carey did not come as firefighters ready to save a foreign country. No. Lott Carey came in to provide support to the firefighters that were already on the ground and needed additional resources to help Haiti rescue its own people. This difference may seem subtle on paper but it fosters brotherhood as local ministries, many of them working on the ground for years, get a boost in work and results—without feeling like they’re being bossed by outsiders.

The Men on Missions program is special because it is further proof that when it comes to collaboration, Lott Carey does it right. Usually, the men who come with teams are those already involved in missions or work for the church. I always figured other men couldn’t come because of their jobs and families. But when the Men on Missions teams started arriving, we all learned something new. We learned many of these “regular” guys always wanted to come. They just needed a vehicle and short-term missions were the answer, and continue to provide a way for our American male missionaries to contribute to restoring Haiti.

These brothers are eager to represent Christ in other nations. They have shown love and dedication as genuine as women missionaries. These men of God make a powerful, positive impression on our youth, which is an added bonus because women head most of our households. So we are familiar with their love and daily sacrifice. But when teenagers can see a man who knows nothing about them step away from his daily job and responsibilities to help them, they feel it is an act of love that transcends words.

Mr. Jonny Jeune is Program Director for Grace International in Carrefour, Haiti.
Join Lott Carey’s Men on Missions

Help build housing for Haitian families displaced by the 2010 earthquake.

Team 5: 9-16 November 2013
Team 6: 30 Nov.- 6 Dec. 2013

E-mail Kathi L. Reid at kreid@lottcarey.org or visit LottCarey.org for more information.

Sisters, you’re invited to participate in a unique short-term opportunity: help build houses in Haiti for victims of the 2010 earthquake.

HAITI 2013

2-9 November 2013

Cost: $1900

To Register, visit LottCarey.org, then click Short-Term Missions tab

For more information, contact Sis. Kathi Reid:
202-543-3200
kreid@aabmc.org

Lott = Women in Service Everywhere (W.I.S.E.)
Mission Haiti

A Poem by Rev. Dr. Edward J. Morris Sr.

O beautiful for spacious skies . . .
Dusty roads, blaring horns, poverty;
Hopelessness, no tomorrow,
 Barely existing today.
Hundreds, thousands . . . a sea of faces, soiled feet,
Livestock roaming free,
Goats and children, chickens and goats,
Polluted, poison, like pigeons in the city.

I don’t want to be here. I want to go home.
I am them, they are me.
A flood of emotions, tears in my heart
I’ll stay, I’ll work, I’ll encourage.
But is it enough?
It’s going to be a long seven days.

For purple mountain majesties . . .
Tents on the hillsides, U.S. Aid, Peace and Love Mission.
Tarps were, torn, tattered like my people.
This is home?
Where is the hope in hopelessness?

Above the fruited plain . . .
Flight of 80 percent, Men 32 strong,
Black men—Spring Creek, New Macedonia,
Parkway Gardens.
Songs on their lips, God in their hearts, determination in their purpose.
Here is hope, here riding what looks like hopeless hope.
32 strong . . . Haiti will rise again!

Kenada, high-fives, strong eyes, surety in her steps.
Haiti will rise again!
“Give me my money.”
Surprise, recoiling,
Haiti will rise again!

“Hey You!”
Bless the land, bless the people,
Haiti will rise again!

Dr. Edward Morris is Senior Pastor, Parkway Gardens Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Chicago, Ill. He was part of a 32-member Men on Missions trip to Haiti in December 2012.

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AS MY FEET TOUCH DOWN, THE SOUNDS I’M HEARIN’...

the crowds appearin, numerous civilians, livin in decimat-ed structures. The view I envision—a decorated puncture, a beautiful prison.

Now, if you are a Christian, why aren’t you all givin’? Probably the same reason that I’m sayin’ that I wouldn’t . . . Because you hate the system . . . and the fact that it makes you . . . make your decisions, and tells you to play your positions.

But these people had a earthquake fall on ‘em, and then they became victims of somethin’ they didn’t see comin’, didn’t know it would hit ‘em.

See, it’s our position to bear the burden of our brothers . . . to learn to rebuild with our neighbors and love one another. And we do this through a new heart, the renewal of Christ.

So I suggest you dedicate yourself to selfless mission. It’s a jewel that is priceless. Only then you will understand what the true meaning- a-life is. I’M OUT!

A SPOKEN WORD PRAYER FOR HAITI
These people had an earthquake fall on 'em!

If you are a Christian, why aren't you all givin'?

It's our position to bear the burden of our brothers.
Testimonies Reveal an Expanded Role for Men on Missions

You’ll shout ‘Hallelujah’ after reading these printed excerpts and watching the full video versions on LottCareyTV on YouTube.

Andrew Afolabi
Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Centerville, Va.
“For those who haven’t done it before, I will say, it’s going to be a life-changing experience for each and every one of them. They appreciate what they have…and the way we serve God back home, compared to what they do here. Seeing how we do stuff and seeing how they do it with a little help, it would be a life-changing experience for anyone, and I would encourage anyone who hasn’t done it, not just Haiti, but anywhere else, go and see it and serve.”

Benjamin Abdelrahman
New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
“It’s a completely different place with a completely different set of rules. Everything is different. And though we talk about it, it opens up your mind and it helps you be more thankful for what you have and makes you want to do more because you realize…it’s just a flight away for you to come and be there. You know, you spend money on everything so you might as well do something that’s going to really help someone else and that glorifies God.”

Brelan Hillman
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.
“I mean, the bus trip was just shocking, awe-inspiring—just to see the devastation. At the same time, you can tell that there’s still hope out there. And it’s just been nothing but the most enriching and enlightening experience in my life without a doubt. You can’t put a price on what an experience it is just learning how these people survive every day. It makes you appreciate what you have. That alone makes it worth it.”

Brian Lennox
Spring Hill Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.
“I attended Oklahoma University and majored in landscape architecture. I had a landscaping company, and this is something I really enjoy doing. I really enjoy growing things and helping others. This is something big where they can grow their own vegetables. We’ve got corn; we’ve got bananas, mango trees, and also some avocado. They can feed themselves, you know; they can turn the garden, turn the soil and keep reproducing forever. We’re here to serve these people, help them in any way we can.”

Pastor Edward J. Morris, Sr.
Parkway Gardens Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Chicago, Ill.
“Missions is not simply taking care of people, but helping to create opportunities for people to help themselves; to be there with them and walk alongside them as they come back into a state of wholeness. It is vitally important that anyone who is considering missions be open to have (his or her) world shaken first. Be open to understanding their job is not to come and fix things, but to become a part and walk alongside of the people they come to serve.

Pastor Elton Wilson
Mount Zion Baptist Church of St. Louis, Middleburg, Va.
“I was just sharing with one of the other brothers how working here under that shade tree takes you back to what you can imagine as being a pure, holistic work environment; The children playing and crying in the background. The mothers are here seated around and the brothers are here working for a common cause. And I know this is a situation that rose out of tragedy, but God just has a way of blessing out of tragedy.”

Emery J. Partee III
Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Reidsville, N.C.
“Bottom line for me, I was impressed with the training material. Now not only did it encourage and inform me of what I should expect on this trip, but they also gave me an outline to go back home and teach those the same preparation syllabus so we can evangelize right around the church. So I’m very impressed with the literature and the organization that put this together.”

Eric Dolce
New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
“I’ve been on mission trips in the past and what I’ve really appreciated about this one is the fact that we’re not the only ones doing the work. We’re not doing for somebody, we’re doing with someone, and so that puts a lot more pride into what I feel as one born of Haitians. Missions definitely glorifies God. Seeing the gospel as a message of the death, burial, and the resurrection of Christ, it’s also connected to the work that we do for people to help them live a better life.”

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James Alston  
New Macedonia Baptist Church,  
Washington, D.C.  
“This is my fourth mission trip here in Haiti. In 2003 my pastor and I took a trip over here and we sort of adopted Haiti. So every year we always come back. In America, we throw away so much; and when we come over here we see that the need is so much and we have so much to give; not only physically but spiritually as well. God says go into the world and share. And that’s what we must do.”

Harry Thompson  
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.  
“It’s just an opportunity to never be the same again. The best thing you can call me besides being a Christian and father is a missionary. It means service to others, service to God; it means living by that example as we are working here with the people of Haiti.”

Eric McDaniel  
Saint Timothy’s Christian Baptist Church,  
Baltimore, Md.  
“It’s a very humbling experience. Everyone has different motives, but when you get here, it comes down to the fact that you do this because of love and compassion. Some say there’s a language barrier but love covers all. So just step out on faith and just do it. Once you get here or anywhere else we go, you’ll find the people are willing to work with you and do what’s necessary for you to be successful.”

Gary Spann  
New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church,  
Pontiac Mich.  
“We picked up two new additions to my family—Kenly and Kenia. So I’m very happy. I’m very blessed. We have two children, one boy, one girl; they’re twins and they’re 23. They graduated from college. They’re living on their own. The blessing is that Zebby (of Grace International) was standing on the footsteps of the orphanage and first thing that she pulled out were pictures of other twins, a boy and a girl. Is that like God’s will or what?”

Ervin McDaniel  
Saint Timothy’s Christian Baptist Church,  
Baltimore, Md.  
“It’s a very humbling experience. Everyone has different motives, but when you get here, it comes down to the fact that you do this because of love and compassion. Some say there’s a language barrier but love covers all. So just step out on faith and just do it. Once you get here or anywhere else we go, you’ll find the people are willing to work with you and do what’s necessary for you to be successful.”

Fred Byrd  
New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church,  
Pontiac Mich.  
“This was an enlightening experience. It was excellent and it was beautiful for me to see how people in a third-world country struggle and how much help they need and I just feel God working in it.”

George Price  
New Macedonia Baptist Church,  
Washington, D.C.  
“As a Christian you are taught to give and share of yourself unto those less fortunate than you. You see that every day here . . . the littlest child, when you give them a meal, you see them share it with all the other children around them. When you give them a piece of candy, they’ll break it off and share it with all the other children around them. If you give them money, they’ll go and take it right back to their parents, that is extremely touching.”

James Henderson  
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.  
“It was really a blessed time . . . a lot of work but very blessed. It’s something that is very rewarding; something that (prospective participants) need to pray about, think about sincerely. But I think once they make their step, it would be such a rewarding experience that they will never forget.”

Eric Parker  
New Macedonia Baptist Church,  
Washington, D.C.  
“You have to be careful what you ask God for, because I had been praying the week before I found out about this and the very next week one of my pastors came to me and said, ‘We got a mission trip for you to go on.’ That’s how I knew this trip was meant for me because I prayed and God provided and made a way. It’s been a wonderful experience. I had those concerns in the beginning but . . . God will make a way.”

James Henderson  
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.  
“It’s really a blessed time . . . a lot of work but very blessed. It’s something that is very rewarding; something that (prospective participants) need to pray about, think about sincerely. But I think once they make their step, it would be such a rewarding experience that they will never forget.”
**Gregory Johnson**  
*Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.*  
“When I talk about missionary work, this is not something that I had expected. My purpose in missionary work was to speak to people about Jesus Christ. But then when you actually do it, that’s the physical part. I can tell you a story in five minutes. But to actually build that house; that took a whole seven days just to get foundation down; so there’s always a big difference . . . you’re gonna break a back so it’s actually a little bit harder.”

**Kevin Jackson**  
*Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley Va.*  
“Actually I’m learning a lot about the Haitian culture. I’m learning a lot about what it takes for the people of Haiti to be self-sufficient, so maybe they won’t be so reliant on outside help. For example, this garden that we’re putting together; the gentleman that owns this garden, he’ll be able to feed his family, but also educate others on how to grow and cultivate their garden so that, they’ll be able to feed their families and village.”

**Brad Lee**  
*New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.*  
“You’re thinking you’re sent to be a blessing. And often times when you’re going to be that blessing, you end up getting blessed more by the people. You see their plight and in the midst of everything they’re going through, they still praise God. They still look to Him for the help. I look forward to doing this again.”

**Marcus Wade**  
*New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.*  
“I expected it to be poverty but to see it firsthand was just something that was mind-boggling and it took me a moment to grasp the concept that they were really living in these types of conditions. I encourage everyone to go on a mission just because I think it will help give you a different perception of what goes on where you live versus where others live.”

**Michael Woolfolk**  
*Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.*  
“What we’re doing down here is a small part but it does help and you can see it on the faces of people we meet and sometimes can’t give as much as you want to. When you get here and get your hands dirty and get in with the other people, see them every day; the children from the youngest to the oldest; you just have to come and see it for yourself. Just do it. Just try it once and you’ll be helped.”

**Pastor Keyon Peyton**  
*New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Pontiac, Mich.*  
“When I flew into Haiti, I was very overwhelmed. Of course, I saw the pictures on CNN, the footage with families living in temporary tents. But actually seeing it really was overwhelming for me. And so to actually be here, knowing that I’m making a difference, knowing there are families who need the type of housing we’re building is tremendous. Serving is humbling.”

**Pastor Micah McCreary**  
*Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.*  
“My job today is actually creating the frame for the boxes…when they do concrete, have a frame that fits in there square and I’m doing the nailing for the square so it’s really pretty simple. This is actually my second trip here. I came right after the 2010 earthquake and worked as a psychologist and a pastor to families. We’re not really working for them, we’re working right alongside them which is Lott Carey’s mission and its method. And we’re just doing that and it’s powerful.”

**Prince Howard**  
*Mount Olive Baptist Church, Centreville, Va.*  
“The greatest lesson is that we think that we’re blessed in the U.S. but that blessing may actually be a curse. These people of God have an intimacy with him that you only see in situations like this. If we’re looking at a blessing and the Beatitudes of Jesus on the Sermon on the Mount, then it’s more fitting here than being in D.C. or New York City living in comfort. Sometimes we may have things upside down from a spiritual standpoint.”
32 TESTIMONIES

Ralph Taylor
St. Timothy’s Christian Baptist Church, Baltimore Md.
“The same work that we do here we need to do at home. We need to go forth and minister to our orphans, help our poor become advocates in America for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is my second trip to Haiti. I didn’t have a vision last time I came. I just came and I served. But this time there’s a vision that’s preparing me for my next trip to Haiti that we might do an even greater work for the Lord.”

Terry Norman
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.
“The things we see on TV don’t accurately display what’s really happening here. There’s much work to do, but what you don’t see on the television is the beautiful parts. You’re always seeing the tragedy but there are some beautiful, beautiful parts. God doesn’t ask and require us to do things that are comfortable, so stepping out of my comfort zone, it was big for me. When you get over here or wherever you do missions, you’ll find that all of the phobias you had weren’t even true.”

Vernon Hummert
Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria Va.
“What has really touched me is the joy that you see in most of the people. It’s not just happiness on the outside, but there’s a joy deep inside. There is such a need here. But you know what’s really important is they don’t get to see African American men come here. And that’s the thing—to be here with 31 other brothers that are just singing and praising God. Just give a little of yourself, and that’s all God asks of us in the first place.”

Ricardy Damille
New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
“I’ve been learning, connecting with the people, understanding that I am no different from them. It’s definitely encouraging. It feels good to see faith in practice. It makes me feel good to see the Word come to life. It’s one thing to study scripture; it’s one thing to read it, but to also see men putting it into practice is a beautiful thing. Being able to put my faith in practice, being able to advance the kingdom of God is rewarding and fulfilling for me.”

Tony Taylor
Convent Avenue Baptist Church, New York, N.Y.
“It’s transforming. It’s humbling. We come from a land of plenty and we think we know what it means to be down and out. I came up on a farm in the South as a child and I am 67 years old. But as bad as it might have been for my grandparents, it’s nothing like this. Come and see and you’ll be transformed forever. This is a unique experience. It’s something you have to do as a person, as a human being, as one of God’s children.”

Ray Drummond
Spring Creek Baptist Church, Moseley, Va.
“This is my first trip and one of the things that affects me the most is the love that I get from all of the people in the village, and particularly the kids. If you are interested in mission work but aren’t quite sure what to do about their fear or their uncertainty?
Ray: What I would tell them to…do your research. Talk with people who have already been here; and then that way, they can explain to you some of the things that you’re gonna have to go through.

Roland Williams
Mount Olive Baptist Church, Centreville, Va.
“The people do not have much but they know their hope lies in the Lord. The homes that we are building, they feel blessed beyond belief. And they praise God for that. Talk to folks that have been on missions, not just in Haiti but also anywhere in the world. And do research about the culture, about the people, and about the land. It’s nothing to take lightly, because it’s not a vacation. You are there to raise the word of the Lord and also to work.”

Warren Parks
New Macedonia Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.
“My greatest joy is coming here and watching these people come to you and say, ‘Are you gonna start on my house next?’ They’re ready to move in, they’re eager. In the United States, a lot of us are bitter—we didn’t sleep last night right or we didn’t get what we wanted for Christmas, or whatever. Those are the kinds of things that make a difference here. They’re appreciative and they’re willing to do what it takes to get their home the way they’re comfortable with it.”
SA OU WE NAN JOURNAL SA A AP FE OU VIE VINN YON MISYONE AN AYITI. *(Haitian Creole)*

**TEAM 1: 7 MIGHTY MEN (WITH JONNY JEUNE OF GRACE INTERNATIONAL).*

**TEAM 2: TEAM IMPACT.**

**TEAM 3: TEAM TRINITY.**

**TEAM 4: TEAM HOPE.**

**WHAT YOU SEE IN THIS ISSUE WILL MAKE YOU WANT TO BE A MISSIONARY IN HAITI.**