

Dr. Anne Livingston

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"And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD..." (I Samuel 3:1) "... when Samuel was old..." (8:1) "...they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them..." (19:20)

When I was a kid, it seemed like anyone in their forties must be getting on in age, and people with white hair were <u>really</u> old. I was encouraged to read about Samuel because, although he was called old in I Samuel 8, he went on to minister before the Lord for at least another thirty years. The same God over all times and circumstances; the same faithful servant; different ministries through the years.

Most of my ministry for the first few months of this year was personal. Recovering from a total hip replacement has taken time and diligent work. As my therapist reminded me, recovery is a process. God has made our bodies with amazing abilities to heal—but it takes time.

I am grateful for improved mobility and the distance driving that is now possible. I visited a supporting church in the Philadelphia area in early July, and then spent a week of vacation in Michigan with my sister. The next week I returned to South Carolina and spent a few days getting medications, generator parts and batteries, and needs for workers ready to take to Florida. Then I traveled to Missionary Flights in Fort Pierce, Florida, to deliver the cargo and meet with my worker Isaac before he returned to Haiti. And I was trying to keep up an exercise schedule while doing all this!

I have often joked with Isaac that his phone seems to hold a directory for most of Haiti. While that is overstating the case a bit, he does have many contacts and is well informed about what is happening there. He told me there are a lot of sophisticated weapons and small guns with silencers in the country. We both wondered where the money is coming from for those, and to what purpose. He also said there has been an increase in kidnapping, and suggested that I delay returning to Haiti for a few months.

The medications and supplies finally arrived at the clinic, but it took twelve days instead of the usual one or two, which was not a good sign. The staff had a meeting and strongly suggested that I wait until January to return, much as they would like to see me now. That information is an answer to the prayer for wisdom about how I should make plans for the coming months. Isaac has mentioned kidnapping twice since his return, an indication that this is a serious problem.

I am now contacting pastors about reporting to churches during the next few months. I will be able to attend the Baptist World Mission Annual Conference in October. Add a couple of medical appointments, and the schedule is filling up. Thank you for praying for me to have wisdom during this unusual year in my life. God has heard and is answering.

Praise The needs for the clinic and staff are supplied for several months.

God gave safety during many miles of driving in July.

- **Projects** Basic supplies are becoming more available in Haiti. That should make it possible to purchase paint for the Ministry Residence grille work, and to buy fuel to pump water for basic clinic functions.
- **Prayer** Please continue to pray that the political crisis in Haiti will be resolved, and that wicked people will be restrained. God has protected my clinic workers and their families. Please pray that He will continue to do that for them and for other believers, and that He will supply their needs. Please pray for my safety in travels during September and October.

Samuel's ministry opportunities changed with the events around him and as he grew older, but he continued to be faithful in his service to God. May we do the same!

In our Lord's service,

Dr. anne

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." (Ephesians 2:8) Baptist World Mission, PO Box 2149, Decatur AL 35602-2149; www.baptistworldmission.org