



Dr. Anne Livingston

UNIT 1079—NTBF, 3170 Airmans Drive, Ft. Pierce, FL 34946
fannelivingston@gmail.com; alivingston@baptistworldmission.org
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“⁴⁴So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever. ⁴⁵And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.”
(Psalm 119:44-45)

Over the years, I have heard people talk about how they just want to be free. What they usually mean is that they want to live their lives the way they want, with no rules or outside interference. They do not consider the consequences of being in bondage to themselves and their desires, let alone the reality that society cannot function well if everyone lives by their own rules.

We often see people in the clinic for problems related to their living the way they want. People such as:

--The smiling 15-year-old girl who came with what turned out to be a sexually transmitted disease that does not have a good treatment and is probably a life-long problem. She is four months pregnant, and totally unconcerned. I was close to tears.

--The man in his 70's who came with heart disease. He admitted to taking “a taste” now and then. (The staff says he is well known around town as a hard drinker.) He stopped drinking “a good while ago”—four months ago, when he started having major health problems. He does not really want to change, and he is sure he can handle the temptations of his drinking buddies on his own. Just make him feel better.

--The elderly man with severe shortness of breath. He put off seeing a doctor until he could no longer handle the symptoms. I asked Pastor Thelamour to talk with him, and found out they had talked several times in the past. The man thinks he does not really need God; his philosophy is enough.

These are not the only patients we have at the clinic, which is good because we need encouragement. I also saw:

--A gentleman in his mid-70's who had severe hypertension. He had been putting off a decision about his relationship with God for years. He put his trust in Christ before his return visit. We rejoiced in the good news of his salvation, and I was encouraged that his blood pressure was down to reasonable levels.

--A 91-year-old lady who had hypertension and a stroke two years ago, but had a very good recovery. Her family did not bring her back after a couple of visits, and they did not continue to get blood pressure medications for her. She had another stroke recently. She is trusting Jesus Christ for salvation. I could not hold out much hope for a lot of improvement this time, but I know her future is secure.

Praise I returned to Haiti on January 12 for my 30th year of service. The men had completed the basic pavilion, and there was a 25 kW generator in the parking area of my house, all possible because of God's provision.

--A boy came with belly pain. He had been seen elsewhere, but was not responding to treatment. My diagnosis was a ruptured appendix, several days old. I changed the medications, and the boy did well and recovered.

--Our new president, Jouvenal Moïse, was inaugurated on February 7. We are hoping for increased stability.

Projects Experience with the water system shows that the water tanks need to be higher. We are building a second story room over the parking area that will allow us to move the tanks up, and will provide additional storage space. I am grateful the funds are on hand for this. We are in the process of raising the walls of the pavilion. The patients wanted lots of fresh air, but now they are complaining that they have too much!

Prayer Mardi Gras is on February 28 this year. There is usually a lot of partying throughout the country for several days before, and sometimes after, the date. That can be a great temptation, especially for our young people. Please pray that Christians will stand firm at this time when the world seeks to draw them from Christ.

“It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void thy law.” (Psalm 119:126)

God is at work through His Word, by His Spirit and through His church. He is calling rebels to submit to His rule and find liberty as the sons of God for His glory and their blessing. What a privilege we have to be part of His work!

In our Lord's service,

Dr. Anne

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8)
Baptist World Mission, PO Box 2149, Decatur AL 35602-2149; www.baptistworldmission.org