

Daily Devotion For October 19, 2021

"God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7

If you saw the news yesterday, it was reported that 16 Americans and 1 Canadian missionary were kidnapped by a street gang in Haiti. The group included five men, seven women and five children.

As the kidnappers were closing in on the missionaries, they had time to text a message: "**Please pray for us!** We are being held hostage, they kidnapped our driver. **Pray pray pray.** We don't know where they are taking us."

The missionaries work with the Ohio-based Christian Aid Ministries and were returning from a site visit to an orphanage when they were abducted. Authorities believe the "400 Mawozo" gang, one of the most powerful in Haiti, is behind the kidnapping. At this time, no ransom demands have been made public.

Martin Luther King Jr. once prayed, "Use me, God. Show me how to take who I am, who I want to be, and what I can do, and use it for a purpose greater than myself." These missionaries are serving a purpose greater than themselves, faithfully proclaiming Jesus Christ despite the hardships they face each day.

**Thought For Today:** What purpose greater than yourself will your life serve today?

**Today's Prayer Focus:** Take time to pray for the kidnapped missionaries and their families. Pray for their safety and for the mission organizations call to pray that the gang members come to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Also Evelyn Kageyama emailed me yesterday that her "walking buddy" is undergoing testing for possible colon and liver cancer. Pray for God's strengthening and healing touch to rest upon her and that doctors will have wisdom to accurately diagnose the condition.