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"Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes." (Psalm 119:68)

An early childhood prayer says, "God is great, God is good; Let us thank Him for our food." One reason our God is great is because He <u>is</u> good. He created us, and then gave us a written revelation that tells who He is, who we are in relationship to Him, what He expects of us, and His answer for when we fail. Because He is good, His laws are good. They reflect His character and give us boundaries for our lives. I often see people in the clinic who decided to do things their way, and now are sorry to face the consequences for their health and their lives.

We have almost completed another project. You may remember that a wall around the property was on the "to do" list, but was prohibitively expensive (more than \$100,000!). We built short wall sections for the front gate, but the rest of the property now has a four-stranded barbed wire fence that is effectively keeping out animals and unruly kids. It is also helping the neighbors, who no longer have to deal with the animals staked out on the property (without permission) which got loose, wandered into nearby fields and started munching away. We might put up a block wall someday, but the barbed wire fence is doing a good job for the present.

I will be returning to the US on September 26 for three months, our Lord willing.

Praise This year I will be able to renew my residence permit in Cap Haitien rather than going to Portau-Prince. It looks like the 1991 promises of government decentralization are starting to happen.

Projects The house foundation is done, and we are looking forward to continuing construction. The public power installation to the property included a street light that has been a blessing to the neighborhood. We have a backup generator. The property borders are secure. We are making progress!

Prayer We have had problems getting some medications this year. Two of those are for high blood pressure, and many of our patients depend on them. We are looking into other ways to get the medications our patients need at prices they can afford.

I have talked to several patients recently who say they will be in heaven because they keep the ten commandments, do everything God says, go to church and do good works. Some of these individuals are long-standing members of good local churches, but there is no mention of Jesus Christ in their testimonies. I need wisdom and gentleness as I talk with these people.

I thought of our barbed wire fence when I read Psalm 119. A law has to have a penalty or else it is just a suggestion. The <u>barbed</u> wire is a definite reminder of boundaries. The fence keeps some things in and some things out, and poking up against it can be painful. God's good laws set boundaries for our lives, and breaking out of those brings pain to ourselves and others. We should bless God for loving us so much He gives us His laws and enforces them for our good—because He is good.

In our Lord's service,

Dr. anne