

Pentecostal Church of Chile
Curicó, March 22, 2011

2 Corinthians 2:4,7 He comforts us when we are in trouble, so that we can share that same comfort with others in trouble... You suffered as much as we did, and we know that you will be comforted as we were.

To our esteemed Brothers and Sisters in Japan:

In these times of advanced technology and telecommunications, it would seem that cybernetic reality is our foremost connector with its newscasts, Internet, and social networks. However, in the past days, we have been reminded of even stronger and more tangible links. We are joined together by the sea, the earth and the air. On February 27th, 2010, in Chile we suffered a devastating earthquake which caused a tsunami alert on the coasts of Japan. Almost exactly a year later, another earthquake of even greater magnitude generated a massive evacuation of the entire coastal region of Chile. We know what it feels like in our own flesh and blood: the pain, the disorientation, the exhaustion and the constant earth tremors that engender panic and don't allow for sleep.

The earth trembles, the sea rises up, the air is contaminated with radioactive material, but we, who have believed in the Prince of Peace, do not lose hope. Thus, our faith is an even deeper and more secure tie, not only in suffering and pain, but also in consolation, prayer and mutual support. As Saint Paul says in his first letter to the Corinthians, "If one part of our body hurts, we hurt all over." As we have part in your suffering, we also wish to share with you the same comfort which we have received.

Along with this letter, we want to send to you a solidarity offering on behalf of your brothers and sisters in Christ from the Pentecostal Church of Chile. We have wanted to send you this offering in the name of Pastor David Vargas, who has been a bearer of consolation and hope in the Lord. On the occasion of his retirement as President of Global Ministries and in honor of his many years of service and ministry not only in Latin America and the Caribbean but in the whole world, we have dedicated this offering to the Lord as a sign of our gratitude to his dedicated commitment to strengthening the Body of Christ and encouraging us so that together we might be a living and hope-filled presence in the moments of greatest spiritual, physical, emotional or economic need.

With our prayers and sincere wishes that you might receive peace, that peace which the world cannot understand, we bid you farewell.

Fraternally, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Bishop Ulises Muñoz Moraga
Iglesia Pentecostal de Chile

Pastor Sergio Veloso
President, Iglesia Pentecostal de Chile