

I'm sorry it's been almost a month since I've written anything concerning the earthquake and the aftermath here. We are still working on a number of things that have to do with our response to the earthquake. I've written a tract that has to do entirely with the earthquake. The first portion of it tells the story of what happens, and then the tract transitions into a message of hope for those who have suffered. The tract is currently with the graphic designer, and we hope to have it printed this week or the next. Please pray that God will use it in a great way. We want to make it available to as many churches in the earthquake region as possible.

Many of you have given very generously toward the needs here. I want to let you know what we are doing with the funds that have been given toward the earthquake victims. One of the needs that have surfaced in the last few weeks is that the pastors in the region are dealing with lower incomes and higher expenses for a period of time. Most of them live very sacrificially as it is. With encouragement from missionaries and pastors here we decided to give the equivalent of a month's salary (about \$160) to each of the 13 pastors in the Baptist association of Ica.

The larger projects that we are working on involve the rebuilding of homes. There is a pastor in Ica, Juan Oliveros, who lost his home completely. When they are ready to rebuild we plan to give a portion of the earthquake relief funds to him to help rebuild his home. The pastor we have worked with most directly through all this is Pastor Manuel Rojas. His house is in need of being rebuilt, and, thankfully, Baptist Mid-Missions is helping Manuel with that. I'm planning to wait and see if they need any help from us to finish that or whether we should channel any funds to church folks who have needs with their homes.

Lord willing, I will be going down to be with Pastor Manuel and his church the first weekend in October. We plan to take the new tract and begin distribution in the area. Mark Ring, from South Carolina, will be with us that weekend and he is bringing 3000 children's CD's for us to distribute in the region. It will also be a chance for me to assess the needs again so we can make good decisions on how to best use the funds that have been given. Please pray for God's blessing on that trip.