

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RICK LANCE
Alabama State Board of Missions

Everyone Can Pray

Even before the earthquake in Haiti, Baptist leaders have habitually spoken of praying, giving and going. As I've noted before, prayer of course must be the first priority and is most important. Every believer can pray for the people of Haiti and for those who minister to them in their homeland and at remote points of refuge.

Some Can Go

Going will also be possible for a number of Baptists who travel either to Haiti or to key points in Florida. We hope soon to have details to announce in the days ahead about where this deployment will be needed and what kinds of skills and gifts will be needed by the volunteers who go.

Everyone Can Give

Giving, even a little, should also be likewise possible for all Christians. Our initial appeal has been for funds, which is certainly the most effective way to have maximum impact because 100 percent of disaster relief funds received will be used to help the people of Haiti. Administrative costs are provided through the Cooperative Program, which has already put in place the Florida Baptist Convention staff as well as state missionaries at Alabama's own State Board of Missions.

It is evident that Alabama Baptists are eager to help. Churches have responded with generosity in the form of disaster relief offerings given through the State Board of Missions. In addition, we are receiving a brisk and intense wave of e-mails and telephone calls asking, "How can we help beyond money? What else can we give?"

We are eager to announce ways to do just that once details are worked out by our staffs. I wish I could tell you the details right now, but I do want to assure you that we've heard the heart cry of Alabama Baptists who are eager for hands-on missions opportunities and for opportunities to share life's goods with those in need.

Thank You, Alabama Baptists!

Thanks, Alabama Baptists, for continuing to support missions through the Cooperative Program, which enables your state missionaries to assist Alabama Baptists with Great Commission Ministries.