



Hope Prayer Chain

October 2011

“I am poor and needy, but, Lord God, you care about me, and you come to my rescue. Please hurry and help.”

— Psalm 40:17 (Contemporary English Version)

www.worldvision.org

Pray for those affected by natural disasters around the world

Disasters can strike unexpectedly – any time, anywhere. Consider the devastating earthquakes in Haiti and Japan, the deadly tornados in the Midwest, severe flooding in Pakistan, Hurricane Irene, and the wildfires in Texas. Other disasters, such as the extreme drought happening now in the Horn of Africa, can unfold over months or even years. Sadly, according to the United Nations, 90 percent of those impacted by disasters live in developing countries where resources are already in short supply.

We covet your prayers for those suffering from natural disasters, and for those who are and will be ministering to them.

Suggested prayer points

Pray for a heart to help. When a disaster strikes far from home, we can easily push the tragedy from our minds. We care, of course, but not the way we would care if the survivors were members of our own family. But they are our family, and our Father loves them so much that He sent His only Son to die for them. When World Vision volunteers assemble personal hygiene and flood clean-up kits, they play a critical role in making life better for a suffering brother or sister whom they have yet to meet.

Dear Lord, even though we've never met them, help us to remember our brothers and sisters who are hurting today, and give us a heart to help them heal.



Pray for preparedness. Scripture tells us that we serve a God of order Who honors thoughtful planning. The story of Joseph is an excellent example of how God inspires the righteous to plan for times of disaster and to be ready to respond when it happens (Gen. 41: 33-37, 46-56). World Vision is prepared to respond through strategically located disaster response warehouses that are stocked with relief supplies for rapid shipment anywhere in the world. We train our staff and community leaders to prepare for disasters and have a Global Rapid Response Team ready to deploy within 24 to 72 hours of a disaster.

Dear Lord, help us to stay vigilant. Give us Your wisdom and discernment. Help us to be ready at all times to reach out and help those whose lives are harmed by natural disasters.

Pray for the emotional healing of children. Disasters are especially frightening for young people. That's why World Vision makes a concerted effort to help them heal. In the wake of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami, World Vision constructed seven Child-Friendly Spaces to give children a chance to recover from the disaster's emotional and psychological toll. Young ones participate in art therapy and structured activities designed to help them return to a normal, stable environment.

Dear Lord, provide people who will give Your little ones the love and support they need to recover physically and emotionally. Every day, please tangibly remind them that You are right there with them.

Pray for refugees. More than half a million people have left their homes because of extreme drought in the Horn of Africa, many fleeing to the world's largest refugee camp in Dadaab, Kenya. The complex sits on a windswept plain near the Somali border. World Vision is serving the sick and vulnerable families in the camp, supplying thousands of tents that help protect from malaria, weather, and snakes. World Vision is also distributing emergency kits that include blankets, mosquito nets, buckets, cooking utensils, and personal hygiene items.

Dear Lord, Isaiah 25:4 says, "You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat." Thank You for providing a place of refuge for the desperate families in the Horn of Africa. Help these hurting people

heal, and give them hope that they can return to their homes.

Pray for protection. The days and weeks after a natural disaster can be especially dangerous. Families anxious to return home can be injured by debris. Accidents, malnutrition, disease, and exploitation threaten children separated from their parents. Emergency workers with relief supplies can be physically assaulted. When power is lost and sanitation is impacted, everyone is at risk for life-threatening illnesses.

Dear Lord, be a hedge of protection around Your suffering children. Keep them from danger as they seek to rebuild their lives. And protect those who gave up the safety of their homes to go and help others in their time of need.

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World Vision United States – Building a Better World for Children
World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice.

In 2009, 89 percent of World Vision's total operating expenses were used for programs that benefit children, families, and communities in need.

World Vision Donor Services
34834 Weyerhaeuser Way S.
P.O. Box 9716, Mail Stop 110
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

Phone: 1.888.511.6514
Web: www.worldvision.org
E-mail: info@worldvision.org

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