

# Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans

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## About The Grahams

Carriel and Donna have been Missionaries to Jamaica since 1983. They began serving in Montego Bay in 1985. They have served in full-time ministry in Jamaica and North America, and are the founding Pastors of Abundant Life Church.

The Grahams have both earned their Doctorate degrees in Christian Counseling from Central Christian University, in Lexington, North Carolina, and currently serve as Mentors and Directors for the Western Jamaica Campus of C.C.U

Carriel and Donna are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters—Brielle and Arielle

## About Jamaica

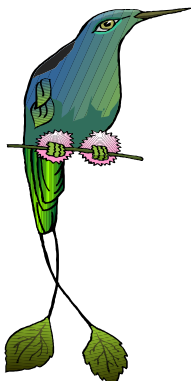
Jamaica is an island in the Caribbean. Located a little less than six hundred miles southeast of Florida, it has a land area of a little less than 4500 square miles.

Jamaica is known to be one of the most beautiful islands in the Caribbean. With an English-speaking population of approximately 2.6 million people, the island has a rich heritage and culture, and is a favourite tourist destination.

Jamaica is divided into fourteen (14) parishes—like states or provinces. The city of Montego Bay is the Capital of the parish of St. James, located on Jamaica's northwest coast.



## Quick Facts About the Ministry—Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans



- **Mission Statement:**  
To share the good news of salvation with the people of Jamaica and other Caribbean Islands with the goal of helping the hurting, winning the lost and equipping the saved.
- **Our Practice:**  
To preach the Gospel of Christ in the Spirit of Christ, and having an open door where everyone is welcome, so that they can find Christ, who can transform their lives.
- **Support System:**  
Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans is a ministry which continues to operate through the faithful support of our contributing individuals and churches.

## Outreaches of the Ministry

Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans seeks to minister to people in a complete and comprehensive way. In light of this goal, we seek to meet the needs of those whom God sends to us in a four-fold way, by tending to:

1. Spiritual Needs
2. Physical Needs
3. Emotional Needs
4. Relational Needs

### **SPIRITUAL NEEDS:**

#### **• Abundant Life Church**

The ministry seeks to reach out to people seeking spiritual guidance in a number of ways. The first is the ministry of Abundant Life Church. The four (4) Pillar Principles of ALC are:

1. To be a Church which brings honour and glory to God through preaching and teaching the un-compromised Word of God, the offering up of acceptable worship, and to be His hand extended to a hurting world.
2. To be a Church where each member has an intimate personal relationship with Jesus Christ, so that they are living a life of holiness.
3. To be a Church of strong families, where opportunities are created for each person to use their God-given abilities to advance the Kingdom of God.
4. To be a Church where the whole person—spirit, soul and body—are developed, so that we can present each person complete before Christ.



#### **• Mass Evangelism**

We also seek to meet the Spiritual needs of people through Mass Evangelism methods such as Tent Crusades, Street Meetings, Workplace Devotions, School Devotions, etc.



Tent used for Crusades and other Ministry



Street Meeting in the Community of Anchovy



#### **• Believers' Seminars and Conferences**

Another way we reach out to meet the spiritual needs of Jamaicans is through Believers' Meetings, Seminars and Conferences, whether at our own facility, or through invitations to speak in several other Churches and denominations in the parish of St. James, and in the wider Jamaica.

We have been privileged to have open doors into quite a number of different independent Churches, as well as many of the denominational Churches in our area. We praise God for the opportunities He provides, and we ask that you pray for us that we will speak only His words, and show only His love to those believers to whom we have the privilege to minister.



- **Central Christian University**

After Carriel and Donna graduated from Central Christian University in 2003, they were asked by the President and the board to be Mentors for the Western Jamaica Campus of the University, and members of the Board in Jamaica. Since then, they have overseen the work of the students in the western region, in a volunteer capacity, and have seen quite a number graduate with Bachelor of Arts degrees in Biblical Studies and in Christian Counseling.



- **Christian Literature and Resource Center**

One thing that the city of Montego Bay, and much of the rest of the island lacks is a readily available source of Christian Literature and teaching materials. To help to meet that need, we have embarked on a massive project to make available to the Christian community our research materials, as well as the sermons, lessons and other materials that we have written, preached and taught over the last nearly thirty years of ministry. This will take the form of workbooks, teaching lesson books, as well as books to read for personal development. Books available as of this printing are:

Is Your Donkey Available  
Satan's Schemes  
A.I.D.S and the Christian Response

Waiting on God  
Do The Right Thing

The Power of Praise  
The Spirit of Christmas

**Journey Through the Bible—Exploring God's Word Series:**

Volume 1	The Pentateuch	Volume 9	Minor Prophets
Volume 2	History of the Jewish Nation 1	Volume 10	The Books of the Gospel 1
Volume 3	History of the Jewish Nation 2	Volume 11	The Books of the Gospel 2
Volume 4	Jewish Writings 1 —The Psalms	Volume 12	The Book of Acts
Volume 5	Jewish Writings 2	Volume 13	Paul's Epistles Part I
Volume 6	Major Prophets 1 —Isaiah	Volume 14	Paul's Epistles Part II
Volume 7	Major Prophets 2 —Jeremiah/ Lamentations	Volume 15	The General Epistles
Volume 8	Major Prophets 3 —Ezekiel & Daniel	Volume 16	The Book of Revelation

**PHYSICAL NEEDS:**

- **Benevolent Work**

Most of the Ministry's benevolent work is done through the Church. In these economic times, many people are hurting in Jamaica, and many are simply not making ends meet at all. We have reached out to assist many of these people with food, clothings, assistance with school fees, medical bills, and any number of other ways.

- **Mission Project**

This past year's mission project for the Church was to assist an elderly pastor in a neighbouring parish with the reconstruction of a house. Our members, adults and children, sacrificed one meal each week for a month, and sent a group from the Church to help him, and to also do some outreach work in his area. Plans are in motion to assist some young people associated with the Church to go on a one-week mission trip to St. Lucia.

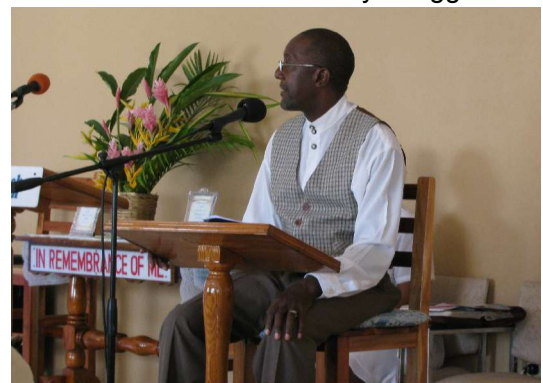
**EMOTIONAL NEEDS:**

As times get more difficult, we find that more and more people are looking for help with their emotional needs. A large part of our ministry has become being life coaches and emergency responders, as people from all walks of life, and every strata of the society keep coming for help with the emotional issues they struggle with.

- **Helping Hurting People Seminars**

One way we have sought to maximize our effort in ministering to peoples' emotional needs has been the creation of our "Helping Hurting People Seminars" These are three to four day meetings, held in various Churches, which address some of the leading emotional issues today—specifically, Self Esteem, Depression and Conflict Resolution.

We have held one at Abundant Life Church, and there is a constant demand for it in many of the Churches in our city, and we have done several in other parts of the island.



## **RELATIONAL NEEDS:**

Jamaica is no different from the rest of the Western World in that our families are in crisis. Much of our time is taken in family intervention and counseling, Pre-marriage counseling and Marriage crisis counseling.

Again, in an effort to maximize our reach, we have created a series of Seminars called Building a Successful Marriage and Family, tackling subjects such as Before You Marry, Waiting on God for a Mate, Family Roles, Rights and Responsibilities, Christian Family Finances and Avoiding Divorce.



## **How You Can Get Involved**

### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT:**

Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans is a non-profit ministry that is supported by the gifts and contributions of individuals and Churches. There is a need for monthly support, one-time gifts, or special project contributions. Ministry is a partnership, and contributing financially to Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans is one way you can participate in sharing the gospel with the Jamaican people.

### **SHORT-TERM MISSIONS:**

Another way you may choose to get involved in Sharing Jesus with the Jamaicans is through short-term missions projects. Though most of our teams are involved in construction, the possibilities are endless. Following are a few examples of the types of ministry a short-term ministry team may be come to do:

#### **• Construction Teams**

Teams come for a week to ten days to work on various projects on the Church building and/or the house. We need both skilled and unskilled labourers, so nearly anyone could participate in one of these teams.



#### **• Medical Clinics**

Teams come for a period of three days to a week, and volunteer in a free medical clinic for the community. Some of the things teams have offered in the past are blood pressure and weight checks, eye tests, dental checks, etc. Again, we need both skilled and unskilled people, as non-medical persons are needed to help the clinic run smoothly.

#### **• Vacation Bible School**

Another project of which we have hosted several is Vacation Bible School. Teams come in for a week to ten days, and run a week of Vacation Bible School—just like your church back home. The group members teach the lessons, do the crafts, and interact with the children.

#### **• Practical Skills Missions**

Teams or individuals come in and train the men and women in any kind of skill or profession that might enable them to live a better life. We have had several delightful ladies come and teach different types of handwork and needlework, but we would be more than willing to accommodate people with other skill sets.



### **PRAY:**

We firmly believe the words of James 5:16: “The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (NIV). No matter how else you plan to be involved, we ask that you pray for us for:

1. Continued health and protection for our family
2. Continued open doors to minister in various places
3. Additional financial support to continue and expand our work
4. Work teams to help with construction on the house and Church buildings
5. An upgrade for the equipment in our office—computer, etc. (computer is ten years old)

