

You know that saying that "today is the first day of the rest of your life"? I take that to mean that whatever took place in the past is there to be learned from, but you don't have to let it control you as you go forward. In many ways this week could be said to be the first week of the rest of my life.

Last Sunday we had a rough morning as we said goodbye to Butch and Tricia. They have become good friends of ours over the past few months and we will miss their help and the fun that we had together. They were able to make it home after an unwanted delay that made them spend the night in Florida. Please continue to pray for them as they make the difficult transition back to life in the United States.

This week was also a week of new experiences. On Friday Pastor Greg wanted to head into Port Au Prince to do some grocery shopping. We also needed to purchase supplies, but with recent political announcements it was recommended that we do not travel alone so we took Bena along with us and because it was Good Friday we were able to see a couple of processions as we went into and through town. It was neat to see so many Haitian people remembering the special reason we celebrate Easter weekend. The first store that we tried to go to was closed for the holiday, but there were other stores open. We went to a newer grocery store in Port Au Prince that has underground parking and a two stories above ground. As we went into the elevator I asked Bena if he had ever been in an elevator before and found out that this was his first time. We even looked for Mountain Dew at the store because he told me that he had some once and liked it, but did not find any. I still find it interesting some of the experiences that we take for granted, but are new and exciting things to so many others in the world.

About the political announcements that were made this week, they are making many of the Haitian people frustrated. The preliminary results announced last week were well liked by most of the people and seemed to reflect the popular vote. This week the election committee made their final announcement which reversed many of the initial results. Most of those reversals end up giving positions to people associated with the current presidents political party. This has people upset as they think the results are fraudulent and are a move to help the current president retain some power in the country. We were even treated to the sound of gunfire during the last couple nights as people around town expressed their displeasure with the results.

This week I will be heading back to the states for the weekend. Thursday I head up to Michigan for the board meeting which I am looking forward to. There are still several board members that I have not yet been able to meet. I am looking forward to meeting them as well as seeing the ones that I have already met. I am not sure I am looking forward to the cold though. Tom Larson told me that the other day they had 35 degrees. I think our lowest temperature in the past month was around 75 and I did not pack my thermal underwear when I moved here!

Okay, enough for this week. I will leave you with a couple photos of some of the many books we received off the container which we are storing while we continue to work on the second story of the library.

Blessings,
Rod



Books



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