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Diary of Medical Mission Trip Journal 1

[Black and white image of a village on top on water is shown]

Narrator: The following is a journal entry written by a Grand Canyon University College of Nursing student. It is an account of her experiences as part of a medical mission team that was dispatched to Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

[Composition notebook flashes across screen]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: Tuesday, January 26th 2010, we were supposed to leave for Haiti today, but our chartered plane that was scheduled to leave for Haiti this morning was delayed 24 hours.

[Image of doctors in blue gowns appear on screen]

Student: Our team, now exclusively doctors and critical care nurses, has been trimmed down based on credentials and value to the team.

[Image of two nurses in matches scrubs appear on screen]

[Image of boxes being loaded onto a plane]

Student: Because of air traffic control issues and ground transportation problems in Haiti, the first team that arrived a few days ago in port de prince has not received their cargo of medical supplies yet...

[Image of a multiple boxes wrapped in cellophane]

Student: And are working with only what they brought. Our team is the second to be dispatched...

[Image of man in construction helmet pulling a container of boxes]

Student: We were told to cut our personal belongings down to an extreme minimum. The per person 35 pound carry on allowance has to be predominantly medical supplies in case our cargo is delayed too.

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed again]

Student: Our team leader told us that the on-site team said the most urgent supplies needed are definitely IV fluids and antibiotics.

[Image of man putting up IV fluids]

Student: Nothing can be done; no OR, no treatment, and no IV without fluid and venous access!

[Image changes to an IV tube]

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Student: Overwhelming sepsis is setting in. I am carrying with me over 11,000 doses of IV antibiotics that have been donated.

[Image of IV bags are shown]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed again]

Student: Based on no further delays, we leave tomorrow at 8 in the morning.

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Diary of Medical Mission Trip Journal 2

[Black and white image of a village on top on water is shown]

Narrator: The following is a journal entry written by a Grand Canyon University College of Nursing student. It is an account of her experiences as part of a medical mission team that was dispatched to Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

[Composition notebook flashes across screen]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: Thursday, January 28th 2010, we left Missionary Flights International Airport by 10 yesterday. Arrived at King's hospital without even getting motion sick.

[Image of two boys in their village]

Student: We were all in for a big surprise that things seemed quite under control. Nothing like what we heard and saw on TV from home.

[Image of young boys walking around tents]

Student: Another missionary medical team had been there for a week already and they said that the chaos has died down. A military truck was taking away an unresponsive girl with encephalitis as we walked in.

[Image of a girl on a gurney and medical personal assisting her]

Student: Based on quick glance, her long-term prognosis looked pretty poor.

[Image of military and medical personal attending to wounded victims]

Student: The biggest shock of it all was the difference in Haitian cultural.

[Image of a group of people running]

Student: Our cultural is that in time of crisis and need we are trained to hit the ground running.

[Image of boys and girls sleeping on cardboard boxes]

Student: Emergency department at the worst of the worst. Not at all.

[Image of young boys and girls laying on cardboard boxes]

Student: They took us aside and chatted a while and have us a tour of the place

[Image of a written page in composition notebook]

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Student: The present medical team leaves tomorrow and will hand off a report to us. More than people and supplies, they are in dire need of organization. More specifically, national organization. In every room there was someone else with a cast or fracture...

[Image of two men hovering over a patient's bed]

Student: ...but we were told that there were no X-ray abilities there. Go figure that... how do you have a hospital full of orthopedic patients and no X-ray abilities? Film, yes... machine... no!

[Image of a military plane dropping off supplies]

Student: They have two ORs with the anesthesia machine dropped down by helicopter onto their roof. Unfortunately one OR was shut down today, because sewage was leaking into the wall of the OR suite.

[Image of a misconfigured bathroom]

Student: So much for the sterility there! Supplies are in total chaos and scattered everywhere. The entire city is pitch dark.

[Image of a village of tents in the darkness]

Student: The electricity has not been turned back on. The dark streets are full of people. We are staying at a doctor's house that has died several times since I started this email. There must be twenty people in this house.

[Image is of a bucket of water on the ground]

Student: There's about 3 cups of water in a bucket outside the bathroom door. I guess that's what we're supposed to use.

[Image is of a panoramic view of the city]

Student: The group split up, half to the mountain, half stayed here in Port au Prince. Our team hit the ground running and didn't stop.

[Image is of a written page in composition book]

Student: I will not even begin because I wouldn't know where to start. It's unbelievable being here, just unbelievable. It's been a long day and I'm exhausted. Time for some rest to prepare for what tomorrow will bring.

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Diary of Medical Mission Trip Journal 3

[Black and white image of a village on top on water is shown]

Narrator: The following is a journal entry written by a Grand Canyon University College of Nursing student. It is an account of her experiences as part of a medical mission team that was dispatched to Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

[Composition notebook flashes across screen]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: Sunday, January 31st, 2010...

Student: Today, the patients and sites were inconceivable again... amputation, stump revision, horrible infections and dressing changes like can't be explained.

[Image of cardboard boxes full of equipment]

Student: Supplies and equipment from missionary organizations and contributions are everywhere in boxes and piles on the floor...

[Image of an old building falling apart after the earthquake]

Student:...piles in dusty halls, next to dogs, no rhyme or reason for location of anything, just mismatch, scattered across 4 floors.

[Image of rubble left behind after the earthquake]

Student: The standards are so deplorable and the conditions are like nothing I've ever seen in my life! No running water in the hospital and no hand washing. Just a bucket next to the public toilet. We have hand sanitizer, but not much, so we need to be careful.

[Image of gardening gloves thrown onto the floor]

Student: Gloves are reused unless grossly contaminated with blood or pus.

[Image of young kids sitting outside on blanket in front of a building]

Student: A hundred plus patients waiting outside the hospital door when we arrived, saw over 190 today plus inpatients.

[Image of young girls walking around a building]

Student: I can't begin to describe all we saw today. People with no family left, all died in the quake.

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

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Student: I had the privilege to talk with a middle-aged man today who was in the hospital for an amputation. He lost his whole family but a 9-year-old son who was living at his bedside. His wife and the rest of children are under the rubble.

[Image of a black bible]

Student: He had a bible by his bed and we read together. He cried, I cried. The translator cried...

[Image of a nursing assisting patients in bunk beds]

Student: ...I gave him some peanut butter that I brought from home.

[Image of volunteer speaking with a group of Haitian people]

Student: One of the other teams pulled out so we are solo with the Haitians. We got a 5 minute lesson on being a pharmacist. We had so little. Often, meds weren't available, so we substituted based on the knowledge in our heads. No references, no calculators.

[Image of a line of people waiting]

Student: Lines were long and we did the best we could with what we had. We doubled as doctors and saw patients too.

[Image of patients being moved to a different room]

Student: We ordered what we thought was helpful. Wrote scripts and treatments. Changed dressing, lots of them infected and foot wounds that were absolutely filthy from walking in dust and debris.

[Image of a young boy drinking from a water bottle and eating a snack]

Student: Most were hungry and thirsty. We tried to give them a water bag is they looked really bad.

[Image of a young boy in a man-made stretcher being carried to another location]

Student: Many amputees were carried in by family. The degree of helplessness was so choking and there was nothing we could do.

On the way home we stopped at another hospital. Worst yet...

[Image of young boys wrapped in gauze lying on the floor]

Student: ...people on mattress in the hall, babies in the foyer, and people in tents pitched outside on the ground.

[Image of a line of tents outside]

Student: As we were walking through one women was bleeding in a puddle of blood from an IV that had been pulled out.

[Image of two young kids whose legs are both bleeding and wrapped up]

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Student: I asked the director if I could restart her IV and she said “wonderful, please do.”

Student: I searched far and wide for good IV stuff but only had a nonstick catheter like I haven’t seen since 1985 prior to AIDS. Never saw this kind before it was old a dusty.

[Image of someone inserting an IV to a patients arm]

Student: No one could find gauze just tape that’s it! Then the tubing had a hole. People, patients, problems, everywhere!

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: The generator will go off in a few minutes and then it will be pitch dark. I need to find my flashlight, so I must go. We’re fine, don’t worry. No more tremors today.

[Image of the composition notebook page closing]

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Diary of Medical Mission Trip Journal 4

[Black and white image of a village on top on water is shown]

Narrator: The following is a journal entry written by a Grand Canyon University College of Nursing student. It is an account of her experiences as part of a medical mission team that was dispatched to Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

[Composition notebook flashes across screen]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010...

Student: Another day at King's Hospital. New medical team came with an ortho surgeon but no anesthetist and we couldn't do any surgeries without one...

[Image of a pharmacist organizing medication in front of a window of young children]

Student: ...So I became the anesthetist today. Found a drawer full of OR meds in one big jumbled mess in the anesthesia cart...

[Image of a disorganized chart of medical supplies]

Student: ...picked out what I needed but couldn't find the reversing agent and thought I saw it in the pharmacy.

[Image of a room full of medication resembling a pharmacy]

Student: The pharmacy tech was MIA again, and always locked the door, so I had to climb up through the high window to get into the pharmacy.

[Image of a nurse adjusting a pulse oximeter strip]

Student: We had ten minutes notice to prepare for the first case. Didn't have a cardiac monitor so we really depended on the pulse ox!

[Image of surgeons in a room]

Student: The surgeon was a bit spectacle, so was I! We were total strangers but developed a good working relationship within the first few minutes. All went well thanks to our all-knowing God.

[Image of nursing exchanging equipment with one another]

Student: Our group ate half rations for lunch and gave the rest to the waiting children.

[Image of three young children sitting down]

Student: We broke of pieces of sandwich till the loaf was gone. It's not like back home! No kid picked out the cheese because it was the wrong type...

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[Image of a young girl in a dressing eating food with her hands]

Student: ... Insisted on turkey instead of ham, left their crust or declined for any reason at all.

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: The fact is well known among the Haitian people that it is primarily Christian missionaries who have staffed the hospital clinics, and filed medical tents.

[Image of teenage boys helping other villagers]

Student: People whose first motivation is to help their hurting fellow man. It seems that just as important as changing their dressings or giving them pain medication is just showing them that someone cares.

[Image of tents lined up one after another]

Student: I'm finally back at the doctor's house after a long, long day. Pain and suffering seems to be the way of life for the people in Haiti.

[Image of volunteers aiding in a patients care]

Student: As the care providers we felt tremendous appreciation and thankfulness from the throngs of people we have treated. Despite their amputations, broken limbs, massively infected wounds, filthy dressings...

[Image of the aftermath of the earthquake]

Student: ...Anguish of losing husbands, wives, children, parents, housing possessions and jobs...

[Image of a street filled with water and disheveled people]

Student: ...With nothing but the clothes on their backs, sleeping in the street without even a sheet, lack of food and water, thick and oppressive air to breath and even the smell of rotting flesh of their loved ones under the rubble.

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: They find a way to meekly smile and show their appreciation, maybe with a quite Creole-accented "thank you and God bless you".

[Image of page of composition book closing]

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Diary of Medical Mission Trip Journal 5

[Black and white image of a village on top on water is shown]

Narrator: The following is a journal entry written by a Grand Canyon University College of Nursing student.

It is an account of her experiences as part of a medical mission team that was dispatched to Haiti following the catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

[Composition notebook flashes across screen]

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed]

Student: Thursday February 4th, 2010. Homeward bound today! We were reunited last night with the other half of our original group who returned from their work in the Mountain hospital.

[Image of doctors in white lab coats discussing an important matter]

Student: We shared the swelling emotion of overwhelming thankfulness to be an...

[Image of a United States of America Passport lying on a table]

Student: ...American. Our U.S. passports, more valuable than any winning lottery ticket,...

[Image is of two nursing discussing a topic with a doctor]

Student...are gifts given to only a small percentage on the masses of humanity.?’

[Image is of a group of young African kids playing in town]

Student: The millions of people we saw in the past 8 days in the hospital, on the streets, and in the epicenter have not been given the same gift.

[Image is of a young African boy whose head is wrapped in gauze]

Student: But less we for a second, think of ourselves as superior. The scriptural reality is that to whom much is given much will be required. Judgment will be fair. That's a sobering thought.

Student: We were talking on the trip home. Although we will never forget our time in Haiti, how long will it take us to forget the lessons we learned?

[Image is of an airplane in the sky]

Student: I'd like to think I'm all done complaining for the rest of my...

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[Image is of a building in shambles]

Student: ...life, but human nature says that
time will cause it to be...

[Image is of a women with young children surrounding her]

Student: ...if she was ever afraid in Haiti?

[A fully written page in the composition notebook is displayed again]

Student: "No", she said, "fear and thankfulness can't live together in the same heart."