

# JAPAN TSUNAMI RELIEF OUTREACH 2011

The tsunami of March 2011 has had widespread devastation across much of north-east Japan where millions of people have been severely impacted. The situation is nothing short of extreme dire shock.



Christian Surfers Japan (CSJ) has been involved with an organization named CRASH who has been delivering relief to the desperately needy in the north-east regions. Only recently have some locations become accessible and these teams were some of the first to provide relief in these areas. Examples of their involvement include delivering food, water and other essentials; foot washing and counselling services; cleaning people's homes that have been filled with stinking black mud left from the receding waters. The specific needs of the effected population is constantly changing as more and more relief teams are mobilized , but one major need remains above all – the love, mercy and grace of our Lord.

Many reports have been received which indicate that the tangible desperation of the effected people have left them open and realizing of their spiritual emptiness. Japan has always been known as the mission graveyard and has always been an extremely difficult culture to break into, but now Japan is more open than ever and the people are ready for Gods message of salvation to come through tangible and practical demonstrations of his love and comfort.

CSJ has indicated that the needs are overwhelming, the opportunities are available but the man-power is few.

***Matthew 9:39: Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."***

At no other time in history has the harvest in Japan been so plentiful and so there is a request to see a relief team sent to Japan to reach their tangible and spiritual needs.

This document outlines the intent to mobilise an outreach team to Japan over the next few months (May/June) and invites you to become involved in this team as a leader or as a team participant.

## **Timing**

The need is now so prompt mobilisation is required. Ideal duration would be between 7-10 days.



### **Outreach Primary Activities**

The primary activities of an outreach team will vary as the needs of the people vary. Your gifts as an individual should be made known to the leader so they can be used to their full potential. Below is a list of what has been done in relief teams to date:



- Cleaning houses of residue mud - predominantly to those who are elderly or have no assistance;
- Counselling in the form of listen to those sharing their stories – CSJ have been involved in a foot washing ministry and have found amazing opportunities to share Gods love through this;
- Delivery of essentials (food, water, clothing etc);
- Entertainment – evacuation and relief centres can be places of gloom and boredom, working with children can be a huge blessing to those children and their families.

The locations the team will be visiting is among some of the most severely impacted locations and are without electricity, running water etc. Conditions on this outreach will be basic – potentially no running water, many days without showers, temperatures are low, sleeping on the wooded church floor etc.

Please consider these conditions and your ability to perform within this environment in your expressed interest to the outreach.

Team sizes ideally would be between 5-8 people. Teams will be connecting with established churches so that those whom the team assists will be connected to local churches in the long term.

### **Costs**

Flights – according to your location and available specials but could be in the order of \$1200

On ground costs (accommodation, food, transport etc) – approximately \$500-\$1000

Outreach costs (equipment, resources etc) – approximately (\$300 - \$500)

### **Risks**

Japan is currently a potentially very dangerous environment. Tremors and after-shocks are occurring frequently, the risk of nuclear power plant melt down is looming and radiation levels are of concern in locations. The team leader will direct the team in a responsible manner which does not knowingly place any team member under obvious health and safety risks. All government recommendations and warnings (both Japanese and from country of origin) will be abided by and the mobilisation of the team will be subject to this advice. It is important that those interested in the outreach understand that they will be entering Japan at their own risk and the leader and/or Christian Surfers do not take responsibility for the individual's decision.

If you are interested in being involved in an outreach trip to Japan for tsunami relief or if there is some other way in which you believe you can assist (financially or prayerfully) please contact Ben Morris on 0266814939 or 0437 449 526 or email [ben.morris@smec.com](mailto:ben.morris@smec.com)