

A.K.A. Vida Internacional



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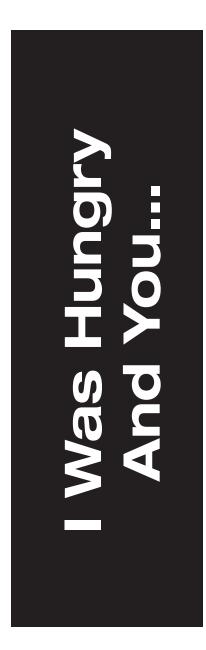
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Lights, cameras, action! ... Sometimes you feel as though you've stepped onto the set of an action movie as you cross international boarders in third world countries. I was leading a team of 14 Americans, a Peruvian, a Venezuelan and six Dominicans into Haiti. We crossed the foot bridge that spans the Pedernales River dividing the Dominican/Haitian border. We had no problem dealing with Dominican immigration, but it was "SHOW-TIME" and "LET THE GAMES BEGIN" under the palm branch lean-to where the Haitian immigration officials began to create a tempest in a tea cup. The United Nations Peacekeeping force was there and greeted us saying if we need their help to give them a call before they sped off leaving us to fend for ourselves. After a spell of negotiation, and theatrics we finally paid our \$10 dollar immigration fee and got our passports stamped.

Next, we passed to customs located under the shade tree across the dirt road. They demanded money even though we were not bringing anything into their country that was subject to fees or tax. After about a 3 hour ordeal the team returned over the bridge in protest to Custom's corrupt demands; leaving me and the Dominican pastors behind to negotiate. We called the U.N. Peace forces to intervene and they connected me with the town's mayor who is also the police captain, but the customs official refused to talk to anyone. I decided to make a final appeal to his conscience but he insisted that he didn't speak Spanish. I knew better (educated Haitians speak five languages) so I continued to prick at his conscience... Do you love your country? Do you fear God? Do you love the children? He looked as if he wanted to cry.

I turned and began preaching in the open air to the Haitians concerning, "JESUS CHRIST the Just King over all the earth..." the gathering crowd shouted hefty AMENS! Just as I stepped onto the bridge, the U.N. Peace keepers and the Police Chief jumped out of their vehicles in a cloud of dust and flying gravel and began trying to calm the international incident. They negotiated a lesser extortion fee. My team returned and we arrived at the mission at high noon. The Haitian saints had begun their worship service at 7am in the morning and they continue to worship with us until 2pm. Camp Sonshine ministered for a good stretch to the children as I met with the Haitian and Dominican pastors. The final outcome was that our Haitian mission needs a home. They must get their own property so they are not constantly moving from pillar to post. They have found a half acre building lot close to the main road. Please pray that God meets their \$4,000 need so we can feed the children, body, soul, and spirit! Ju & Carol

Together We Are Touching Nations,





PRAISE and PRAY!

Please pray for the purchase of a building lot for our mission in Haiti—\$4,000

Please pray for the expansion of Vida Ministries. For protection, Provision, and our purpose of Feeding Children, Planting Churches & Equipping leaders.

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Haitian Mission Needs a Home

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