

Key References:

Congo & Haiti Videos: www.vimeo.com/oceansidenanaimo

"A basketball in my hand is worth about \$20. However, in the hands of Shaquil O'Neil, it's worth around 4 million dollars a year." – **Rick Warren**

Isaiah 58:6-10 (ESV)

⁶ "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸ Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ⁹ Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, ¹⁰ if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

"I never planned to go back to Africa and help take care of war orphans. God had a plan, as He has for each one of us. Whether it is Congo, or Haiti or wherever He would call you too. It is an amazing, live changing ride, just listen for His prodding, get on board and hold on!" – Johann Van Rensburg

1 Peter 4:11 (NIV)

¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 - UPDATES FORM CONGO GRACE ORPHANAGE

Jimmy MacMunn shared about the kids moving into their new house. **What stood out to you from the updates from Congo Grace Orphanage?**

Read the quote from Rick Warren that Johann shared. How did Johann's testimony of getting involved with Grace Orphanage reflect this quote? How does this quote speak to you? What things of value that are in your hands could you use to the benefit of the poor and oppressed?

Read Isaiah 58:6-10. How does this scripture link caring for the poor and oppressed to God's blessing over us? What kinds of blessing are listed here?

Read the quote from Johann. Is God currently "prodding" you about anything? How have you heard His voice sending you to meet a need of others previously?

Read James 1:27. Why are orphans and widows mentioned so frequently together in scripture? What commands usually surround these passages?

2 – DEVINE APPOINTMENTS IN HAITI

Mike has talked frequently about the possibility building a fish farm in Haiti on Pastor Marcel's land. On this trip he took Steve Atkinson with him and it miraculously turned out that there is a fish farm next to the Haiti land, and that Steve knew the farmer already! How did the testimony video speak to you about how God provides and links people together for His purposes? View videos at: www.vimeo.com/oceansidenanaimo

What did you think about the Haiti School video?

What stood out to you about the Haitian Church, the healing service and how they worship? What could Oceanside and the western church learn from the Haitian church?

3 - POWER TO BE A WITNESS

Mike said: "the way we live our daily lives from Monday to Saturday is an indicator of the authenticity of our worship on a Sunday." How does this quote speak to you out of everything that was shared this week?

Read Acts 1:8 & 1 Peter 4:11. Where does the strength and the power come from to reach the lost? How do we know if we are doing reaching the lost in our own strength or God's strength?