

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1044

March 8, 2015

Four years ago in 2011 during this week there was the fifth largest earthquake recorded since 1900 under the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Japan. It was so powerful that the Earth was moved on it's axis. Soon afterwards, a tsunami with 23 foot waves moving at nearly 600 miles per hour crashed into the coast of Japan, moving the coast of Japan 8 feet.



I could not help but notice during much of the footage how people quickly and instantly changed what they were doing that morning. They left behind businesses, homes, and automobiles, and in most cases, these items left the people behind as the material things were literally swept away.

Many perished in this event and no doubt many were swept back out to sea to never be found.

There are many spiritual lessons which can be learned from this event.

1. **Life is fragile and death can come quickly.** No one had any idea what was about to happen to them. They knew they were going to die—someday. They just didn't expect it to be last week.
2. **Material things are unimportant.** Within moments, houses and possessions were washed away. There were reports of entire villages being destroyed. People work hard, and often will go to extreme measures, to build up material possessions, but in a moment, they can be literally swept away.
3. **We are richly blessed.** Some of the most needed things of the people in the hardest hit areas are some of the things we take for granted. They have no electricity, no clean water, and extremely unsanitary conditions. We can go to the kitchen sink and get a virtually endless supply of what many of them need most, but do not have.
4. **It's easy to overlook impending danger.** There was no warning of the earthquake and little or no warning of the tsunami. Even ships on the ocean would not have noticed it because the force is underneath the surface of the water until it hits the shore.

So many things in life are like that. There are situations, associates, things we do, places we visit, that are filled with hidden spiritual dangers. If we are not watchful and vigilant, they will overwhelm us like flood waters.

5. **People do not heed warnings.** Many often complain when there are natural events such as this that the government did not do more to warn them. Even if the technology had been there to give advance warning, most people would not have evacuated thinking it would not affect them or it would not be as bad as they said it would be.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

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News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, and Shirley Parson. Steve Seaton** has not been well and has been unable to be with us for a few weeks.

—Tonight our Sunday evening services return to 6:00 p.m.

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Consider all those who perish from drinking and driving or other substance abuse. The warnings have been issued for decades, yet people continue to ignore them, thinking it cannot happen to them.

The Lord warns us over and over in the pages of the Bible of spiritual dangers, yet most do not heed those warnings.

The loss of life in the earthquake and tsunami is indeed staggering and tragic, but the real tragedy is knowing how many died out of the Lord. We are reminded how important it is that we take the gospel to the world before even more perish in the overwhelming flood waters of sin.

—Marty Edwards ❖

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In 1876 an invention changed society forever.

It was in that year that Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone. For the first time in history, people could talk in real-time without being near each other. In the 139 years that have since passed, the number of telephones in the United States has grown to well over 125 million— about one phone for every two people. Most people now have a mobile phone with them or beside them at all times.



The telephone is probably one of the most convenient inventions we have. We can quickly get in touch with the proper people in time of emergencies. With it we are able to conduct business from our homes, receive news from afar, and when we travel, we can continually keep in touch with our families. *continued on back page...*

Sunday, March 1, 2015		
Classes	20	I Corinthians 1:1-16
Preaching	28	Luke 2:41-51
Contribution	\$457.10	
Evening	17	Singing
Wednesday, March 4, 2015		
Classes	—	no services due to severe winter weather

Visitors— Mar 1 (AM) Kaylee Bunnell (Munfordville)
Mar 1 (PM) Kaylee Bunnell (Munfordville)

Bible Quiz

How old was Jehoash when he began to reign?

Last Week's Answer— Seventy (II Kings 10:1)

Most people would not stay away from their families for very long without calling them, but many go for extended periods without calling upon the Lord through prayer. In Jeremiah 33:3 the Lord said, *“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”* In I Thessalonians 5:17, Paul wrote, *“Pray without ceasing.”* Prayer is a wonderful gift Christians have. Use it often.

—Marty Edwards

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)