



PREPARING FOR BTCJ LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In early October, we began preparations for a BTCJ Leadership Training designed for past and current BTCJ students. The heart behind this training was simple but weighty: to raise leaders who can faithfully handle Scripture, communicate God's Word clearly, and translate vision into obedient action.

The training focused on three key areas:

- **Discovery Bible Study**, equipping leaders to guide others into Scripture rather than simply teaching at them.
- **Sermon Creation**, helping students move from biblical text to a clear, compelling message with conviction.
- **Ministry Planning**, turning God-given vision into practical, Spirit-led action.

The training was scheduled for November 15 and was to be facilitated by John and myself. Though the event was ultimately canceled due to the hurricane, the preparation time was not wasted. It clarified our direction and strengthened our resolve to continue investing in leadership development.





PREPARING FOR GO-GAMES VBS IN GAYLE

Also in early October, we began preparing for a Go-Games VBS in the community of Gayle. A team from Chantilly Bible Church expressed interest in coming to Jamaica in late December, and we sensed that partnering together would be a meaningful way to serve.

Alongside the Chantilly team, we planned curriculum, games, and resources, while also training our current TFA leaders to minister effectively in Gayle. This VBS had two clear objectives. First, to support and strengthen the local church in Gayle, which has been struggling and lacks an active youth fellowship. Second, to train and stretch our TFA leaders, helping them take ownership of ministry and deepen their commitment to God.





HURRICANE MELISSA

On the afternoon of October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa made landfall in Jamaica. It was a devastating storm. Western Jamaica suffered severe destruction, while the east—where we are located—also experienced significant damage.

Many of the community members we serve were directly impacted. Utilities and communication systems were down for at least three weeks, and large areas of the country remained without power. The hurricane dramatically altered our plans and shifted our focus from programming to presence, care, and compassion.





J-TEAM AND RELIEF EFFORTS

In early November, shortly after the hurricane, the J-Team arrived. It was a very difficult week physically and emotionally. With limited resources and ongoing challenges, we gave all that we had to meet immediate needs. Our time was spent assessing damage, supporting affected families, and responding as best as we could in the midst of uncertainty.

A week later, a Relief J-Team arrived with much-needed supplies. During that week, we were able to distribute food bags to over 200 families. These resources were a lifeline, and the relief effort was a tangible expression of God's care for those who were hurting.

Due to the impact of the hurricane, the BTCJ Leadership Training scheduled for November 15 was officially canceled. All remaining energy and resources were redirected toward the upcoming Go-Games VBS.





DECEMBER: CELEBRATION AND CONNECTION

December brought moments of joy and relief after a heavy season. We hosted our TFA end-of-year celebration, including a dinner for all students. Gifts were given to the Wednesday and Friday groups, while the Thursday group participated in a gift exchange. It was a night filled with laughter, gratitude, and genuine fellowship—a reminder that joy is also a vital part of discipleship.





GO-GAMES VBS IN GAYLE

On December 28, we officially kicked off the Go-Games VBS in Gayle. Eight of our young leaders served alongside eleven members from Chantilly Bible Church. Together, we prayed, played, taught, and served. Bonds were formed, friendships grew, and ministry became shared rather than separate.

One of the most encouraging outcomes was the continued connection after VBS. Some of the VBS participants in Gayle and our youth leaders formed a WhatsApp group to stay in touch. Likewise, the Chantilly youth and our leaders created their own group, maintaining relationships beyond the trip. These connections speak to the depth of what God did during that time.





LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

As we step into 2026, our prayer is that this will be a year of commitment, especially for our young leaders. They have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. They enjoy serving Him, and many are sensing a deeper call to follow Christ fully.

With this in mind, we are planning a baptism in August as an opportunity for them to publicly declare their faith and commitment to Christ.

Our strategy moving forward is clear: to invest intentionally in these young leaders, equip them for greater ministry, provide real opportunities to serve and grow, and most importantly, help them learn to obey all that Christ has commanded.

Also, our BTCJ Leadership Training is rescheduled for the 31st of January 2026.

Despite storms, setbacks, and changes, we are grateful. God has been faithful, and the work He has begun among us is still unfolding.

