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Subject: **Dayspring Haiti News Update**  
Date: 14 January 2010 16:52:58 EST  
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*BlessYou*

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**Dayspring Ministries**

January 14, 2010

I can't believe it! I just received a phone call from Pastor Ronald that was loud and clear. He was calling from over the mountain in the Dominican Republic where he was trying to find food and gas to take back home.

Although he said that everyone in the Mission family was fine, there were a few related deaths. He said right now there were more than 1000 people who were living in the church and the school because their homes were destroyed. He said food for these people is scarce, and there was none in the local area that he could find.

Pastor Ronald said his house has some walls that had fallen down, so they can't really sleep there. He and his family are sleeping at the orphanage because it's the safest place. Although the orphanage building itself is fine, the security walls around the perimeter have mostly collapsed.

The front of the church has "fallen apart" and Pastor Ronald's office upstairs "fell down." But Pastor Ronald is praising God because no one was in the church when the quake occurred. He said usually there are people praying in the church on Tuesdays from 6 am to 6 pm, but because of the nightly revival services they hold from December to January, no one was in the church when the quake hit. Ronald said that was a big miracle. "God just kept them out," he said. "There's no way to explain it!"

In general, food and water are scarce, but the church has a good clean well. Most people are sleeping outside for fear of another quake. If aid doesn't arrive soon, people may get desperate and do things they wouldn't ordinarily do. Looting in many areas has already taken place. In some areas, dead bodies are being picked up by trucks and dumped in remote places.

I'm sure the latrine at the church and school are being used beyond their capacity. That's when disease can begin to take over. Although we have a medical clinic right on the school property behind the church, the supplies are limited.

What to do next?! I'm working on the idea that the orphanage property could possibly be used by the military as a drop off zone for supplies. At least the people at the Mission would have food. Then what? Help people rebuild their homes so they can move out of the church? Rebuild the walls of the orphanage so people can camp out there temporarily, but securely? Get the army engineers to rebuild the walls? So many questions.

These are not just my questions to answer, but working together with all of you and Pastor Ronald, the answers will appear. If God can move the Israelites out of Egypt, He can certainly move a few Baptists out of their church and back into their homes. In His time. Until then, please pray for our homeless friends.

Thank you to so many of you who have called or emailed your words of encouragement and offers to help. I'll continue to update you on the ministry at the Mission.

Ke Bondye beni ou - May God bless you

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