# Nouvèl la Jan 6:35 Ministè (The news of John 6:35 Ministries)

# Spring 2023

# Imagine

Part of my call to serve the people of southern Haiti is to bring to light to their incredible suffering. Their suffering is often intense, pervasive, and difficult to comprehend. They experience hunger, homelessness, disease, violence, and safety insecurity like no other place in our hemisphere.

To give you a little sense of what many rural Haitians experience on a daily basis I'd like for you to use your mind's eye to imagine. Imagine that you that you've awakened this morning to find yourself on the floor of a borrowed scrap hut in the southern village of Les Anglais.

You are drenched in sweat (hot overnight and no electricity), itching from mosquito bites, sore from sleeping on the floor, and hungry (you haven't eaten in 36 hours). A starving widow comes to your door begging for a bite to eat but you have nothing to share.

You dress in the same clothes you've been wearing for weeks and walk a half mile to the nearest water well to obtain dirty water for drinking and watering your small sweet potato garden. The well pump is broken and so you walk another half mile to pump water and then a mile home carrying a heavy jug.

You don't have a job, so you gather a few sweet potatoes and some items that you've found (old pair of shoes, a sheet of tin, and some nails) and you head to the local market. You sell your goods and earn enough money to buy a little rice, oil, and spice – enough food to carry you and your widow neighbor for a few days.

You head home to nap because the intense heat of the day prevents anything else. You arrive home to find your small sweet potato garden plundered, and your hut ransacked. You try to nap but stomach discomfort (result of malnourishment) keeps you awake. Evening comes, you cook over an outdoor fire and eat your rice, talk to a neighbor about the typhoid that has again appeared in your community, and fall asleep thinking about what tomorrow will bring.

You are suffering and you are barely surviving. And every day is the same. You have no hope that life will improve, and you've never experienced the dignity that comes from work or supporting others. You often wonder why you exist.

I hope that this imagining exercise helps you better understand why the mission of John 6:35 Ministries is so important. Our mission of promoting Jesus (to provide hope) and jobs (to instill dignity and to create income) is critically important for easing the suffering of our Caribbean neighbors, the Haitian people.

I hope that you will consider becoming a partner in our mission. As you consider this possibility, please give our spring newsletter a read and see how God is working through J635 to bring needed hope and dignity to a suffering people.

In His Service,

Rick J. Santa Lead Servant John 6:35 Ministries

# Contents

Imagine	1
J635 Mission	2
Praise Report!	2
Board Spotlight	3
The Impact	3
Our Partners	3
Gifts Made in Honor	3
Ministry Update	4
Support J635	4



Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35

## J635 Mission

The mission of John 6:35 Ministries is to spread the good news of Jesus Christ to the people of Haiti using a marketplace evangelism model and to provide impoverished Christ-followers with job training, employment, and business ownership opportunities.



# **Praise Report!**

# Praise God for His continued provision and grace in 2022!

- Ministry giving grew and exceeded our annual budget projection by 35%.
- The number of monthly recurring givers increased (gifts represent 53% of average monthly giving).
- More than 400 starving families were fed during two severe hunger crises.
- Wilbens Saint Phard joined the J635 Team as our assistant manager in Les Anglais.
- Our Million Mango Farm thrived, and 2,900 mango seedlings were distributed to local landowners.
- Gifted milling machines, solar panels, motorcycles, and breeder goats to new business start-ups.
- Transpo Lavi driver (Jabet) was released unharmed after our transport truck was hijacked by gangsters in Port Au Prince.
- Jesus was shared with several thousand souls across southern Haiti!



# **Board Spotlight**

### Samuel (Samy) Ezena Board Member, Port Au Prince, Haiti

Samy Ezena has a God-given passion for helping to improve the lives of Haiti's most vulnerable, especially children. Samy was born and raised Haiti and today lives in a suburb of Port au Prince with his wife Angelourse and two young sons Jeffrey and Isaac. He is a law school graduate and an executive team member of Christian ministry OCRPH. He has worked as general manager of J635 operations in southern Haiti since 2018 and attends the Apostolic Church of Christ in Carrefour Feuilles.

# **The Impact of Your Support**

### Your gift, regardless of size, makes a big Kingdom impact in Haiti:

\$10 = Creole language bible for a new believer
\$25 = Twenty-five mango seeds for the Million Mango Project
\$65 = One breeding goat for a local herder
\$100 = One month of local J635 worker pay
\$250 = Preventive maintenance for J635 transport truck
\$500 = Generator for small grocery business
\$900 = Peanut milling machine for small business
\$1,200 = Purchase moto (scooter) for J635 taxi service
\$2,500 = Inventory for a small grocery business
\$6,000 = Underwrite the total cost of the Million Mango Project 2024
\$8,000 = Water well for Million Mango farm
\$15,000 = Underwrite the start-up cost of a bakery in Les Anglais
Thank you so much (mèsi anpil) for your support!

#### **Our Business/Ministry Partners**

Thanks to the following organizations for partnering with J635 in 2022:

Digital BG, Mason, Ohio (www.digitalbg.com)

Hiwassee COG, Madisonville, TN (www.hiwasseechurchofgod.com)

Mission of Hope, Austin, Texas (www.missionofhope.com)

Restavek Freedom, Cincinnati, Ohio (www.restavekfreedom.org)

The Williams Co., Tulsa, Oklahoma (www.williams.com)

#### **Gifts Made in Honor**

Multiple gifts were made in the honor of **John (Janos) Santa** who went to be with the Lord on January 19, 2023.

John was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend who along with his wife Patricia was one of the original supporters of our ministry.

John, we miss you!

# **Ministry Update**

- Presently, there are 16 men and women in Haiti earning money from J635 seeded/supported businesses and scores of others benefitting economically from this work. Business types include mango farming, goat herding, grain milling, moto taxiing, trucking, home theatre showing, and grocery sales. As often as possible these entrepreneurs continue to use their businesses to share what they know about the grace and goodness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.
- Our Million Mango Project farm continues to thrive in La Cohaune. In the first two years of the project 4,900 mango seedlings have been grown and distributed (5-year goal is 10,000 seedlings) to local landowners to counter hunger and deforestation in the Les Anglais region and to demonstrate God's goodness. Project managers Hypo Fanfan and Hayes Santa are presently planning for the installation of a water well on the farm later in 2023.



- During summer of 2022 our transport truck (aka Baby Goats) was hijacked in Port Au Prince and held for ransom for several weeks. Our incredibly brave driver (Jabet) was released unharmed on the day of the hijacking (praise God!) and a small ransom had to be paid to local gangsters before our truck was returned. We are pleased to report that the truck is back on the road working transporting people and merchandise throughout Port Au Prince.
- Two severe hunger crises struck La Cohaune and Les Anglais during early summer and autumn of 2022. We appealed to our generous supporters and ministry partners and were able to provide more than 400 families with enough food to weather the crises. Many lives were saved, and much glory was given to God as the result of this appeal and relief effort. Amen.



### Support J635

If you would like to support John 6:35 Ministries you can do so by making an on-line at www.j635haiti.org, using Venmo at John 6:35 Ministries@j635haiti, or by mailing a check or money order to: John 6:35 Ministries, P.O. Box 343, Maineville, Ohio 45039.