

American-Caribbean Experience

{Newsletter}



Have you ever just not known what to do in a circumstance? We've all been there. Whether it's choosing the right job, working out those difficult relationships that just don't make sense, or perhaps choosing the right mate, whatever the situation — if you live long enough — a time will come where you don't have the answers you need.

That's where our need for God comes in. The Bible says that out of all the things that King Solomon could have asked God for, he asked him for Wisdom (1 Kings 3:5-10). And wisdom is what God gave Solomon. The history books have King Solomon as the wisest and richest man to ever live on the earth, and that alone is worth reading his books Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes. However, reading Ecclesiastes can be depressing

as Solomon seems to have done it all, experienced it all, and yet comes up empty. How can that be? Isn't the "spice" of life filling enough? The experience of success, having multiple choices, being one's own self — isn't that what life is about?

According to Pastors Helen and George and the original men who began the Men and Women's conference in 2008 in Jamaica with ACE, it's empty without the supernatural wisdom of God interacting in and through us. This year's conference was no exception. From a humble beginning in a rural church in St. Mary of six men to, this year, over 150 locals driving, walking, and taking taxis, this year's event was magnificent. Thank you, Americans and Jamaicans, for giving tirelessly to the success of all three nights at the conference.

If you have never experienced the four-day Men & Women's conference in February at Galina Breeze Hotel each year, it's time you marked your calendar for this event. Every time, our understanding grows more and more as to why we were created and what our purpose is in this life. Except, our time together is always too short and fast. How about a whole week next year?



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Marla's Minute



My favorite movie of all time is Mary Poppins – in full color, of course! Some of you who know me might not be surprised as I love work, organization, and using wide imagination to help the “medicine go down”!

As ACE grows closer to our 30th year of presence and outreach in Jamaica, it seems the colors of ACE are not only permanent but vibrant as if it was the first day spent on this beautiful island. You read about our seasoned medical/dental teams being recognized by name from our community healthcare locations. Smiles as teeth get cleaner with less “pullings” and more “savings” through fillings and fluoride. Sugar checks and eye glasses to see better makes seeing an ACE Healthcare volunteer a happy moment in time.

ANSWERED PRAYERS & PRAYER REQUESTS

Answered Prayer The first quarter of ACE has been a good one. The Healthcare teams were strong, the teaching teams very impactful, and the hard-working project volunteers worked tirelessly. This quarter will be hard to beat with the other three coming.

Answered Prayer Our Child Sponsorship students received their second-term report cards. Many of the students have done well, improving in their attendance as well as their grades. We still have some 20 students hoping to be sponsored for the 2017-2018 school year.

Answered Prayer & Prayer Request Marla is seeking an assistant for a year as Beth is leaving her for a husband. Arlene

This is where long term commitment pays off in the ACE world. So many volunteers leave their personal concerns and needs at home, to join other professionals in St. Mary clinics and schools. Treating, coaching, training, and praying for students, patients, mothers, and the elderly who truly need a moment of time and care — that's what ACE Healthcare is all about.



Thank you, long-time committers, for not making ACE another “Poverty Tourism” stop in the passport book but rather a date every year with Nationals who have grown to love you for your long-term stake in their Parish and location. We, too, have something to smile about.

Happy Spring!

From Marla, Allen & The ACE Team

from Bethel Baptist has risen to the occasion to come down for a year to help her. Please pray for a smooth transition for Arlene as she will arrive just before summer to help Marla with logistics and communications.

Prayer Request ACE has grown in its need for additional help with employees. This is a good thing and yet a challenging thing as most people cannot work for free. Would you consider financially helping support some of the individuals who feel called to serve? ACE needs to raise \$25K to get people in place for the spring and summer months and in fact the rest of the year. Got any treasure lying around just waiting to be put into Kingdom use?

Prayer Request That we will still be able to purchase a newer used truck - We've raised \$11k for a \$28k truck to replace one of the two we currently own. This spring, ACE has felt the effects of not having a reliable vehicle to carry medical supplies, aggregate to work sites, and supplies on trips. We have our sights on 2010 to 2013 used vehicle. We really need one ASAP.



Did you know ACE has an App?!

It's free and it's downloadable - do it now!

Search "ACEperience" in your app store.