

Jews and Christians in Haiti

BY RABBI DAVID WOLPE

Last week I spent a few days in Haiti, where my friend Mitch Albom is rebuilding an orphanage. In this broken and dispirited country there are glimmers of goodness, people willing to give time and effort and money to save lives and uplift souls. Traveling around one sees people stuck in tent cities, children wading in fetid pools of water, a market built on rubble. Yet inside the orphanage there are children who once went hungry being fed, clothed, educated, and given promise.

I felt privileged to see Mitch and his friends come from Detroit to save this Christian mission. Each night the children gathered for prayers. While I was there they got new beds and — for the first time in most of their lives — began to eat three meals a day. Some of the stories were remarkable and inspiring. You can read more about the trip [here](#). You can also see a slide show of some of the children of the orphanage [here](#).

Our tradition teaches that one who saves a single life is reckoned as if she or he saved an entire world. In Haiti, inspired by a few Jewish friends as well as many Christian volunteers, worlds are being saved each day. If you would like to contribute you can send a donation to the **Sinai Temple Haiti fund** or donate to **havefaithhaiti.org**. It is a beautiful mitzvah.