

Chapter 2:

Regarding "leaving Haiti", Joe said, "You're getting repetitive and sound negative. Tell of all the good things and the blessings we share each day."

A response from a mission friend: "Sounds like you feel you are trying to bail out a sinking ship with a teacup."

Another response: "It is more a ministry of presence, and presence there is most important."

Another: "Why is Nelson in the hospital, is he sick?" LOL

And: "This is 'Jonah day' where even the fish found him disagreeable." More LOL

The scripture text for Francois' sermon this morning was from Galatians 6: "...so let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." 6:9

Rats, and bats and baby goats in the party;

Raggedy teenagers with Mp3 players and bluefish things in their ears;

Underweight children sweeping goat poop from our stairs for a couple of cookies;

The elegant lady from the garden tearfully singing hymns in worship;

A fat fanned woman in billed cap, patting her hair to keep it neat;

Sharing a grapefruit with momma goat ready for birthing;

Guys in "do rags" discussing the need for the clinic, community feeding programs,

water projects and sanitation;

Generous ladies providing a bucket for my tush while waiting on the pump

on the mountain, calling me Cheley and asking about my love life;

Music and laughter put me to sleep;

Braying and crowing wake me to the quiet sea;

and,

I have the nerve to ask,

"who benefits most from what we do?"

Shirley, La Gonave, later January 25, 2009. Humbled

