



Dr. Anne Livingston

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“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new... Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:17, 20)

Dear Praying Friends:

The spiritual waiting game is popular here. So many people want to wait a bit longer or think some more about placing their faith in Jesus Christ. They remain the same old person, not having a clue to all that they could be as a new creation of God in Christ Jesus. We have frequent opportunities in the clinic to encourage our patients to quit waiting and make that choice.

I mentioned S.L. in a recent letter. He came to the clinic with severe heart disease, started responding to the medications, and then did not come back for his return visit. He was in serious trouble when he finally did return, and he decided that staying on his medications would be a good idea. He and his wife said they were not Christians—they wanted to think about it. They were back for his return visit last week. S.L.'s physical health is stable, but his memory is not as sharp. They are still comfortable with waiting to make the most important decision of their lives.

One of my patients has a name that is easy to remember because it is “ham” in English. He has a very large abdominal aortic aneurysm that will probably be the cause of his death. The common term here for being saved is being converted. Mr. “Ham” said he's not converted; he's Catholic. I reminded him of John 14:6, and that is it not a church door that leads to the Father, but Jesus Christ Himself, and He is where we need to put our trust. Mr. “Ham” said he would think about it. I reminded him that he may not have much time to do that.



We have had many very sick patients in the past three months, both Haitians and missionaries. The respiratory infections have been particularly severe, and I have had to use some unusual treatments. All but a couple of people have recovered without problems. Some of those sick patients are longtime friends and fellow believers. What a blessing it is to be able to remind them that they are on their way home to our Father, and their physical problems will come to an end. We are grateful to God for the wisdom He has given for treatment, and for the opportunities to witness. Thank you for praying as we minister to both the physical and spiritual needs of our patients

Rebekah Borkert, a senior from Pensacola Christian College, was here from June 7 through 19. She saw patients with me, learned some Creole as she worked with Sè Tama in the pharmacy, sorted pill bottles, and visited people in the area with the church ladies' Dorcas Group. I asked her to share some thoughts about her visit.

I was blessed with the opportunity to visit Dr. Anne for almost 2 weeks this month. I not only learned many practical medical skills such as listening for heart murmurs or tying sutures, but I also learned many practical spiritual lessons. One of the spiritual lessons that I learned is the importance of following instructions. Following instructions is not something that many of us like to do. For one reason or another, we think that we know better than the person telling us what to do. However, during my time in Haiti, I saw just how vital it is to follow instructions. It was not unusual to see patients come to Dr. Anne for treatment but then go home and promptly disregard what she told them to do. Later, the same patients came back wondering why they were not better (surprise!). It made me wonder why people even bothered to come see the doctor when they were not going to follow her instructions anyways. However, Dr. Anne pointed out something that gave me a new perspective. She reminded me that we as Christians are often



“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)
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not much different than those patients. Many times, we are instructed by God's Word whether at church or in our personal devotions, but as soon as we walk out of church or close our Bible for the day, we promptly disregard the instructions that God gave us in the Bible. We later come back to God and wonder why we are still struggling with certain issues. Sound familiar?! When the patients finally followed Dr. Anne's instructions, their health started improving, and they realized how important it was to obey her instructions. Similarly, when we finally obey God's Word, our spiritual health starts improving, and we realize the importance of following God's instructions. Although I may have learned to

distinguish abnormal breath sounds or to speak a little Creole, I hope that I will not easily forget the many spiritual lessons that I learned while in Haiti.

Praise A man used a tractor during a holiday to plow and rough-level the clinic property in just a few hours. A small crew did more work, and the men assure me that good rains will eventually finish the job.

We have been able to get the medications we need, even though the timing has been close. There have been some days when a package or box arrived from Cap Haitien, was opened, and the medication given to the patient standing there waiting for their prescription.

Projects The outside wall of the upstairs addition is now sealed.

There were many places on the perimeter wall where the work was not done well the first time. Those have been repaired.

I am asking God for His direction about a project.

Prayer Those rains that were supposed to finish leveling the property soon after the plowing did not come.

There is normally a lot of rain in May, but this year the only rain we had was on May 7, with nothing for another month. That may have been a disappointment for leveling the property, but it has been devastating for many farmers who lost their crops. This could cause problems for paying school bills. Please pray that families will have their basic needs met, and that Christians will learn greater faith in God.

Temperatures have soared, and it has not been uncommon for it to be in the upper 80s and even lower 90s in the exam room. Fans have been a great help, but the heat is still draining. Some clinic days last as long as ten hours because of the number of patients. Please pray that I will get enough rest, and that God will give grace and patience with my patients—and that they will be patient with me!



Many Haitians would love to be somewhere else, perhaps the United States or Canada, and start a new life. That would mean trips to the embassy, paperwork and a lot of money. We have the privilege of representing Christ and telling those around us that God has made new life—eternal life—available, Christ has paid for it, and there is no paperwork, travel or money needed. What is needed is surrender to God, to be reconciled to Him on His terms, and many of our patients want to wait rather than take that step. Please pray for us as we tell them that losing their sin and old self and gaining Christ is worth everything, both now and in eternity.

In our Lord's service,

Dr. Anne

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