

NOV 2013

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING

*from the Hollidays*



**DOUG & JENNIFER**  
SERVING CHRIST TOGETHER

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." *Philippians 1:3-4*

## THE WALL OF THANKSGIVING

**W**e have a new Thanksgiving tradition. We gather with the girls in our study, which has a white board on one wall. Each family member gets a different colored dry erase marker and we begin filling up the wall with the people, things, events and attributes of God that we are thankful for. The girls really get into it. An hour later, they are still writing on the board.

This year, our Wall of Thanksgiving was mostly filled with names... names of family members, friends, music groups (read: One Direction) and ministry partners. We're so thankful for you!

Years ago, Jennifer and I began praying 1 Chronicles 4:10. "Oh, that you would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that your hand would be with me, and that you would

keep me from evil, that I might not cause pain."

God has truly blessed us indeed! Through the faithful, generous support of our ministry partners, God has allowed us to impact lives all over the world. Over the last fifteen years, we've ministered in twenty countries, carrying out the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

We've been privileged to share the Gospel with young people all over the world, seeing thousands put their faith in Christ. We've been blessed to train young leaders in Christ's disciple making priorities, raising up a generation committed to living God's mission. We've been a part of a miracle... and so have you!



Answered prayers...

Enlarged Territory!



## Open Door

Our leadership role in Haiti has allowed us to experience first hand the miracles of God providing for and growing this ministry. He has brought people and resources... a donation of over \$500,000 worth of medical equipment and supplies, funds for a new church and school in a rural mountain village, over a thousand children being educated and fed, 60 young leaders graduated from the School Of Youth Ministry...

## Sonlife Ministries

Sonlife has impacted hundreds of thousands of leaders here in the US and around the globe through it's training and resources. I was one of those impacted 25 years ago when I was first introduced to Sonlife's training on the life of Christ and building a disciple making ministry. I'm humbled and grateful for the "new territory God has given me as Executive Director of this amazing ministry!

## Dare2Share

God had providentially initiated a partnership between DHM and D2S in 2012, paving the way for a potential partnership between Sonlife and D2S where together we would endeavor to change the culture of youth ministry in North America by impacting 30,000 youth leaders with Jesus' passion, priority and pattern of living out The CAUSE (Great Commission).

## J-Life Africa

Disciple making training is now taking place in over 20 African nations. God has allowed us to be a part of initiating and now resourcing that work throughout East Africa... Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Burundi, Zanzibar.

## ADOPTION ADVENTURES

The end of October I received a call from Pastor Wiljean. "Doug, the lawyer is ready to finish the girls' passports. I will take them to Port Au Prince tomorrow. The lawyer needs you to send a procuration." I was in Portland. I would be getting on a plane to fly home the next day. There was no way I would be able to get the lawyer what he needed in time... especially since I didn't know exactly what it was. Frustrating!

Once home, I finally figured out that the lawyer needed an updated Power of Attorney because our initial one had the girls birth names on it but their passports would have their adopted names. I spent that Monday running down to the Haitian Consulate in Orlando getting a new Power of Attorney and then trying to figure out how I could overnight the document to the lawyer. As you can imagine, overnighting a document to Haiti is nearly impossible. So I bought a plane ticket... I would be my own courier. I got up at three in the morning for the four hour drive to Miami to catch my 9:00am flight to Port Au Prince.

Our Haitian lawyer picked me up at the airport. Then we drove over to the domestic terminal to pick up the girls, who were brought down on their first flight ever by our friend from Open Door, Peterson. We went straight to the offices to have the girls sign for their passports. They would have them completed for us by the end of the week. Wow! Progress.

Since I had the entire next day before my flight home, I decided to go to the US Embassy to find out what the process would be to get the girls' visas. Imagine my shock when the embassy told me that I would have to e-mail them to request an appointment. I was standing right there. Couldn't they open their book and give me an appointment? No. I would need to e-mail them my request, along with a scanned copy of our I-600A form. They would schedule the appointment, and I would need to bring all our documents and their english translations (our dossier), and I would be interviewed at that time also. It could take up to 30 days to schedule the appointment and then another 30 days to schedule the birth parent interview after that. I was devastated. The thought of another Christmas without Edline and Edithe was more than my heart could bear.

Immediately upon arriving back in Orlando, I sent our request, only to get a standard e-mail response that it would take up to seven days for them to respond. I asked for an appointment on November 12th or 13th, only two weeks away. The very next day the embassy was open, I received an e-mail telling me our appointment would be on November 13th. Yea God!

I booked my flight back to Haiti for November 12th, but the girls' passports were delayed now. They wouldn't be finished for the 13th. This was yet another blow. Without the passports, I could not take the girls for their embassy required medical exams. Things at the Embassy went great though. All our documents were ready. The interview went well. The USCIS official even said that if we brought in copies of the girls' passports by the end of the week, he could possibly move the birth parent interview up from December 4th to the last week of November.

That very afternoon, the passports arrived! I was back at the Embassy the next morning with copies of the passports to add to the girls dossier. Pastor Wiljean brought the girls down for me to take them for their medical exams. As promised, the USCIS official moved up the birth parent interview to November 27th, the day before Thanksgiving. With all of that now completed, we wait for our final visa

"Thank you for praying, encouraging, giving & loving in 2013! If you want to make a special year end gift to help launch us into an exciting 2014 of ministry, all gifts are tax deductible and can be made payable to:

**DOUG HOLLIDAY MINISTRIES**  
PO BOX 953278 Lake Mary, FL 32795

## Exciting Moments in Port Au Prince

### Two Memorable Days...



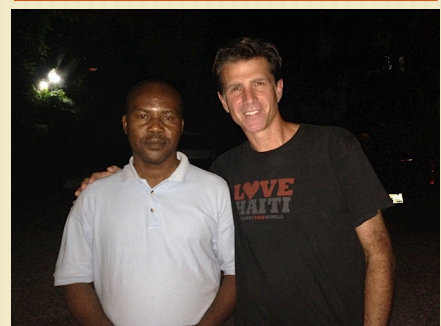
### Signing for their passports!



### 1st time swimming in a pool :-)



### 1st time eating at a restaurant



### Meeting Jepthe, our lawyer