

# Restoring hope and

Imagine walking barefoot through garbage and filth as you hurry home before the rains come.

Your house, made of sticks, cardboard and scrap materials, offers little protection from the storm, but it's all you have. Together, you and your family huddle inside as you feel the rain come through the roof and watch the water seep through the walls. The dirt floor at your feet turns to mud.

The lightning and thunder are frightening and you're afraid the wind will knock over your house. You turn to your mother and say, "Mommy, I'm scared."

***"Comfort, give comfort to My people, says your God." (Isaiah 40:1)***

The only comfort she can offer you is a loving hug and a few soothing words. She is unable to hold back her tears as once again her heart is breaking for her family.

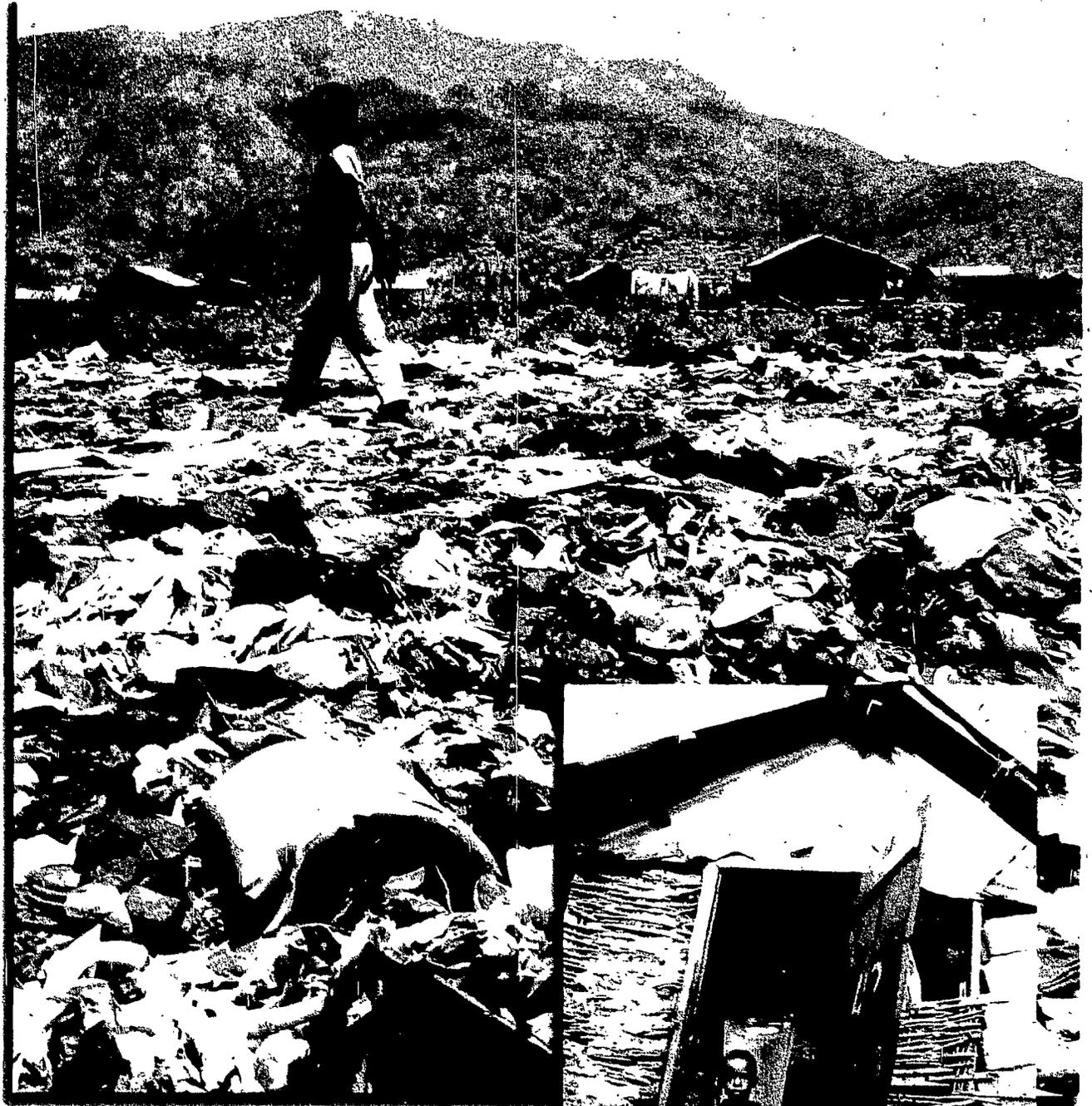
Imagine that this is your life.

For the Deshommes family living in Cap Haitien, Haiti, this is reality. Their faith in God is their only source of hope.

Yvonne Deshommes and her husband, Jason, care for their three children and a



**Jason Deshommes struggles daily to provide for his family.**



**Throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, families must raise their children in deplorable conditions and unsafe houses.**

niece, whose mother died. The recent storms, a depressed economy and squalid living conditions make each day a struggle for survival.

Every day poses difficulties for Yvonne and her family. Her children suffer from skin diseases caused by the contaminated water that surrounds their home. "We pray a lot," Yvonne says. "I ask Him to help us with education for the kids, for good health, for some food and the courage to

face our lives. I ask Him to provide a better life for us." A safe home with solid walls, a roof that doesn't leak, and a concrete

foundation would change Yvonne and her family's lives forever. Having a door that locks would mean that the children could go to school and the parents could look for

work without the fear of thieves taking what few belongings the family has.

A home would bring dignity to their lives and give peace of mind. The children's

