



## CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

In the fall of 1983, our first school in Haiti opened with 160 students. The classrooms were simple and humbly made out of woven palm leaves. These thatched structures pioneered the way for 48,699 students to eventually be educated through New Missions over the past 41 years of our ministry.

My father, George DeTellis, was a pastor. New Missions began as a calling for his little church on 135 Belmont Street in Worcester, Mass., to have a reach beyond New England with the Gospel message. Dad was an evangelist at heart. When we arrived in Haiti on Thursday, January 6, 1983, plans were made to start our first church on Sunday...just three days later.

Upon our arrival in Haiti, we first planted a church. Then, we opened a school and this simple model has continued. Today, 100% of our churches and schools across Haiti and the Dominican Republic are led by local Haitians and Dominicans. Praise the Lord! We are seeing graduates now leading the mission 41 years later.

As we celebrate this year's anniversary of New Missions, we pause and say thank you. Each of our school teachers and pastors are helping to make New Missions a place where Jesus is taught and disciples are made. Lives are being changed forever because there is hope in God. ~Tim DeTellis



**Top:** Under coconut trees with the banner reading, Haiti: Hope in God, we planted our first church in Haiti.

**Middle:** Our first school in 1983 was made out of woven palm leaves and welcomed 160 students.

**Bottom left:** Today, Pastor Yaguel Nerat, a graduate of New Missions, pastors our first church in Neply, Haiti.

**Bottom right:** Our schools are where a new generation of Christian leaders are rising up to carry on the Gospel message.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF CHAPEL

Teaching our students about God and His love for them is the priority at our schools in the Dominican Republic. Chapel services are one way we work to meet that goal. At all of our campuses, chapel services are held daily for rotating grades. The students are given opportunities to participate by leading the prayer time and worship songs. They look forward to the services and the opportunities to praise and worship God. Many students come from non-Christian homes, so these services play a crucial role in helping them learn how to have a relationship with God.

Vicky Patricio, a teacher and pastor's wife, is responsible for the chapel services at our New Life School. She works with other teachers to plan special services and activities that help the students learn more about living a holy life. She has seen the Holy Spirit moving during the services—with the lives of teachers and students being impacted. We pray that God will continue to use our chapel services and Bible teaching to impact and change the lives of our students, and that they may be a light to those around them. ~Heather Williams Katz



*Pedro Peralta leading the children in prayer during a chapel service at our school in Los Castillos.*



*Vicky Patricio with her husband and pastor, Osiris Pérez, during a special presentation honoring students who completed Bible classes.*



*Pastor Wilson with Doodmie, who is sponsored by Hugh and Sharon Blythe from First Baptist Orlando.*



*Each Wednesday, the entire high school student body meets for chapel services.*

## FAITHFUL TO ROUTINES

One of the most important aspects of our New Missions schools is being faithful to holding chapel services each week. We don't always expect the miraculous during routine activities...but a high school chapel service on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, changed Doodmie Decime's life forever!

On that same Wednesday, Walson Joseph led worship and Kendy Delmas preached. Both of these students are in 12th grade at our high school campus. Kendy's topic was, "Wherever You Are, God Sees You."

Doodmie is from a family that practices Voodoo and she, herself, was still an unbeliever. She felt very ashamed when she fell on the floor during the chapel service and got her uniform dirty due to demon possession. The High School Director, Pastor Wilson Paul, cast the demon out and then he shared the Word of God with her. She confessed her need for a Savior and accepted Jesus into her life as Lord. She has since gone to our Leogane church and Pastor Guillaume is helping her get established in her faith. Pray for Doodmie and the chapel services in our schools—that even though they may be routine—they would be miraculous and transformative. ~Rachel DeTellis



## CALLED TO BE A MISSIONARY?

Being a missionary does not require a certain age, education, or location. But it does require a heart that has a love for God's people. I felt this desire at the age of 11 and began sharing my faith. At 12, I was teaching a Sunday school class for immigrant children, and then played the piano at a church plant in East Boston. While engaged to a Bible school student, I shared in the work of founding a church in Medford, Mass.

Missionary work was in my heart from the time of salvation in 1954, and I was ecstatic to go to India in 1977. Finally, my heart was satisfied when we moved to Haiti in 1983. In 2000, God called George and me to the Dominican Republic. He had an aggressive cancer and passed in 2008. God gave me a second husband in 2010, Dennis O'Connor, who passed from cancer in 2015. In 2017, God gave me Ted Loudon and together we love missions.

At our senior ages, we still love to travel. We also have energy and enthusiasm to work in a local church, and deliver food to people. Feeding people in Haiti was perhaps one of my greatest joys. But, sharing the Word was my highest calling. You can be a missionary anywhere...anytime...when you share God's love with others. ~Jeanne DeTellis Loudon



**Top:** Jesus loves me, this I know, for the missionary told me so.

**Bottom left:** Jeanne DeTellis in 1983 pioneering New Missions while living in tents.

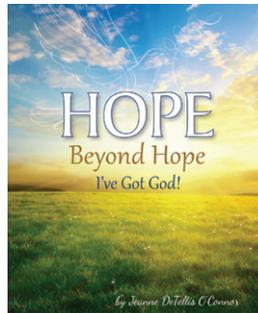
**Bottom middle:** Jeanne and Wildania Liriano from our Bombita school are thankful for God's life-changing love.

**Bottom right:** Thank you, Jeanne DeTellis, for 41 years of missionary service and empowering others in Christ.

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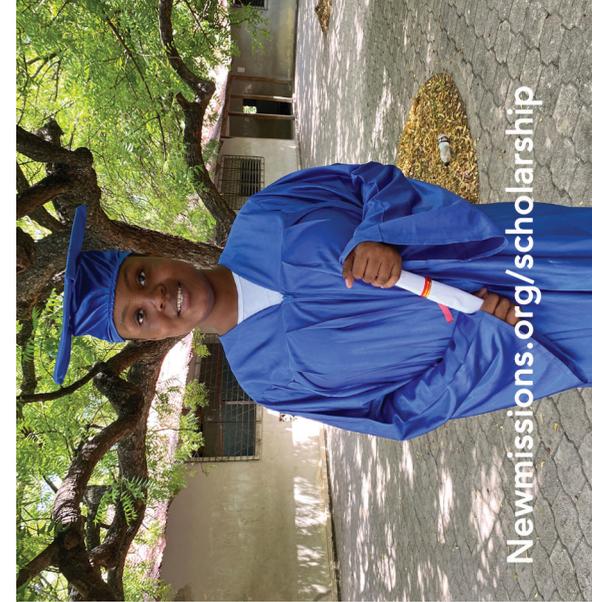
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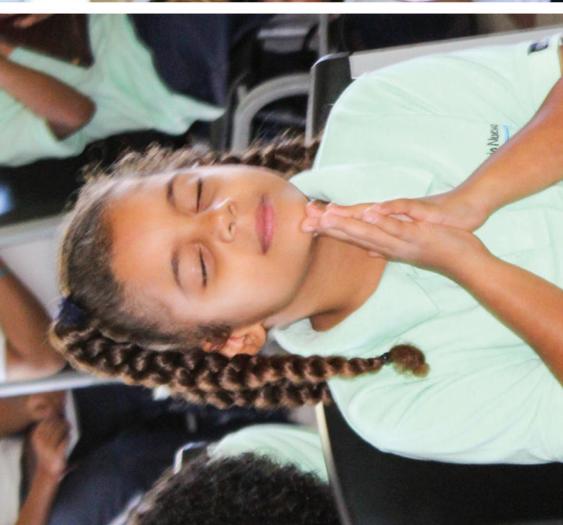
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## THREE PUPPIES FOR HAITI

My brother Timothy had a Doberman named Samson. He would sleep in Timothy's rooftop bedroom over my parents' house in Haiti, but Samson eventually passed. My father asked me to find another guard dog for the mission. I had plans to fly to Haiti on September 19, 1988, with Renee Ott—one of our missionaries who had come stateside to visit her doctor. The day before our departure, I replied to an ad for Rottweiler puppies. The seller had three male puppies left for \$200 each. Seeing them, I decided to buy all three for \$500 and named them Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in honor of the three brothers: George, Charlie, and Timothy. All I had to do was watch them for one night, as the next day I would fly them to Haiti.

In the morning, American Airlines called to tell us all flights to Haiti were cancelled because the day before, a group of non-commissioned officers in the Haitian Presidential Guard orchestrated a coup d'état against General Henri Namphy that brought General Prosper Avril to power. When the news broke, the airline cancelled all flights to Port-au-Prince. Finally, on Thursday, our flight to Haiti was rescheduled. We arrived in Boston early with four 70-pound duffle bags filled with supplies and a dog crate with three puppies. Once again, the airline cancelled our flight. Eventually, the airlines flew us to Raleigh and put us on a flight to JFK, and then on a non-stop flight to Miami. When we arrived in Miami, we discovered the flight to Haiti was cancelled. We spent all day flying around just to get to Miami.

WHEN WE GET  
TO THE END...  
GOD STEPS IN.

So, I was stuck in Miami with Renee, four bags of luggage, and three puppies in a crate. I rented a car and called my sister who lives in Miami. My sister loves dogs, so we left the puppies with her. The next morning, we got up early and went to the airport to see if we could get a flight.

When we got to the ticket counter, we found out there was a flight on Suriname Airlines. They were making a stop in Haiti on their way to Suriname. We were able to switch tickets and get on that flight. We called my sister and she brought the puppies to the airport. At the ticket counter the agent said it was too late to check the puppies in for the flight, but we could take them on the plane. The flight was waiting for us, but when we got to the gate, the pilot said he would not take the puppies on the flight.

Miraculously, there was a woman at the gate seeing her daughter off, who was my mother's friend. She loved dogs and said she'd take the puppies. I scribbled my sister's name and phone number on a scrap of paper and asked her to call her...which she did. Renee and I collapsed in our seats—but we were on our way to Haiti. Arriving in Haiti, we called my sister and gave her a friend's phone number whose parents had agreed to take the puppies on their flight to Haiti the following week. The following Sunday afternoon, after much travel and travail, the three puppies finally arrived at the mission in Léogâne, Haiti.

~George DeTellis, Jr.

Quitting was not an option. I pushed that crate of puppies all the way to gate D60—the last gate in the terminal. When we get to the end of all we can do in the natural, God steps in and does something in the supernatural. Our acts of faith give God permission to respond with the supernatural.

George DeTellis, Jr.

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*P.S. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 2:9*

