

MORNINGSTAR

REAL INSIDE STORIES ON THE FIGHT AGAINST WORLD HUNGER

A Trip to Remember

November 2003 – Missions in Haiti

As they say (statistically speaking), Haiti is one of the most visited places on this planet by missionaries. There are many missionary organizations planted in various parts of rural Haiti. We are going to look at two ministry organizations that have merged together for a God ordained time and purpose in Haiti. MorningStar Fishermen and Love a Child Ministries have joined resources to fight World Hunger.

It has been just a couple of days since the MorningStar Fishermen Team returned from



the mission field in Fond Parisien, Haiti. God moved on the hearts of 10 people to come together with their talents and giftings and venture to Haiti for six days. Hans Geissler, founder of MorningStar Fishermen and fearless leader of the team organized the trip. God has a way of bringing just the right people together to get the job done.

Their mission?

- To build a self-sufficient fish farming unit with 10 tanks
- To erect a windmill for help with oxygen
- To help rewire the electrical system (which is powered by generators) for the new and almost finished orphanage of Love a Child Ministries

Their mission was completed in the short time they had and a job well done!

Some Highlights

- The children on the grounds of Love a Child's 100 acre site were delightful and most playful. They also helped a little on the construction site of the fish farming tanks.
- Bobby and Sherry Burnette were gracious hosts to the team and the meals were superb. A couple of the guys said they might have gained a few pounds!



- Bobby Burnette, founder of Love a Child, setup a meeting in the bush one evening. A wire with a light bulb attached and a generator supplied the tools needed to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Several team members were given the opportunity to share with the Haitian people of the goodness of God.
- The teams gifting and talents finished all projects that Hans had setup for them to do. Hans is now working on a training program to begin in Haiti. The program

will teach the Haitian people how to operate the fish farming units.

- The team was video taped for a future program with Love a Child which airs Sunday evenings at 8pm here in the Tampa Bay area. Check your local Christian television stations for broadcast times in your area.

In Summary

The mission team members arrived safely on US soil at Miami International Airport. They had one more little adventure to top off an unforgettable trip. It's not over till it's over! While in customs several team members were delayed at checkpoints and body search areas and as a result their flight was missed to Tampa International Airport. The team had to rent a van and drive back to Tampa; the alternative was to spend the night at the airport and catch a red-eye or an early am flight. The team opted to pool their monies and rent the van. The moral of this story: life has a few surprises in store and a little extra cash tucked away in a passport or a safe place can ease the transition back into our culture because unexpected events can and will happen!

Training Seminar: Fundamentals of Raising Tilapia

Morning Star Fishermen is offering a one day training seminar Saturday December 13th or Saturday January 17th 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM at the Morningstar Fishermen Complex in Dade City designed to teach the basics of raising tilapia in small backyard or demonstration sized systems. Students will learn about the basic needs and habits of tilapia and how they should be cared for and raised to marketable size. Participants will also learn how to use the waste water from the fish to raise healthy vegetables without soil. Students will construct their own aquaponic system take it home and begin raising fish and produce on their own.

The course includes lecture, small group discussion, and hands on experience with fish and fish systems and is fast paced, interactive and challenging. This opportunity is perfect elementary, middle school and secondary teachers of science, ecology, and agriculture. Home school groups, scouts, FFA clubs, and just interested individuals can benefit as well. No prior knowledge of aquaponics is required or assumed.

Cost is \$150 dollars per person covers all tuition, educational materials, and laboratory fees. If students wish to take home the backyard system they build an additional \$75 will cover the cost. Larger systems can be built as well. Contact us at 352-523-2722 for more information on this course and other exciting opportunities.

Research Update

The research team at Morning Star continues to search for new and more cost effective ways to feed Tilapia. We have just finished testing micro-algae, Leucaena, and two forms of Duckweed against commercial pellets. Although the data has not yet been fully analyzed, the preliminary results have shown us that Duckweed has definite promise as a supplemental feed and living filtering agent for the Tilapia. The study taught us many of the benefits and drawbacks of using the various feeds and helped us eliminate Leucaena from our list of possibilities. We continue to be excited to join researchers around the world in the quest for valuable knowledge that will one day help feed the hungry world.



How You Can Help

As you can see we have a lot going on at Morning Star Fishermen, and that is only the big projects we mentioned. We still have needs on a daily basis, for example, cutting 10 acres of grass, maintenance on our buildings, the fish tanks, our equipment, phone bills, electric bills, internet expenses, gasoline for equipment and vehicles, parts/materials, office supplies, stamps, and on and on. We need your help so that God's Vision will continue, as you Pray about how you can help, which is the most important thing you can do, let us give you a few suggestions. Come and volunteer there is a tremendous amount of work to do daily, stay with us in our dormitory, or bring your RV, we have some hook-ups. Donate vans, trucks, tractors, large riding mowers, or golf carts. If you're in a position to financially Bless us, consider monthly support, of \$20, \$50, \$100, \$200, or what ever the Lord puts on your heart. As you plant a seed in good soil, God will multiply it and return it to you as a Blessing in your life. We cannot experience a harvest without first planting the seed. You can donate through our website, or use the enclosed envelope. If you have items to donate call us at 352-523-2722, so we can make arrangements.

God Bless You,

Hans & Sigrid Geissler, Founders

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