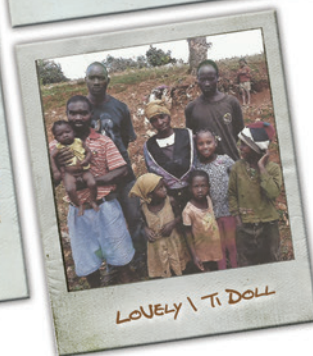
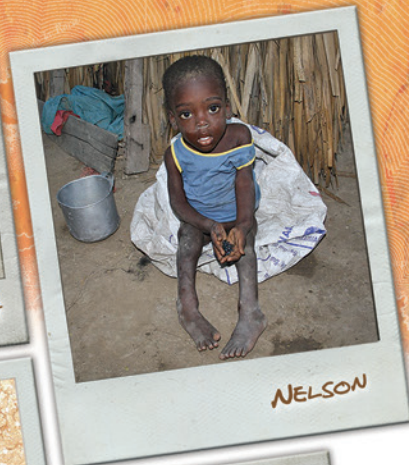
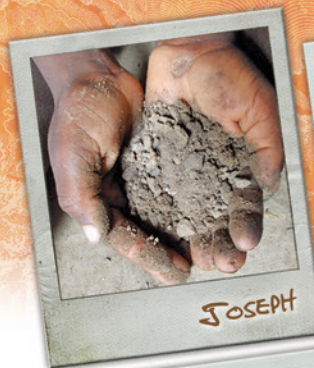




FROM BOBBY AND SHERRY  
BURNETTE IN HAITI

## GIVING UPDATE

*You have heard the story of the boy whose mother called him "I don't need you," the child who was bitten by rats as she slept, the little girl who was sold by her mother, and the boy who ate nothing but dirt. What has happened to these children? You are about to hear the "rest of their stories..."*



Have you ever wondered in your heart if your giving **really does make a difference** in the lives of the little children here in Haiti? Do you often ask yourself, "What happens to the children in Haiti that we share stories about? **Do they live or do they die?**"

We want to share just a few stories with you today, so that you can see how important you are to these children. We want you to know that you are valuable, and that **without your help, children would die**. However, together, we change lives... many lives.

*NELSON'S STORY ... THE LITTLE BOY CALLED "I DON'T NEED YOU"*

A short time ago, we shared with you the story of a little boy named Nelson, but everyone in the village called him "Pa Bezouin," which means **"I don't need you"** in Creole. We shared this story again yesterday with some of our friends who came to visit us, and as we told it, we began to cry.

We told how four-year-old Nelson was so malnourished that he could not even walk. Each day, his mother would open the door of their mud hut, grab him by one arm and **dump his little naked body down on the ground by the pigs**. Since Nelson was unable to walk or talk, he would sit in the hot sun every day, on his knees, **in complete agony**. He would only have about a handful of rice to eat once a day, if he was lucky.

We were just like those "Priests" in the Bible, in Luke the 10th chapter, who saw the wounded and hungry bleeding man, but passed by. We had seen Nelson in the village, sitting there in the hot sun, with no food and no water, but thought, "We're not his mother, nor his father, what can we do for him? We already have so many children to care for. We just can't take on another. We are not Haitian and his parents won't want us to interfere." **Isn't it just like us, to make excuses when God is trying to speak to our hearts?**

A few days later, there we were again, and there was that same little boy sitting on the ground naked, with no food or water. How could we not see that, together with you, we were the "life raft" that the Lord wanted to use? That we were the "rope" He was going to throw over the cliff **to rescue one child**... a child whose name was Nelson.

# OCTOBER 2014

The Lord spoke to our hearts and said, **“Do nothing and he will die.”** That was the day that we picked him up, went to his mother and said, “Let us take him and feed him, and he will live.” Reluctantly, she agreed, and we had rescued yet another suffering child.

Today, Nelson is a happy, healthy little boy who is talking, running and playing. And, he is now in school! What a difference you have made in his life! **Thank you for saying, “Yes.”**

#### *LOVELY’S STORY ... TWO CHILDREN FOR SALE*

Then, there was Lovely, or Ti Doll. As you may remember, Lovely’s father had died and her mother struggled to feed their large family. She was like the “widow woman” in I Kings 17, who was going to gather some sticks, bake her last cake for herself and her son, and then die.

How would this mother feed all of her children? She knew that she simply could not; therefore, she tearfully decided to **sell Lovely and her sister** to some men in the Dominican Republic who had sugarcane fields. The girls would become slaves and work for these men. Little did Lovely’s mother know just **what these men had in mind.**

Lovely remembered the day that her mother got up, put their best ragged dresses on her and her sister, and held their hands as they made the long trek across the top of the jagged mountain range to the Dominican Republic. Once there, they waited and soon, two cars drove up.

Two men got out of the cars and handed Lovely’s mother some money, **about \$50 for each child.** Then, all Lovely remembered was looking out of the car window crying and seeing her little sister’s face pushed up against the window of the other car with **tears streaming down her face.**

Their mother, sadly, made the lonely trip back across the mountain range with the money in her hand. Her desperate plea to save some of her children was something that neither you nor I could ever understand. But, this happens every day here in Haiti. It is simply a matter of having a small “life raft” with not enough room for everyone. **Someone has to be thrown overboard so that the others can live.** To a Haitian mother, it is simply a matter of **not having enough food.**

Lovely had been beaten and abused for many days. She was in a country where she could not even understand the language. She spoke Creole and they spoke Spanish. **After many days of beatings,** horrible dreams about her sister and mother, and loneliness, Lovely did something incredible... **she escaped!** She made it to a police station and was then taken to Children’s Social Services in Haiti.

From there, Lovely went to **one of the missions that we share our food with each month.** She was able to be reunited with her mother but, her mother decided it would be best for her to stay with the missionaries. Lovely **regained her health** and is now going to be adopted by loving parents in the United States. Sadly enough, she has no knowledge of where her sister is, but because you have given and sacrificed and shared “your food,” **she is yet another child that you have saved.** And, also because of you, we are sending food to Lovely’s village each month.

#### *BERLINDA’S STORY ... THE GIRL CALLED “TI RAT” OR “LITTLE RAT”*

The story of the little girl, Berlinda, whom everyone called “Ti Rat,” was a very heartbreaking one. Berlinda’s father had died some time ago, and she and her siblings had been raised by their mother. With no job, life was a daily struggle for her mother to provide food to feed her children.



The hut where Berlinda lived was so horrible that field rats would come in every night. Each morning, Berlinda's **toes were bloody from the rat bites**. She would cry and cry, and all the children in the village made fun of her and **called her "Ti Rat" or "Little Rat."**

Berlinda had watched as **her mother grew ill and finally died**. There was no money for even a small wooden coffin to bury her in, so Berlinda's mother was wrapped in a dirty sheet. Her brother, Holles, found two sticks to put together to make a cross that was placed into the ground and that was the "funeral."

Now all alone, these five children had no way to make a living and **no food to eat**. When things grew worse, they decided to go to Grandma Rosard's place to live. However, Grandma already had twelve people living in her hut, and now, she had five more. It was an impossible situation.

One of our missionary friends told us about these children and their plight and said **if we didn't do something, the children would become very malnourished or even die**. That's when **you** came into the picture. We shared this story, and you responded to this great need. Not only are we able to send food to "Ti Rat" and her family each month, but **also to their entire village. And that's not all that happened...**

By a miracle, God moved to provide the money to build a nice little house for Berlinda, her siblings and her Grandma. You simply cannot begin to understand just how **important you are** to these children. **You are an angel sent by God... a "Rescue Angel!"** These stories are real stories of real children whom we have rescued together. We wish we could tell you that we have never arrived too late to save a child, but sadly enough, what we are about to tell you now, is a true story too.

#### *THE STORY OF JOSEPH ... WE CAME TOO LATE*

We had just begun working in Haiti, and we knew that hunger was very real. We had even heard that children had died of starvation, but it had never happened in front of our eyes. You see, we had never known that children in Haiti were **so desperately hungry that they would eat such things as tree bark, small stones, and even dirt. But, hunger makes children do strange things.**

We were actually on our way to conduct a mobile medical clinic on an island off the coast of Haiti called La Gonave. It had been a **long three-hour trip** across rough waters in one of those floppy, wooden Haitian boats. We were so seasick, and the smell of goats and pigs aboard didn't help much. Sitting at the end of the boat, was a Haitian man who held a coconut shell. His job was to dip the water out, which came in from all the cracks in the boards of the boat. If he didn't do this, **the boat would likely sink.**

When we finally arrived in La Gonave someone was waiting for us at the edge of the shore. They were frantically waving and screaming, "Come quick, a young boy is dying, come quick!" We climbed off the boat and hurried up the dirt path. We will never forget what we saw. A poor mother, in a ragged and dirty dress, was sitting under the only tree in the village. In her arms, she tightly clutched and rocked a child, a child with a swollen face and belly. Men and women were gathered around talking frantically while the mother was sobbing uncontrollably.

"What happened?" we asked the mother. Then, she began to tell us her story. She had very little food to feed herself and her son Joseph, so she would go gather sticks to sell for charcoal. She said that when she would come back, she would find Joseph sitting on the dirt floor of their mud hut **eating dirt**. She told Joseph that she would spank him if he continued to eat dirt. The neighbors said that, "Her son was eating dirt and that he was going to die." Not long after, Joseph's stomach began to swell and soon, he could not breathe... **sadly, he had died before we reached him.**

Immediately, the men of the village had come and **pried the dead child from his mother's arms**. They wrapped Joseph in a sheet and then tied his toes together with twine. A short time later, when Joseph's father found out, weeping and crying, he went to build a small wooden box for his son.

Early the next morning at daylight, we watched through the window of the schoolroom, where we had slept that night. As we looked out, we saw Joseph's father carrying the small coffin of his son on his shoulder as he was singing a song in Creole, **"My son will never be hungry again..."**

We came too late for Joseph, but we don't want to come too late for other children, just like him. God has used you to save the lives of so many children, and **your help is needed again**. Please don't "pass by" on the other side. Children's lives are at stake and if we don't do something, they will die. You are needed now, to rescue more children from hunger and starvation.

*PLEASE LET THE LORD USE YOU...*

**Every penny and every amount, even the widow's mite, counts. Please pray about a gift of \$24, which will provide 648 meals. Or, a gift of \$48, which will provide 1,296 meals. Or, if the Lord has blessed you and you could sacrifice a gift of \$120, it will provide 3,240 meals.** Your sacrificial gift will help us feed hungry children like Nelson, Lovely and Berlinda, and help keep all other projects of Love A Child going. **Every gift counts. Every gift saves lives.**

It would be so easy to lay this letter aside and do nothing. But, we remember what the Lord told us, **"Do nothing and he will die."** We know that you will not let these little children go hungry. Please respond with your best gift today. God's blessings always come upon those "who help the poor," **Psalm 41:1-3.**

Thank you again, for listening with your heart. *These children need you.*

*Bobby and Sherry Burnette*

Missionaries Bobby and Sherry Burnette

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 eleven consecutive Four-Star ratings from Charity Navigator.

2013 Financial Statement:

- Haiti Outreaches
- Fundraising
- Administrative

