

December News 2016

And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased. Luke 2:13-14

As we walk these days before our Savior’s birth, I am constantly reminded of God’s beauty. A dear Sister in the Lord shared her experience in Haiti. A perfect reminder of God’s grace and abounding love in this season of our lives.



Beauty of Haiti - by Mollie Bond

Deuteronomy 11:12 (NIV)

“It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end.”

Thinking back to the first few trips to Haiti, one moment stands out to me. It was when I thought, “How can a land be so beautiful, and ravaged at the same time?” Haiti was once a beautiful island, with its valuable mahogany trees and fragrant flowers. From the beginning, God took care of the land. Yet, people cut down all the trees leaving a barren desert in its place. Forgotten, crushed, trashed. Yet the mountains rose directly out of the sea, and the waters were three separate colors that I had never seen before. How can a land be so beautiful, and ravaged at the same time?

In the summer of 2001, I had been in Haiti for a few days, allowing my body to get used to goat as a delicacy, many bug bites, and searing heat. I got used to hearing the constant rumblings of voices speaking Creole all night, the calling of the roosters in the morning, and the consistent sound of ocean waves. The smell was a bit more difficult to get used to, although when spaghetti is cooked with hot dogs, it is a welcomed smell!

Yet, through all the clashes I felt, heard, and smelled different from my usual life, it is the people that grabbed my heart, and taught me that God cares for us all. That year, I saw the beauty of Haiti. I first saw the beauty of Haiti in the eyes of a small Haitian, named Thomas (pronounced “Tow-ma”). He ran directly to me, leaving giggles in his wake. I picked him up, spun him around, and a friend snapped this picture.

God cares for Thomas. Although he is around 20 years old today, God cares for the beginning of his life, all the way through until the end. God cares for the land, the goats that eat the trash, the roosters, the ocean, and the plantain. God has not forgotten the land. He has not crushed the people. He did not leave the beauty of Haiti out for the trash man to pick up and destroy.

God cares for you too. From the beginning, until the end. Sometimes it takes a push out of our comfort to see his care, but to expose yourself to another type of beauty is undeniably sacred. Look today for that one moment of beauty, even if you are not able surrounded by the beautiful country of Haiti.