



## BIBLE CLASS AT SCHOOL

We went to Haiti in 1983 to preach the Gospel. However, when we arrived in Nepley, Haiti, most of the children were not in school. Education was a privilege reserved for perhaps the oldest in the family or for a few who had relatives living abroad to pay their tuition.

Marie Yolene Anestin reminds me of the idiom “from rags to riches.” She came from a family that did farming, and lived with an aunt in an area where New Missions had a school. She was 14 years old when she first attended a Bible class. The Word of God convicted her. Marie came out of poverty into the riches of an eternal life with a good, faithful Father.

We knew in order to love people we had to open our eyes to their needs. Our priority was to give them an education and share the Gospel message—otherwise, a person has no tools to prepare for a future. If our children know how to read and we give them a Bible, they find the treasure of life. *“Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17)*

No matter the students’ aspirations for after school, ours was and always will be for them to know Christ. *“For what shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?” (Matthew 16:26)*

~Jeanne DeTellis Loudon



**Top:** Marie Yolene is in seventh grade and she’s sponsored by Nick and Elizabeth Manuel.

**Middle:** Marie Yolene moved to Leogane to live with her aunt so she could attend school at New Missions.

**Bottom:** Marie’s life was changed because of God’s love and the Gospel introduced to her at school.

# CHRISTIAN LEADERS

Please pray for our Christian student leadership group as they go on their annual mission trip at the beginning of this month. Being able to go on this trip every year is an important component of training the students to be servant leaders. The students also have many other opportunities during the school year to serve and practice other skills that make great leaders. They lead chapel services and serve as volunteers on campus to welcome visitors and assist with school events. They also plan and host a number of fun school activities that teaches them about budgeting, time management, and teamwork.

The main assignment the students completed last school year was creating small business plans. They worked together in groups of two or three to come up with an idea for a local business. Each week, they completed another part of the plan and concluded with an oral presentation. This was not only a great teamwork exercise, but it also helped the students think about godly ways to run a business and how they could use a business to have a Christian impact in their communities. ~Heather Williams Katz



Once a month during the school year, the Leaders for Christ group leads the high school chapel service.



The leadership students enjoyed planning and leading a fun student game day at the end of this past school year.



Monette and Jackson are so thankful for their sponsors; Lance Freeman (Monette) and Brian & Jenni Highberger (Jackson).



Members of the class of 2023 with High School Director Jean Wilson Paul (pink shirt) and two other staff members.

## GRADUATION: A BIG DEAL!

According to USAID, less than two percent of Haitians complete high school. Often, huge sacrifices are made to facilitate a child's education. We're thankful for our 75 graduates this year. Two students we interviewed were Monette Dasny and Jackson Louis.

Monette entered first grade at our Mare-Chal school when she was nine. She lives with her aunt because her father passed away in 2011, and her mother is in another part of Haiti. She likes biology and English. Ever since first grade, Monette has wanted to be a nurse. She accepted the Lord as a child and helps with kids' ministry and hospitality at church. Jackson entered our Lassale school at age three. He's thankful for New Missions because his family is poor. He loves math and would like to become a civil engineer. Our Lassale school director, Pastor Rigal, asks all the students to attend church. Jackson used to go alone as none of his family are believers. But it wasn't until he was 19 that he chose to become a follower of Jesus. We are happy for these students' spiritual lives and the opportunities that lie ahead for them! ~Rachel DeTellis



## CHRISTIAN TEACHERS

It's 8:00 a.m. and the first class at school is Bible class. Our Christian teachers lead the way in sharing about their personal testimony of following Jesus. Daily, this is the priority because we know without hope in God, there is no hope, really.

Nadege Leriche is our preschool class teacher in Signeau, Haiti. She accepted Jesus as her Savior at seven years of age at our Signeau church. She loves engaging the students with projects in the classroom—from learning the alphabet to learning to write. As a Christian teacher, she influences the spiritual foundation being established in our students' lives.

Genel Isaac is the fourth grade teacher at our Leogane Guillaume school. He was 24 years old when he finally accepted Jesus at church. He strives to serve his students with the inspiration to become godly leaders.

We want to encourage our students, no matter their age, to rise up as new Christian leaders. *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."* (1 Timothy 4:12)

Our Christian teachers are vital for the consistency of advocating on behalf of our students' well-being. We see our classrooms as the environment for discipleship and leadership development. ~Tim DeTellis



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1 John 4:19



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**Top:** Nadege Leriche is a preschool teacher in Signeau, Haiti. She accepted Jesus as her Savior at age seven at our Signeau church.

**Bottom left:** Nadege loves engaging the students with projects in the classroom from learning the alphabet to learning to write.

**Bottom middle:** Genel Isaac is the fourth grade teacher at our Leogane Guillaume school.

**Bottom right:** Genel strives to serve his students with the inspiration to become godly leaders.



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## STORM SAILING

In 2010, at the age of 16, Jessica Watson from Australia sailed solo around the globe unassisted. She was not allowed to moor the boat in any harbors. Her thirty-four-foot sloop suffered seven knockdowns with 40 feet waves and 70 knot winds. A knockdown is when the wind and waves knock your boat over and the mast enters the water. Her emergency beacon was inadvertently activated and her family believed her boat had sunk. She spent 210 days alone at sea. Maybe in your life you have suffered a knockdown? What do you do? If your boat is not damaged and you have not suffered life-threatening injuries...keep sailing!

My father and I used to go sailing on day trips. The best part was returning to port after a day on the water. We would tie the mooring line to the cleat in the bow of the boat. We would put the sail cover on and make sure all of the boat lines were in place. Sailing is rigorous and tiring. We loved going ashore and standing on solid ground.

Jessica had seamanship training and knew what to do during a storm. You need to keep all of the hatches closed and use an anchor. For Christians, the Lord is our anchor. Hebrews 6:19 tells us, *"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain."* You also need to be harnessed to the boat with a safety line. In extreme weather, it is best to be inside the boat with most or all of your sails lowered. The main lesson we see here is that she did not give up. In the same way, we need to remain steadfast with our reading

of God's Word and our prayer life in order to have a strong spiritual life. We need to remain unwavering in our convictions of who we are in Christ...and we need to keep our final destination in mind.

Many people give up when mishaps happen. I am sure Jessica was wet, tired, and scared. Most likely she was tired of eating the same food. However, the storms would pass and she would dry herself off inside of the boat and perhaps have a strong coffee. She would then raise the sails again and get back on course.

2 Corinthians 4:7-10 says, *"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."* The mercies of God are new every morning. We must not look back; we need to look forward. We must depend upon God to be the strength of our life.

Looking around, it appears there are dark clouds and ferocious winds in the world today. There is news of political and economic insecurities. There is news of disease and natural disasters. Realize you are sailing through a storm! Be diligent in your quest. There is a safe and secure harbor waiting for you in Christ.

~Charlie DeTellis

**"WE HAVE THIS HOPE  
AS AN ANCHOR  
FOR THE SOUL..."**

We have nothing to fear in this world. There is every instruction on how we should live our lives in God's Word. He has given us every tool we need to live and prosper. He has promised to never leave us or forsake us. We need to be a lighthouse to those around us who do not know the Lord.

Sincerely,

*Charlie DeTellis*

Charlie DeTellis

*P.S. We conquer the storms in life by relying upon God to be our strength. "Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always."*

*(1 Chronicles 16:11)*

