



Participant's Guide

The Story: On a busy weekday afternoon ten months ago, a devastating earthquake struck the tiny nation of Haiti. People were getting off work, children were finishing their school day, and citizens were in the street markets when the earth began to shake violently. A mere 30 seconds later, 530,000 people were dead or injured, and more than a quarter of a million homes and businesses were destroyed. For Haiti, already the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, the chaos and tragedy was beyond comprehension....

“Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye who hope in the Lord”.

Psalm 31:24

establish more permanent medical clinics, often seeing more than 1,000 people a week. They also began to construct temporary shelters for the thousands of homeless Haitians.

Most earthquake victims were living outside in makeshift tents--usually just sheets staked up to provide shade and protection from rain. Large families of 10 or 12 people shared small shelters that were only five feet wide and four feet tall. Volunteers like Roger and Betsy Cochran from State Road, NC, helped construct 12x12 foot wooden buildings with tin roofs and plywood bunk beds. "We're calling it temporary housing," said Roger, "but I'm sure it's going to be permanent for many of these people."

The aftermath of Haiti's tragic earthquake still cannot hide the triumph of Jesus Christ's power in this tiny nation. Thousands have come to Christ as a result of the witness of mission volunteers. "Our Haitian assistants and interpreters were all Christians," said Daughtry. "They helped us witness to the people, and many times when we were setting up shelters or providing medical services, our Haitian drivers and translators led in a devotion."

"The Bible says in Matthew 6:33 that we must seek the kingdom of God first," said Dr. Vladimyr Roseou, a Haitian doctor and translator who has served with NC Baptist medical teams since January. "If we in Haiti seek the kingdom of God, it can make a big difference. All the medical help, supplies, food, and water will one day pass away, but if we seek God than I think that can make a way for us."

...But not beyond the reach of our God. Within three days, North Carolina Baptist doctors and nurses were serving the wounded in Haiti. "God tells us throughout the Scriptures how we are to treat our neighbors," said Scott Daughtry, who serves alongside his wife Janet as the NC Baptist volunteer coordinators in Haiti.

Along with the medical teams, NC Baptist volunteers worked with Haitian nationals to provide meals at local hospitals, serving up to 350 meals a day. When the initial emergency medical response began winding down in the weeks following the earthquake, teams arrived to

How You Can Pray:

- Pray for the people of Haiti and for the country's physical recovery from the devastating earthquake and it's aftermath.
- Pray for wisdom for the Daughtrys and other long-term coordinators.
- Pray for the safety and effectiveness of volunteers who go to Haiti to serve.

Story by Kelli Williams

How to Get Involved: NC Baptist Men will be sending teams to Haiti throughout 2011. Contact Gaylon Moss at NC Baptist Men to express interest (1-800-395-5102 x 5605 or gmoss@ncbaptist.org) or go to our website at www.ncmissions.org for more information. [Projects/Outside US/Haiti].