

Dorcé Family

Wilckly, Dee, Ashley, Kelsey, Josiah
September 2022

“Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...”

Zechariah 4:10



Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessing Hearts
MINISTRIES

Throughout Scripture, over and over, we see something (or someone) start out small and as soon as God shows up there is exponential growth. Abram (“Exalted father”) becomes Abraham (“Father of many”). The family of Jacob becomes the nation of Israel. A little shepherd boy becomes a mighty king with an (eternally) everlasting dynasty. In Zechariah we hear God encouraging the prophet that the temple, though it has been destroyed again, is going to be rebuilt...brick by brick. Maybe not in the way the people wish, maybe not in the time the people would hope for, but it *will* be rebuilt...a symbol that God’s presence has not left them permanently and that He has not forgotten them.

I’m sure Zechariah was discouraged. His people had been in exile for years, decades...all because they chose to turn their backs on the God who had delivered them from 400 years of slavery under the Egyptians...the God who had parted the Red Sea, fed them with manna in the wilderness, descended upon Mount Sinai with thunder and lightning and storm clouds to portray His might and bring His law...the God who had led them to victory against enemy after enemy and finally brought them to rest in the Promised Land, and brought them peace under a strong, godly king. God was reminding him that all of this, though in the past, was still Who He was. He was still the God of small becoming huge. He was still the God of rescue for the slaves. He was still the God of rebuilding the ancient ruins.

In the same way, in the New Testament we see Jesus speaking of the Kingdom of God using metaphors of small things with enormous potential: the mustard seed growing into a towering tree...the yeast in the flour swelling to yield three, four times as much bread...the parable of the faithful servants using their entrusted talents to produce even more.

In some ways we feel like we are back at square one, expanding our ministry to the D.R., starting something new, yet so familiar, there. Yet the ministry in Haiti goes on as well, and we are reminded every day just how much God has done and is continuing to do among our people there. Looking at Who He was to us in the past helps us not to “despise these small beginnings...” and see how much potential is there when God is taking the lead.

One of the most exciting of those reminders was celebrated just last week, and we can’t wait to share it with you:

30th Anniversary of the La Saline Church

When Wilckly was in his late teens he spent his time going back and forth between working the orange groves in Florida and bringing his earnings back to Haiti to support his family and the churches

he was building (literally). The first church Wilckly planted was in Nazon, right in the center of Haiti's capital city, Port au Prince. By his early twenties Wilckly had planted several churches and taken over directorship of a children's home that was raising 30+ children under the age of ten. The second of the churches Wilckly planted was at the site of this children's home, in La Saline, which was along the coast, near the customs shipyards, and at the edge of the biggest slum in Haiti's capital city.

That area is often in the heat of the unrest in Port au Prince, so eventually once all the children were grown and most were out on their own, Wilckly and Dee moved with their family outside of the city. But the church remained. Children whom Dee had taught in Sunday School were now grown and becoming Sunday School teachers themselves. Young men and women who had been raised and mentored by the Dorces were rising up to become leaders, and the church not only survived, it grew...it flourished.

The church has been through decades of hardships...losing some of their core members, enduring being near the epicenter of the devastating earthquake of 2010, suffering through social and political unrest when they had to lock the gates and hunker down inside the property for fear of gang violence, the lockdowns of 2019-2021 due to violence, unrest, and fear of sickness...yet through it all they have multiplied and grown, and even planted their own sister church across the city.

Last month was their 30th anniversary, and simultaneously the wedding of two quite influential leaders in the church. What a joyous celebration took place on that day! Thirty years of not forsaking the meeting together of brothers and sisters in Christ no matter the hardship. Thirty years of service to the community around them. Thirty years of growing and influencing and raising up leaders. And then the beautiful union of two of those leaders.

We pray your hearts are as uplifted as ours are by this anniversary and all it means, not for the ministry, but of **GOD** and Who He was and Who He will continue to be.

Yours in Christ, Shaina Thiner
on behalf of
Wilckly and Dee Dorcé



Above: The bride and groom perform at their wedding/the church's 30th Anniversary Celebration. Right: Petite Homme, our school director and a leader at the church officiates the ceremony and celebration.

REMINDER:

We have a **NEW NAME**, a **NEW WEBSITE**,
and a **NEW EMAIL ADDRESS**:

Blessing Hearts Ministries

<https://blessingheartsministries.com/>
shaina@blessingheartsministries.com

We also have lots of giving options on our website, from automatic regular donation set-up, to "Round-ups" (a neat way to use those extra few cents on your credit/debit card each purchase!), to one-time gifts. Check it out at <https://blessingheartsministries.com/donate>

Do you want a live update?



Wilckly and Dee or Shaina are all available to come visit you and give an in-person update on the ministry!

Contact Shaina Thiner at
(309) 255-5393

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\$15,000
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For more information:

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