

# The Story of Bernard (Benna)

While in Haiti with a mission team in November 2006, a man came and asked us if he could accept Jesus. He looked very stressed, tired and discouraged but said that as he watched our team of missionaries he saw the compassion they had and wanted to serve his people with that same kind of love. He had no job, and was living with a woman who had a son and now was pregnant. Life was tough and they didn't know how they were going to survive. After talking with Benna, our team prayed with him to receive Jesus as his Lord and Saviour. The next morning while walking through the village of Neply, I passed a man sitting on the side of the road with the biggest smile you could ever imagine. At first I didn't recognize him but seconds later I realized it was Benna. The stress was gone and he no longer was carrying such a heavy burden of worry. He now had hope in Jesus. That day Benna began to volunteer and do everything he could to serve Haiti Missions, Pastor Antoine, the Neply Church and our short term mission teams. Benna has also said that he knows what his true calling and ministry is. He has mentioned on different occasions that he sees how valuable Pastor Antoine and our other leaders are in Haiti and also our mission teams and he is willing and ready that if need be he will die in their place. When I heard this, I cried just to think of the love God has put in his heart that



*Benna and his wife Chrisia*

is so Christ-Like. Everyone who knows Benna is amazed by his faithfulness, commitment and acts of kindness. Benna is now employed full time for Haiti Missions. On three occasions he has literally risked his own life for our mission teams and other times for myself and our Haitian Pastors or leaders when we've been caught in dangerous situations. God has given him enormous Faith and has changed his life. Benna is now married and his wife has accepted Christ too. They have 2 children and are also raising 3 orphans in their home! We all consider Benna and his wife a gift from God to our organization!

All donations, school sponsorships, gifts and monthly support should be sent to...

## **In Canada:**

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**Haiti Missions**

APR/MAY/JUNE 2008

**CARE**  
ENOUGH TO  
**LOVE**

**LOVE**  
ENOUGH TO  
**CARE**

# On-Going Food Crisis in Haiti - We Have the Power to Help!



*Mud cookies sold in Leogane*

As many of you are already aware from listening to the world news, the current situation in Haiti has become increasingly difficult for many. Recently the price of basic food staples skyrocketed by 40-50%, and hunger continues to grow resulting in people becoming increasingly desperate.

Presently, an estimated 80% of Haitians live in abject poverty. The spike in food prices threatens to make things worse. In recent days especially during April, the desperation gave way to violence and rioting with thousands on the streets protesting for help. I was in Haiti at that time with a team of missionaries and heading to the Port au Prince airport to fly home, we came to a roadblock with

burning car tires blocking one side and mobs of protestors blocking the other side. It was only God who protected us and gave our driver Benna wisdom to steer the vehicle through safely as rocks were being thrown at our vehicle.

Through our churches in Haiti, clinic, schools and village programs we are doing our best to reach out to as many people as possible and give them supplies of dry food staples such as rice and beans. However, the rise in food costs also affects organizations like ours and others as well.

The Haiti crisis is so extreme it forces people to eat (non-food) mud cookies (called "pica") to relieve



*Bety and her children receiving a goat.*

hunger. It's a desperate Haitian remedy made from dried yellow dirt from the country's central plateau for those who can't afford real food. These mud cookies cost about 5 cents each. In April I took my short term mission team to Leogane to show them a sample of it. The mud cookies have a smooth consistency but soak up all the moisture in your mouth as soon as they touch your tongue. Afterwards an unpleasant taste of dirt lingers. Worse is how it can harm human health. A mud cookie diet causes malnutrition, intestinal distress and parasites.

Even though we can't help everyone in Haiti, each of us can do our part in helping relieve the

poverty of those God puts in our pathway. Not only do we distribute dry food staples which help the present situation, but we have been giving goats. The people cooperate together in breeding and raising them which over time will help individuals, families and entire communities become more self-sufficient. The goats also give a supply of protein, rich milk. On May 7, out of 12 families chosen to receive goats, six of them accepted Christ and are now attending the Neply Church. With your help.....we have the power to change lives!

*(For more information on ministries, please visit our newly updated website [www.lovehaiti.com](http://www.lovehaiti.com))*