

## Christian Baptist Church of the Grace



The story of our Church is as follows:

My name is Widmy Mervilus. I was born in the Republic of Haiti October 3th 1969. Since I was a child I grew up in a Christian family where my grandfather was a pastor of a Baptist church. Since that time I was being fed with the word of God. I used to go to the Biblical summer school for children. I still remember the story of Joseph in Egypt and the impact that this story made in my life.

I can never forget such a story.

But I continue growing up. When I was a teenager of 18 years old I was living a ungodly life with my friends. There came a time when I had to make a decision. I wanted to be an army because my father was, in the time when the Duvaliers family was president. But God had a different plan for my life. He wanted me to be an army, but for His Kingdom.

In vacation when I finish high school I went to look for my papers to become an Haitian army. But it was very difficult to get all the papers that I had to have to get there, so I detest the idea to be an army.

Then my cousin invited me to come to this country, D.R just to visit it and that sound interesting to me. I talked to my mother(because my father died when I had five years old) asking permission for two weeks of vacation ; but coming to Dominican Republic here the plans were changed for God's will, even though I didn't understand that it was God's will in this time. Then the Lord showed me that He was in control of my life and He continue being in control of all my life.

Being in this country I was suffering different needs; I was sick, close to die, being apart of my country, my family (specially my mother) because my father die when I was 5 years old. I didn't know anybody here in this country who I can talk about my sickness and I didn't know the language either. I was leaving alone in a farm where I was working with a owner of a field. This man didn't worry about me. One day he saw me lying down very sick, he came and kicked me to see if I was die or alive. Then I opened my eyes and he saw me that I was alive, so he went back to his pick up and go away to his house.

That afternoon it started to rain so strong and I was along , laying in the ground with a high fever and stomach pain suffering hungry, in such conditions I started thinking of my mother, all my families and friends in Haiti, that I was going to die with none of them knowing nothing about me . It was there when I start to cry and weep deeply. Crying there it was when the Lord put in my heart to read His Scripture. I had a New Testament in my pocket. I opened it in John 14: and I read the first verses where Jesus said. Don't be trouble in our heart, believed in God, believe also in me, in the house of my father there are many mansions prepared for you.

So, since that I kneeled and I prayed God asking pardon for my sins and I plead if I would die I want Jesus to keep a mansion for me in heavens. After I talked with Jesus, I received a deep peace in my heart that today I don't know have the words to describe it. After that day, when I found my dear Lord Jesus, next day I awake up without fever or pain. I was a new man in all sense, spiritually and physically too.

As soon as I could, I stared looking for a church where I could visit and be feed with the word of God. I found the Mennonite Conservative Church (Amish). In this church was where God had a wife for me. We got married and today we have 5 children: 3 girl and two boys..

Being in that church I had some doctrinal anxieties that the Bible says but they didn't practiced. So I leave the membership of that church. And looking for a church I became cold and cold every time that I went back to the world again for a long time.

Being in the world I never felt peace in my soul. All things were going worse and worse. I started to read the Bible again and to seek the will of God for my life. I started visiting church again, and being there some one invited me to a Bible study of a group of Baptist, so I felt happy because I grew up with this teaching. Getting involved in this study I noticed that they didn't paid much attention in the word of God even though I continued being with the group; till the Lord putted me in contact with a couple of missionary who were working in a mission here in San Juan de la Maguana: Randy and Mary Ann Kerr whose are the persons God used in His providence to bring me to the right way.

After we meat, he invited me to go with them to visit the church of Yabonico, (it a country side area of San Juan de la Maguana). That ministry is a faithful one to the word of God that belongs to the Biblical church of our Lord Jesus Christ in Santo Domingo.

Brother Randy took me to visit the church in Santo Domingo, where we attended a Sunday school service and preaching. After the service I met several pastors, brothers, and sisters. Several weeks later they invited me to be in a pastor's conference in that church in Santo Domingo. It was a week of conference.

When I came back to my family and talked to my wife, we felt a touch of God to start a Bible Study in our little house using six wood chairs that we only had at that time.

And God blessed our Bible Study in a grateful and wonderful way, so we had to move to a bigger house, because the little house became too small for the group.

We moved, and more people were coming to the Bible Study so this house became small too. So we had to get out of the house in the patio to have the service outside.

But, God in His providence used the missionary Randy to bring here a group from USA, of the Providence Baptist Church and from Community Bible Church and they build up an open air church in front of the house. We are still worshipping there. Now we are in need to get an

own place to build up the church where we could worship to the Lord with more privacy and comfort.

I am still studying in, the Ministerial Academy “Logos” in Santo Domingo, where I have about three years of study, and I will continue studying through all next year.

I was ordained as an official pastor the 1st of October 2006, by the will of God.

Today we have a Congregation of 18 members and a group of 20 new converted, several of this will be being baptized soon. Every Sunday we have an assistance of 100 to 120 persons to the services morning and evenings.

Our Congregation is a new born one; since we start the Bible Study in our house now, we have around of 5 years approximately.

Also, we have a ministry of evangelize the children of the poor Barrios of our country. This ministry we started soon after the study for the adults. Since we started this ministry with the children, our purpose is to reach up the parents too for Christ through the children. The Lord has blessed us greatly, many of His children are Christians and their parents are members of the church. All the glory and honor belong to God from eternity to all eternity.

We want to share with you a verse in ***Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.***

We have not done anything, but the Lord Jesus Christ, all we did, all we do, all we will do is because of the Lord.

We need your prayers for our Congregation and for me as a pastor, that God give us wisdom in His Word to be faithful to him till He comes.

God bless you all. Soli Deo Glory