



Three Phases of Relief

PHASE ONE

(Much of this in partnership with CRASH/Japan)

- 1) Helped deliver over 30 tons of relief supplies— food, diapers, hygiene products, soap, toilet paper, bicycles, clothing, blankets, water and bedding;
- 2) Even larger amounts of relief supplies have been facilitated in cooperation with major international Christian aid organizations such as Samaritan’s Purse and Food for the Hungry;
- 3) Facilitated several advance teams totaling over 100 volunteers mobilized into the disaster areas doing assessment, delivering supplies, shoveling mud out of homes, performing light demolition work, engaging in emotional care, praying with exhausted pastors, and countless other acts of simple kindness;
- 4) Helped coordinate more than 300 volunteers involved either part-time or full-time at CRASH headquarters answering phones, receiving and shipping relief supplies, preparing counseling resources, establishing communications channels for remote teams, updating the website, developing media resources to mobilize Christians worldwide, cooking meals for workers, etc.
- 5) Help launch regional bases for volunteer operations have spanning from the north to the south of the earthquake/tsunami/ nuclear reactor zones



PHASE TWO

- 1) We are supporting the work of several regional bases run by local churches throughout the summer months. These bases include the following key churches and networks:
 - A. Iwate Prefecture
 - 1) Rev. Yoshiya Kondo - Morioka Bible Baptist Church Iwate Network <http://311.ichurch.jp/>
 - B. Miyagi Prefecture
 - 2) Rev. Yukikazu Otomo - Shiogama Bible Baptist Church
 - 3) Rev. Makito Matsuda - Oasis Chapel/Rifu Christ Church
 - 4) Rev. Nobuyoshi Nagai - Tohoku Central Church/ Kakudai Institute for Mission/ Gospel Town

Pastor Nagai is also the leader of Alpha/Japan [<http://alphajapan.jp/>]
 - C. Regional Network
 - 5) Be One/Hope for Tohoku - Dr. Mitsuo Fukuda <http://www.onfirejapan.com/tohoku/en/>
- 2) Relief Teams: During June and July, four U.S. teams served with Asian Access staff in hard-hit regions. Teams worked with Be One, Samaritans Purse, and local Japanese congregations. They assisted in supply distribution, children’s events, cleaning, demolition, listening to people’s stories, and sharing Christ when the opportunity presented itself. Highlights of the summer included getting Ishinomaki residents connected with local churches, meeting tangible needs, finding opportunities for fun with neighborhood kids to help them deal with their trauma, and watching the teams joyfully serve in some very difficult and sometimes disgusting situations.

PHASE THREE

Rev. Jiro Chida, who serves on our board in Japan, is the coordinator for all the key hub churches listed above. We highlighted him praying for a revival in this video report: a Tsunami of Love: <http://www.asianaccess.org/tsunami-of-love>

Pastor Chida is working alongside our Japanese board to strategically make the most of this moment for the Gospel. He is a ‘behind the scenes’ type of leader who is mentoring and coaching these pastors as they seek to plant churches that will serve as centers of community transformation in the affected regions. Various church groups are moving to plant several churches:

- 1. Pastor Nagai (listed above) wants to see 100 new churches in the affected communities.
- 2. Conservative Baptist Churches, inspired by Pastor Hiroshi Kawasaki – director of our work in Japan, hopes to plant 50 new churches in the region.
- 3. Pastor Kondo (listed above) is hoping to see churches planted in the largely unreached coastal areas of Iwate.
- 4. Pastor Masamoto Higa of International Family Church in Takasaki envisions a church for all 86 communities that have been completely washed away. <http://www.asianaccess.org/86-communities>

To implement Phase III, we are waiting for the Japanese government to unveil its Master Re-development Plan, due out soon. With this in place, Pastor Chida and our board, will incorporate these ideas into a strategic long-term plan—corresponding with our A2 strategic ministry plan for 2015—that we will present to our international board this autumn.



More Info

- 1. Give: <http://asianaccess.org/japan>
- 2. Go: <http://go2japan.org>
- 3. Pray Informed/Updates: <http://asianaccess.org/tsunami-posts>

Meeting Physical & Spiritual Needs in Japan

AN UPDATE ON A2’s JAPAN TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORTS
Summer 2011

“If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.” ISAIAH 58:10



from the President

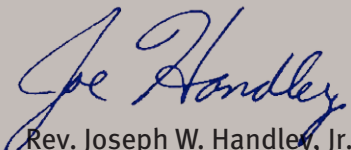
Thank you for your wonderful gifts to help the Japanese people. The Lord is using these funds to build momentum for what many are now calling “Japan’s Hour for the Gospel”.

I have never before seen a moment like this for the Gospel in Japan. Therefore, we are dedicating all we can to reach Japan at this crucial hour for Christ in the country. Over and over again, I hear stories of the openness of Japanese people toward accepting Christ. These next 3-5 years are essential for the Gospel’s advance in Japan.

Asian Access offers its deepest thanks to all those who have given to help the Japanese in their hour of need. Thank you for giving, especially as the media attention has long faded away and people have forgotten the great needs and opportunity that exist in Japan.

This is a brief report of how the funds have been used to date, with a forward look ahead.

In Christ,


Rev. Joseph W. Handley, Jr.
President, Asian Access



March 11, 2011 will forever be etched in our minds as a day that our worlds in Japan came crashing in with the earthquake and tsunami.

To date, over 20,000 people are listed as dead or missing. Lives, homes, schools, businesses—even entire communities—were washed away within minutes. Those who did survive were left to pick up the pieces while facing a nuclear disaster. The people to whom God has called us to love—the people of our hearts—experienced one of the most devastating events in the history of Japan. And our hearts were, and are, with them.

A2 POSITIONED TO RESPOND

We thank God for graciously placing Asian Access in a unique position to respond to some of the huge needs brought on by these

triple calamities. Because we have always partnered with local churches, we were able to quickly assess the needs of those hardest hit by the tsunami and earthquake and join up with many of the churches to offer help.

Six days before the 9.0 quake, a group of Asian Access missionaries attended a one-day seminar on disaster training. The four men on the team were able to prepare two tons of supplies and deliver them to disaster victims in northern Japan just a week later. Three remained for two weeks to establish a base camp in Sendai, as well as visit area churches and pastors and bring much-needed supplies, encouragement, and hope. Three additional staff also traveled to different churches where we have strong ties, assessing how A2 can strategically serve these churches in the months to come.

During the first few months, the overwhelming immediate needs of the hundreds of thousands affected have been the basics: food, clothing, and shelter. The generosity of friends who have given to Asian Access' Japan Tsunami Relief Fund has allowed staff to deliver tons and tons of these supplies in person to evacuation centers, neighborhoods where people are living in homes that have no electricity or running water, as well as government high-rises where thousands are living in despair. Several A2 staff members have built ongoing relationships at local evacuation centers, where over 125,000 are still living. Our missionaries have partnered with a network of house churches in the city of Ishinomaki that are making an incredible impact city-wide as they continue to distribute tons of supplies every week, as well as go door-to-door doing home repairs, fixing up parks, and clearing out the mountains of debris deposited by the tsunami.

INNOVATIVE RELIEF MINISTRY

Hosting huge outdoor barbecues is one innovative way we've

served thousands of these victims in the city of Ishinomaki. For several days teams of volunteers pulled together local community members to clean up neighborhood parks. Then hundreds of people flocked together to celebrate their hard work with American-style BBQ. One group staying at an evacuation center remarked that this was the only cooked meat they had had for seven weeks, since the tsunami. In addition to the special food and clothes these victims have received, thousands of people have been offered something even more significant: hope. Our staff have loved hearing the laughter of children playing in the clean parks ... seeing elderly women in evacuation centers smile as they receive a new scarf or underwear ... helping families move back into their homes because they have finally been cleared of water and debris.

MINISTERING TO PASTORS

In early scouting trips, we discovered that pastors were overwhelmed with trying to help their communities. So in June, we partnered together with Churches Helping Churches to provide an "Oasis"—a retreat for pastors and their spouses following the March 11th earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown. Other partners included the Billy Graham Association, and Alpha Japan, to provide a place of respite in the midst of the challenges facing NE Japan (the Eastern Tohoku region).

KEEPING THE WHOLE GOSPEL IN MIND

Throughout our history, Asian Access has focused on meeting spiritual needs in this nation where less than one percent believe

in Jesus. We have focused on starting and strengthening churches, as well as training Japanese pastors to lead those churches. Since March 11, however, we realize we have an additional task we cannot ignore:

"The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." ISAIAH 61:1

We are now able to combine our expertise and passion to meet spiritual needs with the mandate brought on by the disaster to care for the brokenhearted, feed the hungry, and comfort orphans and widows in their distress.

As we look to the coming months and years of relief, recovery, and rebuilding, we are ever aware of the huge size of the task. But we are thrilled that God has placed Asian Access in a unique position to be ready to respond, and we anticipate that God will use our history, our trained missionary personnel and staff, and our partnership with many churches to be a strategic part of His plan to join in not just rebuilding communities but also being part of a new work that we believe God has in store. We are hopeful for many hearts to turn to their Savior. We are trusting that God will bring new vision to the Japanese church. While we continue to send short-term teams to the devastated areas, we are also working on a long-term strategic plan of partnering missionaries in the disaster areas with visionary churches who will together be able to have a long-term impact.

