



BOBBY & SHERRY BURNETTE  
from Haiti...



# Adelson's Story

ADELSON SAT ON THE GROUND FILLING THE WHITE TIN CUP WITH DIRT. AS HE GLANCED AT THE PILE OF TRASH, HE REMEMBERED THE WORDS OF HIS FATHER.

## UNLOVABLE-UNHUGGABLE

The little Haitian boy walked around the back of the hut where he lived. In his hands, he held a **dirty white tin cup**. He sat down on the ground, as he had done every day, and began **digging with his bare hands**, filling the old tin cup with dirt.

Adelson was not a child that anyone would love to pick up and hug. His hair was yellow and brittle from malnutrition, his stomach was bloated with worms, his eyes were pale from anemia, and his entire face was a **picture of sadness**.

## THE TRASH PILE

He glanced across the yard to the pile of trash in the village. There were rats running rampant and flies were swarming everywhere. The stench from the filthy “trash pile” was unbearable. While some people came there to scavenge for food, others came to use it as their “toilet.” Several pigs were rooting through the trash to find something to eat. **Adelson hated that “trash pile”...and he had good reason.**

## ONE YEAR EARLIER

He remembered the day his father left and went to the Dominican Republic for a “better life.” His father was tired of trying to feed his family. He was angry and disgusted with **caring for his sick wife, Madamm Moremene**, whom he said was “useless” to him. In fact, **children were “useless to him” as well.**

Even though Adelson was young, he knew something was very wrong with his mother. Every day she lay on a “mattress” that was **stuffed with dirty rags and dry straw** and placed on top of **broken cement blocks with a rusted wire frame**. She was weak, in a lot of pain and her body was covered with sweat. Adelson remembered hearing his mother pray at night that death would come, and God would take her, **but the sickness lingered on.**

July 2014

What was to be **the worst day of Adelson's life**, happened as this little Haitian boy sat on the ground beside his mother's sick bed. They had not eaten since the day before and Adelson was expecting his father to bring food for him, his mother and his elderly Grandma, Sefiz. Sometimes, it was just a "tin cup full of corn meal" and other times, it was a "tin cup full of rice." It was never enough food, but it was the one meal he counted on each day.

Adelson heard his father's footsteps and watched the old wooden door swing open. He saw the familiar look in his father's eyes, and he knew what it meant...a beating for someone.

### THE WHITE TIN CUP

But this time, his father held the "white tin cup" in one hand as he pushed the door open with the other. There was a tiny wooden table beside his mother's bed, and Adelson watched as his father angrily **dumped the tin cup of "broken rice"** on the table. He looked at Adelson and his mother and said...

### "I HOPE YOU DIE IN A PILE OF TRASH!"

"I'm leaving! I'm going to the Dominican Republic. I'm tired of trying to feed all of you...you are all worthless!" Then, he said once again, **"I hope you die in a pile of trash!"**

With that, his father walked out, slammed the door shut and disappeared down the mountain. Adelson looked over at the cup of "broken rice," then looked at his mother. Tears were running down her face. Adelson carefully scraped up the "broken rice," put it in the tin cup and took it outside to his Grandma. "Broken rice" is hardly food at all. It is just like "rice water," but that is all they had to eat.

### A CUP FULL OF DIRT

Now, Adelson sits alone on the ground by his hut much of the time. He fills the tin cup with dirt and when he is hungry, he eats it, as do so many children in Haiti. He glances over at the "trash pile" and sees the pigs, the rats and the flies. He fights back the tears as he remembers his father's last words, **"I hope you die in a pile of trash," and wonders if he will end up there, too!** Adelson's mother is still alive, but still very sick. Soon, her life will be over, and soon, his Grandma will also pass away.

No child should have to worry each day about whether they will have just "one cup of broken rice" to eat. No child in the world should have to worry about food, and no child should have to worry about dying and "ending up in a pile of trash."

Yes, this story is shocking. But, sometimes it takes "something shocking" before we make the decision to save a child's life or the lives of other children, just like Adelson. His life speaks for these poor children whom you do not know.

Now that we have heard this story, what will we do? Will we make the sacrifice, or will we "shut our ears to the cry of the poor?" (**Proverbs 21:13**) We once knew a rich minister who came to Haiti to visit us years ago. He said, "Do not take me to see your orphanage children or anyone else who is poor. I am not poor. I don't even want to see anyone who is poor. I am blessed and I don't have to help anyone who is poor or even look at them. I don't want to hear them crying for food, either." Today, this minister is not blessed. He lost everything that he had...he shut his ears to the cry of the poor.

We know you love the poor children of Haiti. We know it rips your heart to pieces, as it does ours. And, we know you want to help feed Adelson, his family and even his village.

#### A PERSONAL NOTE FROM BOBBY AND SHERRY

**This letter is very important** because we are facing a “food crisis” right now! For the last three months, we have been struggling so hard to bring in containers of food. It has put a lot of stress on us and has even affected Bobby’s health.

On July 1st, we will have lived as full-time missionaries in Haiti for 23 years. **We have seen many hungry children with stories like Adelson’s.** But, as long as we hear stories like Adelson’s, we will continue to do everything we can to feed these children and bring food to their villages...**but we cannot do it alone.**

We are going to ask you to give the best gift you possibly can this month. We are going to ask you to do something you may have never done before...try to double your gift so we can make up for this shortage of food.

- If you have been giving **\$24 to provide 648 meals**, then try to double it this month... (**\$48 will provide 1,296 meals**)
- If you have been giving **\$48 to provide 1,296 meals**, then try to give double this month... (**\$96 will provide 2,592 meals**)
- If you have been giving **\$120 to provide 3,240 meals**, then try to give double this month... (**\$240 will provide 6,480 meals**)

If the Lord has blessed you in some unexpected way, then **please pray about a gift of \$500, which will provide 13,500 meals.**

We have been so deeply touched by Adelson’s story. When we look at this little boy’s face, we see nothing but sadness, hunger and despair. It makes us sick to our stomachs as human beings to see any child suffer like this. Would you please help us rescue Adelson, his family and the other children in his village? We really need a food miracle this month. **If, after 23 years as full-time missionaries, you could give us a gift...we would want nothing more in this world than for you to “help us feed and save more starving children in Haiti.”**

Your gift, large or small or the widow’s mite, will help us feed these children and keep all other outreaches of Love A Child going. No gift is too small...every single penny counts!

# Adelson's Story

We believe that as you “double your giving,” the Lord will “double His blessings upon your life.” We believe that as you “sow sacrificially” this month and double your giving to the poor, the Lord is going to do something supernaturally in your life. Let the Lord speak to you through this letter... **“He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.” (Proverbs 22:9)**

Again, this month is a crucial month for food. Please, listen to your heart and think about Adelson, his tin cup full of dirt and what this child has gone through. No child in this world should ever have to hear a parent say, **“I hope you die in a pile of trash!”**

On behalf of the hungry children,

*Bobby and Sherry Burnette*

Missionaries Bobby and Sherry Burnette

*P.S. If you can double your gift this month, we would like to send you something special we have never offered in any other letter...a “Food Coin Box.” You can teach your children, your grandchildren, or even your Sunday School Class, about “giving to the poor.” This will be such an exciting outreach for you and your family. Please let us know if you want to receive this special “Food Coin Box.”*

*God bless you, Bobby*

**You can give your gift online today at: [www.LoveAChild.com](http://www.LoveAChild.com)**



Love A Child is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Christian Humanitarian organization serving the needs of children in Haiti. In addition to being a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), Love A Child has earned the Independent Charities of America “Best in America” Seal of Approval and ten consecutive Four-Star ratings from Charity Navigator.

2012 Financial Statement:

- Haiti Outreaches
- Fundraising
- Administrative

