

AUGUST
2014

THOUSAND HILLS

Ministry



PLANTING SEEDS

IN HEARTS AND SOIL

TRUTH AND GRACE

"The agricultural program in the church has two benefits... An outreach tool for the lost, and a business tool for the poor. Sometimes it's both for a family in Lacienne." Pastor Wiljean

Together with my friend Paul Hamlin 50 leaders were trained in using biblically based business principals. During training a recognized successful farmer (Delford) had asked several outstanding questions, made multiple helpful observations and by the end of day two he was in front teaching farming skills. Pastor Oclane was excited to see him get involved and provide leadership for the farmers. Delford is the man in the picture above holding a huge papaya which he grew in his prosperous garden. The size of the papaya is very impressive however, it's his heart that we sensed to pursue. He does not know Christ. His wife (pink dress) is a Believer and attends church, but Delford's interest is not in God, not yet...



Pastor Oclane, serving others and sharing Christ

Pastor Oclane serves many roles in Lacienne. The Pastor of Open Door and a leader in the co-op. This means Pastor Oclane will be spending a lot of time with Delford, talking about a range of issues in the months to come... Let's see, there is Christ, irrigation, Hope, crop rotation, Grace, selling produce. You get the idea. What church leader wouldn't love to have an opportunity to work alongside the lost in their community? Goats ~ a tool bringing people together. How cool is that?

Notes from the field

Families & Teachers



150 Families

The agricultural committee of the church has identified 150 families (believers & non-believers) who will receive goats from the co-op. Forty two goats have been given-away, and forty more in weeks to come. The Aslyn family received their goat; she is pregnant - more on the way!!!

Discipleship & Equipping

Denny Woodruff, a veterinarian from Iowa, trained the leaders of the goat program in how to manage and care for goats. He also explained how to use the medicine; when it's needed, and the vaccinations for preventative care. The leaders have enough pharmaceutical product to last ONE YEAR!



Reflecting Christ

Launching the goat farm WITH the leadership committee of the agriculture co-op was tremendous! Engaging with them during training sessions, during small groups, and as well as being invited to many of their homes. I met their wives, their children, their extended families. We laughed with the kids and made quick friendships. I saw their smiles and also their needs; reminded once again of their poverty, of being hungry. I couldn't wait for the day they would receive a goat! That day was fast approaching - more goats would be purchased the week after our trip. In fact, this team is responsible for purchasing quality goats for the farm. They would get one then. I couldn't wait!

But, it was their servants heart that took the leadership committee down a different path than I was imagining. You see, the last night of our trip, sitting on folding chairs in the church courtyard, discussing next steps for the goat farm, one of members of the leadership team announced, "we have taken a vow, we will receive the last goat. Once every family on our list (150) receives their goat, then and only then will we WE receive ours."

Our team witnessed men and women of integrity. They did not want anyone in Laciennne to feel that the Christian leaders got the first or best goat; they did want to GIVE the first goat. This group wanted people to know they matter, that they count! That God is the giver of good gifts!

They are living what it means to serve!

Your partnership is strengthening this team!



Leaders of the agricultural committee expressed their thankfulness for the goat project and share their vision for caring for Laciennne.

Summer fun with friends

Ahh the long lazy days of summer found our family on a fantastic week long trip with our dear friends the Tyler's.

Enjoying the sights and

playground of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Georgia, our families ventured together rafting, hiking, climbing waterfalls, Blue Ridge Lake to ride the wave runner, to strolls in the town enjoying ice-cream and burgers. Great friends! We picked right up where we left off when we vacationed together a couple years back. How sweet it is to have dear friends..



Thank you for all your support and prayers. We can't do this without YOU!

All gifts are tax-deductible and made payable to: Thousand Hills Ministry, PO BOX 950030 Lake Mary, FL 32795

Please designate your giving: ☐ Laciennne farm ☐ Poultry houses ☐ Goat farm ☐ Stout family

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