



# Brown

FAMILY MISSION

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Greetings everyone! I know we are sending out a lot of email updates this month, but I wanted to make sure we are sharing our progress and keeping everyone in the loop with what is happening. Also, I (Jeff) have received so many individual emails that I am not able to keep up on them all and for that I apologize. My hope is that I can address some of the common questions/concerns that I have received in a newsletter all at once vs. a hundred individual emails. I know it is a bit less personal to do that, but we have some extenuating circumstances that dictate this to be a better choice at this time.

One of the reasons that a group email is easier is that our computers (the ones that weren't stolen) were damaged when our guest house room flooded. You see, shortly after the robbery- once we were able to re-secure our house- we felt that our family needed to get away for a while to gather our thoughts and regroup as we attempted to relax a bit. So we headed into Port au Prince to the Heartline Guest House. We arrived without incident and settled in for our first night's sleep. Well it poured rain that night and the drain pipes off the rooftop patio apparently became clogged and so a bunch of water backed up and began to flow inside the guest house. It flowed through the patio doors, into the second floor, over to the stairs, down the stairs in an audible waterfall, through the kitchen into the hallway and finally settled down the step into the room where our family slept. We awoke to an inch of water on the floor. All of our suitcases (and the clothes inside) were sopping wet. The kids' home school computers and a small netbook computer that I use, were all sitting in the water too. We felt like our spirits were crushed. But without even a dry set of clothes for the day we set out wringing our wet clothes and began hanging them out to dry. We also noticed that our passports, work permits, and money were also soaked and so set it all out to dry as well. By evening, everything was dried, folded and repacked. The suitcases are all off the ground now on a top bunk of a bed.

So before the kids can take up school again, we will need to get their computers replaced. Many people have been asking how they can help and quite honestly, this is one area where we could really use it! I have updated our family wish list through Amazon.com (yes, I know that is not spelled correctly but some of the keys are not working due to the water damage, sorry). I have placed a link to the wish lists on our website at [www.brownfamilymission.com](http://www.brownfamilymission.com). The link is on the home page on the top right hand corner. If you are able to help us out in the purchase of these replacement computers, please let us know as we have a group coming down November 4<sup>th</sup> that would be able to bring them to us. Even if you are not able to help, please pray along with us that God will meet these needs as He sees fit.

After the first night at Heartline, things have been going great. We have met some really great people, as we always do when we stay here, and we have even received some great counseling from the other guests. Additionally, the Heartline staff was able to hook us up with a professional counselor, named

Irene Pruitt, who works along with her husband at the Quisqueya School here in Port au Prince. We met with her on Tuesday morning as a family and have a follow up session with her on Thursday. We were encouraged to have her reassure us that we have been handling things properly as far as the children are concerned (encouraging them to talk, helping them through fears or concerns they might have going forward, and generally reassuring them). Tammi and I are confident that even now God is surrounding us with people that are helping us to heal simply by loving on us. The staff at Heartline has been fantastic!

Tammi continues to heal and her range of motion is increasing every day. Praise God. We are a bit rested and our mental health seems to be improving daily as well. One guest in particular really gave us some encouragement. Her name is Madame Boudreaux. She is an 88 year old American lady who has lived and worked in Haiti for over 60 years. She told us many stories of her and her late husband's experiences in Haiti that included everything from hurricanes to military coups and how the Lord had His hand of protection over them throughout it all. One bit of advice that really struck a chord with us was that we should not even entertain thoughts about what "could have happened." What happened, happened. And what didn't happen, didn't. We should never discount what God actually did in exchange for worrisome (and irrelevant) thoughts about what might have been. This is so simple, but at the same time, during a crisis, I think we (Tammi and I) allow Satan to weigh us down with senseless fears. Instead, we need to practice standing upon God's strength, in faith and with courage- casting out all fear. Easier said than done, I know, but it is at times like these when I feel like such a spiritual infant. Oh well, in my weakness He is strong, right! (sorry, but the question mark key is also dead...)

One last note, not really news yet, but its got potential- Our vehicle is in the process of being transferred! All monies have been paid (God willing and to the best of our knowledge), all paperwork has been submitted, and now we are just waiting..... again..... or still..... Either way, we are confident God is moving and that is good enough for us.

We have a group arriving in two days and should head back to Jacmel with them to get back to work! The chicken project is in motion also and we should have some updates coming soon regarding that project.

Lots going on- that's an understatement, really, but you get the idea.

Prayer and praise requests

- Praise God for our continued healing- especially, Tammi!
- Praise God for the advancing of our vehicle! He can move mountains.
- Praise God for the many gifts with which He blesses the body. It is humbling yet refreshing to be cared for and loved on by strangers. What a fantastic opportunity to meet new friends and expand our vision of who God is and who we are in Him.
- Please pray for our continued provision as a family, and that God will continue to direct and guide us as He sees fit.
- Please pray for our whole family as we plan to return to our home in Jacmel on Friday.
- As we begin to seek out a full time qualified guard at our house, please pray that God will bring alongside our family a righteous, trustworthy, competent and qualified man.

May God bless each and every one of you. We are so blessed by the overwhelming outpouring of love and support and prayers coming from you all!

In His strength,  
Jeff and Tammi  
and kids