

Call to prayer for Japan

17th March 2011

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

It is with deep concern, that we are watching the developments in Japan. We know that God, in His loving and wise sovereignty, is in control. And we also know that we, as Christians and as His children, have a special responsibility to pray. We are here to bless the nations and bring glory to our God. Could we ask you to join us in prayer with your church, fellowship or home group and stand together to bring the following before the throne of God?

Nuclear Power Plants

The situation in the nuclear plants is uncertain. Expert engineers and technicians are working around the clock to keep the cooling of the rods going. Let us pray that the living God would hold His hands over the power plants, the reactor cores, the cooling systems and everything related.

Lord, we pray that You might move your right Hand to bring relief to this precarious situation. We acknowledge that only You can bring a turn of events.

The Japanese People

Japan has not experienced as deep a calamity as this one, since the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of WWII. The earthquake, the aftershocks, the tsunami, the snowfall in the affected areas, the lack of fuel, electricity and food, all of this is truly stretching the Japanese people. Pray for the hundreds of thousands of homeless people, for those grieving, for the injured and for those, who are uncertain as to the whereabouts of their loved ones. Pray also, for those responsible for the power plants, for the government, for the emperor, who is still honored as god, that they may be given wisdom in every decision. From a Christian perspective, we see that the Japanese people are the biggest unreached people group world-wide (sociologists estimate that only 1.6% of the population of 127 million, are Christians). It is especially in North-East Japan, that area which has been most badly affected by the catastrophe, where the love of God is practically unknown.

Lord, we ask for Your Hand of healing upon the lives of so many physically and spiritually needy Japanese.

The Relief Workers

Many Japanese as well as foreign volunteers are involved in the relief operations under sometimes dangerous circumstances. A number of missionary agencies are working in Japan. They have the responsibility of informing and advising their co-workers wisely and to help them to be there for the Japanese people who are in their greatest time of need right now. Pray that those responsible might experience God's guidance as they need to make some very difficult decisions. Pray also for His peace for the families of co-workers back home. The Japanese local churches are a testimony to God's love by the way in which they are reaching out to help those in need. May God's children be bold and certain of His love in these days.

Lord, we pray, that by Your grace, the people of Japan might see You as the God of all comfort, Who reaches out to them and desires to give them Your hope through new spiritual life.

The Japan Evangelical Missionary Association (JEMA) has created a Sendai Earthquake Relief Fund (information under <http://www.jema.org/joomla15/> or <http://www.crashjapan.com/>).