



Monthly Update

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Outreach to the Dominican Republic

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Mission Statement

To develop a model in Montellano where we feed, educate, and equip the citizens spiritually and practically, with the skills needed to prosper in every area of life. Led by the Holy Spirit, we will then reproduce this prototype throughout the Island nation, "One Village at a time".

A Special Note

Until now, I haven't been able to find the words to describe my trip to the Dominican this past summer. After having three months to reflect and apply some of the things I learned to my everyday life, I can share my witness to the unrelenting glory of God. I speak now not with spontaneity or pure excitement, but based on the growth I've encountered in my walk with Christ since my trip to the DR sparked change.

The trip was something I had wanted to partake in for two or three years before I went. I saw people go and come back on fire for God and I envied their experience. When I made the decision to go this past year, I really had no intentions or expectations. I was just going because of what I'd heard other people say about it. I'd heard good things the years before I went and desired the same great experience everyone had talked about.



I submit to you that the Dominican trip is not only a 'great experience'. It's much more than that. It's about using what God has given you...your talents, gifts and passions to ignite

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change in the world around you. It's about giving yourself to God to be used to save lives all around you. It's about giving people who have so little the one thing that can never be taken from them... Hope and the truth that's behind it. It's not just an experience, but also a blessing to be used in and by our God to do something that matters.

When I was there I saw things that broke my heart. I saw kids with barely any clothes, sick people on the streets, people begging for money just so they could eat. It's something that we all hurt for, but can't really grasp unless it's right in front of us and when it is, we can't help but feel compelled to do something. In the Dominican you are given the opportunity to step out and do something. YOU get to help spread God's word. YOU get to help people turn their lives around, and most importantly YOU get to help lead people to eternal life. God will use you.

Given the opportunity to see and live among a nation in so much pain, I opened my heart and allowed God to work in me and through me. I stepped out in boldness and thus learned more things about myself than you could imagine. The Lord revealed to me passions and gifts that I had no idea were even inside of me, through my willingness and readiness to serve Him. My desire to do something and to expand God's kingdom allowed me to discover my passion as an evangelist. I was able to stand in front of hundreds of people and testify to the love of God and the ways it changed my life. I discovered the gift God gave me to reach people through my words. I was able to talk with people one on one despite the language barrier and show them the love of God. I got to lay my hands among people, young and old, as they accepted Jesus into their hearts, and I got to rejoice with them after they were saved, telling them that they were now my brothers or sisters in Christ.

I got to speak to people, sharing with them truth. I told them, *come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands you sinners and purify your hearts you double minded*, James 4:8. I believe people gained hope through my mission, my passion, and my gifts and I believe that hope will never be taken from them. Glory to God alone.

Step out and serve. Be bold and be ready. Allow God to work in and through you. You will be changed. You will start change. You will make a difference. You will save lives.

Operation Dominican Republic offers more than an opportunity for experience. It offers an opportunity for you to be a part of revolution.

Julie Muscato

