



DEVOTIONS

Day 10: International Disaster Response

Bible Reading:

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.”

(Psalm 46:1-3, NRSV)

Quote:

“I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand the generosity and compassion of people worldwide, banding together to alleviate human suffering.”

(Melissa Crutchfield, UMCOR executive)

Prayer:

For Haiti

God of the living and the dead, we wail in grief at the pain and loss and horror and distress of our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

We do not understand your ways— that those who already suffer the most, now suffer so much more. Lead us to repentance, that we who have sinned so much are punished so little, and they who already struggle have now impossible burdens to bear.

Where people are still breathing under collapsed buildings, give them air and hope and courageous searchers.

Where children are injured or orphaned, find them trusted friends and generous caregivers.

Where despair is infectious and disease or looting spreads, bring patience and forbearance and healing and strength to conquer temptation.

And when others look with compassion from afar, release resources, empower expertise, shape political will, and bring deliverance for your people in their distress.

Through him who was crushed and bruised for us, in the comfort of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(The Rev. Sam Wells, Dean of Duke University Chapel)

Questions for Reflection:

- How can we trust and believe in God when the news from the world confuses and frightens us?
- How can we find comfort in the Holy Spirit?

