

# Holliday Adventures!

*"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations!" Matthew 28:19*

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## HAITI: FEB 8-10



I led a team of pastors and leaders on a 3 day vision trip where they experienced God at work and invested in our SOYM students.

## AFRICA: FEB 26-MAR 6

Leaders from across Africa will be meeting together outside of Johannesburg to sharpen our vision for discipling.



## HAITI: MARCH 17-23



Jaclyn will be traveling with me as I lead a team of youth from our church to help build school benches for Open Door Haiti.

## PHILIPPINES: APR 1-10



I return to the Island of Palawan for the fourth straight year to train the church leaders of the Tagbanwa tribe.

## AFRICA: MAY 17-28

Our efforts for building a training movement across East Africa continue in May as I travel to Kenya, Rwanda & Uganda.



## HAITI: JUNE 1-7



The team of football players from Iowa's Morningside College return to Haiti to finish up construction on the Open Door orphanage.

**CAN YOU HELP SEND US WITH THE MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE? MAKE GIFTS PAYABLE TO DHM, DESIGNATED FOR AFRICA, HAITI OR PHILIPPINES.**

## We Belong with Papi!

*"For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will." Ephesians 1:4-5*

Edline and Edithe were orphaned when their mother died in October 2008. Their father abandoned them, unprepared for the prospect of caring for young children alone. Seven and four at the time, these young girls were left on the street to fend for themselves. A good samaritan that lives across from Open Door Church learned of their plight and took them in, asking for help from the church to feed, clothe and educate them.

I (Doug) met Edline and Edithe just a few weeks later. The hollow look of despair in their eyes told their story of pain, loss, confusion and hopelessness. Their world had been turned upside down. Pastor Wiljean asked if we could help to feed and educate the girls. We got them into school immediately,



**Edithe & Edline walking with their Papi (and Mami trailing behind)**

providing for their education through the help of friends. On my next visit, I brought them each a back pack filled with clothes, shoes and toys from our own girls. For the first time, I saw them smile.

It was nine months before I would see the girls again. Wow! They were so happy and healthy... eating every day at school, learning, playing with friends. Later that fall (09), the girls would come up to me on one of my trips and ask, "Petit tou?" They were asking if they were my children. Little Edithe, then six, followed me into a classroom at the school as I was going to greet the children. She grabbed my hand and announced to the class, "Papa mwenn!"

"My Daddy!" They were not just asking... they were telling me I was their Papi.

Then, after the earthquake last January, when I made three trips to Haiti in five weeks, their hunger to belong became relentless. "Put us in your suitcase and take us to Miami with you," they would demand. "A la kem la cay ou con ya la." Take us with you to your house right now," they asked over and over.

We want to be their mommy and daddy. We want them to belong. Pray with us that this adoption, which began in September 2010, will be completed this May and that we can bring our girls home.

## Adopted Into God's Family

I have shared with students this winter that God wants to be our Father, our heavenly Papi. When we reach up and take his hand, asking if we can be his child and if he will take us to his home in heaven with him, he adopts us into his forever family and becomes our Papi. He delights in being our Papi!

What a joy to bring the Good News to a world hungry to belong!

*Serving Christ together.*

*Doug & Jennifer*



# What is our mission?

*DHM exists to ignite the body of Christ with Great Commandment-Great Commission priorities by inspiring, instructing and involving the next generation of missional leaders worldwide.*

## INSPIRING



From the beginning of our missionary journey back in 1999, we have felt called and deeply burdened to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with students across the US. While our international ministry opportunities have continued to increase each year, our burden for the youth here at home has never wavered.

Speaking at local campus outreaches, to area youth ministries, and at camps, retreats and conferences across the US allows me to be in front of thousands of students each year to share the love of Christ and the power of the Gospel message. What a privilege to see hundreds put their faith in Christ as Savior each year at these events.

God has provided great opportunities for me to speak to students again in 2011... Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Florida, Iowa, Minnesota. Eight events are already on the calendar for this year. We are eager to see what other doors God opens. I've recently been invited to speak to a group of Native American youth at a camp in rural Canada this June.

Each time I speak, I am reminded of God's clear call 12 years ago as I read 1 Corinthians 9:16 on February 1, 1999. "Yet when I preach the Gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!"

## INSTRUCTING



One of the greatest joys of my 24 years in ministry has been our School of Youth Ministry program in Haiti. We have now had over 30 young leaders go through this disciple-making ministry mentoring program. As I travel to Haiti each month for this four month training initiative, these young men truly become my "sons" in the ministry.

My joy was overflowing a few weeks ago as our young leaders shared the impact of their ministry. Ginel shared how he had initiated a relationship with three Rastafarians (a cult in Haiti) and led them to faith in Jesus Christ. Nehemie had the opportunity to lead nearly 20 youth to faith in Jesus Christ in January. God is using these young men to build his church and the gates of hell (and voodoo) will not prevail against them!

In Kenya, I've invested in Hammre Kayando since I met him as a 23 year old youth evangelist in 2000. He is now taking on the role of Country Director for our J-Life training program, expanding our leadership development throughout East Africa. His faith in God and dedication to mission continue to amaze me!

## INVOLVING



As we have been on this journey of faith, one of the most rewarding aspects of our ministry has been how God has allowed us to bring others along on the journey and involve them in his mission.

We would have never imagined that our initial visit to Haiti in 2003 to speak at a youth conference for Pastor Wiljean Compere would lead to where we are today. The launch of Open Door Haiti, a separate ministry that I serve as the president of, involves hundreds each year on mission trips to invest in the work of God at Open Door Church. Two friends who have made the journey with me, Brian Stout and Chris Richardson, have left the marketplace to serve as missionaries with Open Door Haiti. We have churches, schools, feeding centers, training programs, agriculture, a medical clinic and a soon to be completed orphanage. Every time people go, God uses his work in Haiti to change lives.

Several have made the journey with me to Africa as well, assisting with God's work there. Brad Matlack has been several times, and now he and his family will move to Kenya this Spring to work with HIV Orphans & Widows and develop micro-industry. They will be a tremendous encouragement to our nationals on the ground like Pastor Mickey Okeyo and Pastor Hammre Kayando as they share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in both word and deed.

I makes me wonder, "Who will God call next?"

