



Brother and sister attending brother's baptism (Sou Friere, St Lucia)

CHWAZI I AM CHOSEN

FEBRUARY 2017

FINALLY HERE!

KARISSA MILLER

It's All So New!!!

So after packing, repacking, and re-packing I finally got everything to fit and made it to St. Lucia where I've hit the ground running.

The Beauty

It truly is beautiful here and I wish each and every one of you could see it. The water is a beautiful turquoise and there's green everywhere you look. Did you know that there is a rain forest in St. Lucia? I sure didn't. Now before you start thinking that I'm spending all my time sightseeing on the island let me reassure you that is not the case. I've actually only noticed these things in passing while going from one ministry appointment to another.

The houses here are so colorful. They are painted in bright blues, greens, oranges, and pinks. One thing that is startling different from back home are the neighborhoods. Back home you are used to seeing city neighborhoods broken up into the 'rich' neighborhood, 'average' neighborhood, and the 'poor' neighborhood. And usually there is an invisible line where you suddenly cross over into the next neighborhood. You



Our house (Micoud, St. Lucia)

don't see that here. Instead they are all mixed together. There will be a whole bunch of 'average' houses with spattering's of broken down houses and an occasional 'mansion'.

I love the accents here. It's funny that we're all speaking English but it can still be hard to understand each other simply because of our different accents. I would describe their accents as a subtle Jamaican style. It's soothing to listen to that's for sure.

Since I've Been Gone

If the Kelly Clarkson song ran through your head when you read that title you are awesome and I love you.

I've only been down here for a very short amount of time but my schedule has already been jam-packed. The first week was spent running around getting all the kinks worked out. (The internet wasn't fast enough for work. I needed a phone to communicate with people. I had no way to plug any of my electronics in because they use a different voltage here.) Just stuff like that. No big deal or

anything. Funny story actually, I had repacked all my suitcases just to fit my hairdryer because I had forgotten it while packing. Then when I got down here I found out that my hairdryer is no good down here! I told you, funny story. All of the kinks (or at least most- I still don't have a hairdryer) have been worked out and we were able to get back to ministry.

Ministry

Starting the very first week here we already dived in with ministry. My first Saturday here I got to attend a baptism for new believers and I got to see **seven** people baptized.

Great news! We finally have our Foursquare license for St. Lucia! Which means we have approval for churches to become a part of Foursquare. We have **four** churches here that are very interested in becoming part of our Foursquare family. We are preparing a class/tutorial to teach them about our Foursquare beliefs to make sure that they really want to come on board together.

Meanwhile all four of those churches will be starting **OSL Level 1** within the next week. **OSL** is my churches discipleship program and has changed my life in more ways than one. We are also starting youth services on Sunday nights starting a week from next Sunday. I will oversee training up the youth leader. Also our next door neighbors are trying to get approved by the government to run a preschool so I have been asked to come over once or twice a week to help out and give advice.

I've also begun to teach one of the young ladies how to play piano. She's thirteen years old and a joy to be around plus a very bright student. She is also the daughter of the Pastors of the church where the youth services are starting so I'm looking forward to getting to know her more.

So much has already happened in such a short amount of time and I can't wait to share with all of you what happens next.



Rastafarian being baptized (Sou Friere, St. Lucia)

Prayer

I want to say thank you to all of those who have been praying for me. Those prayers have been precious and priceless during this transition and will grow even more priceless as the ministry progresses.

Many of you who see my Facebook saw the attacks the couple of days leading up to my leaving. It started with trouble getting money that was requested for my trip. Then my body decided that it wanted to get sick and I got a fever. Then there was a family emergency where Mike ended up in the hospital the day of my leaving. Then when I finally did get to the airport they didn't want to give me my ticket because I didn't have a visa! I finally got my ticket only to get stopped in security where they searched all of my bags because apparently 3x5 index cards look like a bomb. There were a lot of problems leading up to and after my arrival but I finally got here and I truly believe that it is your prayers that have gotten me through.

So I have a few prayer requests that I would appreciate if you would pray with me about:

- Homesickness: there are a lot of new things to get used to down here and I have been missing home. Pray that God would send Godly friends my

way to ease this burden.

- My health: I'm still getting over the flu along with getting used to new food so pray for health and a strong stomach.
- Wisdom to know what ministries to participate in and the strength to do them.
- That the launch of OSL would go great and that it would have a huge impact on people's lives.
- That youth programs will take off here and many youth will come to Christ and impact their communities.
- That Godly leaders would rise up in the churches who would step up and lead their communities.

Thank you for partnering with me and for all that you do. I continue to pray for you each day and declare that you will be blessed in all that you do.



Nahum (Sou Friere, St. Lucia)