

Blog 4—Amy Ramsey

Bonswa! Here we are another day in Haiti. I am enjoying the people, the sights, and the sounds of the life here.

One of the questions posed in the movie Lord of the Rings was about hope. When people go on mission trips or think about the poor and poverty stricken people, third world countries, or war raging areas, hope seems to eventually be something people question. Is hope possible? Is hope still present? Did hope leave all together?

Haiti, being the poorest country in the western hemisphere, would seem to be the place most desolate of hope. However, that depends on the quality you measure hope. The Haitians I have come into contact with each will greet you. Children are laughing and playing creative games outside. Men are out working on houses or tending the gardens or animals. Women are humming and singing songs while cooking and doing laundry. Bright and early at 0400 the sounds of voices arising from the church below are singing praises. All throughout the day and the night goats and roosters scampering here and there letting you know their presence. I always thought roosters were supposed to wake you in the morning when the sun came up.

However, this is where I see hope, in the simple pleasures of life. What complicates things is that some have this view of how others should live. We seem to want to implement our viewpoints the way we want to in others' lives. Apparently many have discovered that it is hard to do...

Being here in Haiti's current condition, I do wish for one thing. I wish there would be easier access to a plethora of clean water. Along with that would be a different way of letting sewage sit. Other than that I think these people get along one day at a time cognizant of the basic needs of life. While there are other things I find important to life I do see hope glimmering in the eyes of the people here.