



The Childers Family

Missionaries to
Grenada
West Indies



November/December 2016

Praises:

- 5 professions of faith
- New ministries started
- Good health
- No injuries in car accident

Prayer Requests:

- Church location/building
- Church starting in early 2017
- Salvation for Jacob and Desean

“What is the hardest part of adjusting to another culture?” This is the most frequently asked question from our friends back in the States. We would love to share a few of the differences with you.

There is little concern for time. Island time is no myth! The good part is that there are no appointments necessary for things like doctor appointments and car repairs. There is no hurry or sense of urgency. If something *can* wait until tomorrow, it probably will! The only downside is that most of these places are first-come, first-serve, so we often have to sit and wait—and wait and wait and wait! Even for church services, if you arrive on time, you’re early. If you are running ten minutes late, you’re right on time! On deputation, punctuality is so important, which makes the cultural adjustment a little tougher. On the bright side, it helps with having two young children!

One of the hardest parts has been learning to drive on the left side of the road. One’s mindset must be entirely contrary to all he has ever learned and practiced. There are no speed limits and few driving rules that are enforced. The first couple of weeks produced numerous headaches at the very thought of getting

into the vehicle and going down the road, but it has now become (mostly) second-nature. Not only that, but many of the side streets here are very narrow, with deep drains on each side. This has led to our first blown tire, scratches from a wayward shopping cart, and an incident being rear-ended on our way to church. We do praise the Lord that there were no injuries, as the children were not in car seats, and that the damage was minor!

The people here are not afraid to be brutally honest with you. If you ask a teen a question, most will respond truthfully, regardless of consequences. The religious mindset is refreshing. There is great respect for God and church. Many come to church faithfully and serve God with all their heart, sincerely desiring to please Him.

We have been able to be involved in nearly every ministry at Mama Cannes Independent Baptist Church from picking people up for church, teaching Sunday School classes, preaching, cleaning, youth ministry, speaking at a juvenile delinquent center, teaching and helping with the Neighborhood Bible Club that averages about 20 kids each Saturday, and using whatever ability God has given us to be a blessing to this church. We have helped the church to re-establish a weekly soul-winning effort, with an average attendance of about 15, and a high day of 26! Joseph has been preaching a series on soul-winning on Wednesday nights. Truly, Pastor Lambert has become a good friend in the ministry and we are thankful for all that we are learning under his leadership at Mama Cannes. Being involved has allowed us to get a quicker understanding of the church culturally.

We have been blessed to share the Gospel with many individuals, leading five personally to a profession of faith in Christ. Donna was able to lead her cousin, Kamisha, to Christ. In soul-winning, Joseph was privileged to speak with a young man named Leron, who prayed the sinner’s prayer. Donna spoke to a young mother named Lucille while we were running an errand in the capital city. Praise the Lord that this young mom also accepted Jesus as Saviour. Please pray especially for these three new converts, that they would get into church and grow as Christians. Please pray also for a man named Jacob, and a teenage boy named Desean, that Joseph has witnessed to several times. Pen and paper could not do justice to the mission field, as there is so much to write of what goes on and what God is doing here. Please pray also as we continue to seek a meeting-place in Grenville for our church plant, Lord-willing, in February of 2017.

In Christ,
Joseph, Donna, Brielle, and Ryan Childers

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