

Horn of Africa Famine Appeal

Dear friend,

The world has been shocked by a series of sudden and ferocious natural disasters this year: state wide flooding in Queensland; deadly earthquakes in Christchurch; and Japan's triple disaster - earthquake, tsunami and radiation threat. While the world's media has clambered over one another to beam pictures of these unfolding disasters right into your living room, a deadly famine has crept silently through the Horn of Africa with little of the world's attention.

Not enough rain has fallen for two consecutive years in Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan & Uganda, countries collectively known as the **Horn of Africa** (for its physical shape). A drought this severe has not been seen in the area for over 60 years. The impact of the drought has skyrocketed already high grain prices, devastated livestock mortality rates and encouraged conflict and exacerbated the restriction of humanitarian access to some areas.

10 million people are affected by the famine. 1 in 3 children are suffering malnutrition. Refugee camps are filling up with despondent people faced with agonizing decisions about life and death for family members.

In **Uganda** our local distribution partner, Pastor Solomon Mwesige, told us about a young pregnant mother that was sitting on an ant hill with a stick. The mother was trying to collect ants to feed her hungry children and herself. "I've never seen something like this. Never." explains Pastor Solomon, "it is extremely, extremely bad." Costs continue to skyrocket after yet another planting season has been lost. Just a handful of flour can cost a day's wage.

In **Kenya**, ABC news reported a story of a mother who abandoned her 6 children at home. No longer able to bear the anxiety of caring for her children, nor the thought of watching them die, she fled to a UN refugee camp. When UN workers learned of the situation and eventually reached the home, 2 of her children could not be saved. Starvation is forcing families and their children to travel on foot to refugee camps - often 6 weeks hike in distance. Those that make the journey arrive covered in sores and wounds. They are acutely malnourished, and completely dehydrated.

In **Sudan**, our local distribution partner, Pastor LoNathan has been looking after two children, 9 year old Janet & 13 year old Denis, who fled for lives from their very own mother. After their father died at a young age, the mother was not coping with medical costs for a new born baby and felt forced to strangle her baby and bury her son in the bush. She was convicted, arrested and sentenced to two years in prison. On her release, the mother apparently tried again to solve this problem permanently. This time relatives intervened and contacted Pastor LoNathan to take care of these children.

Many of distribution partners in these countries have ongoing feeding programs for children as part of the "EveryChild EveryDay" program, but this crisis is affecting whole families not ordinarily covered by the program. Our distribution partners are doing their best to stretch their resources and share we so many people in the greatest need - but all our partners need an emergency boost of food resources to see their nation through this drought.

Substantial rain is not expected for another six months. "We need a miracle. We don't have enough food. Please, please pray for us." pleads Pastor Solomon.

Please heed Pastor Solomon's please and join us in prayer for a miraculous, super-natural, divine intervention in this tragic situation. Pray for gentle, soothing rain that will prepare the soil for planting. Pray for water to fall from heaven that will bring life and strength to a desolate land. people. Pray for miraculous multiplication of food in distribution hubs across the region. Pray for stretching, of all related resources, that does not break. Pray for our workers and distribution partners that they do not weary in doing good. Pray for our Gospel workers that will provide bread for their bodies and bread for their souls. Pray the people of Africa will find Jesus - the source of living water - so that they will never thirst again.

FTH workers all over the world encounter families that literally pray, "Our Father which art in Heaven... give us this day our daily bread." This is not just a poetic stanza to them, it's a heartfelt prayer of desperation. You can help answer that prayer.

Through established distribution hubs in affected areas, managed under the careful watch of trusted Pastors LoNathan and Solomon we can greatly increase our distributions in affected areas. We continue to look for new distribution hubs to be established to make sure your donations helps get food to those that need it most.

Even if substantial rains fell today, it will take another three months to plant and harvest the crops. While food costs have quadrupled, we can still purchase food from our suppliers and *deliver* it for about 12 cents a meal. That means your gift of **\$100** will provide **833** meals today.

Please prayerfully consider sending your best donation to the Horn of Africa famine appeal.
Voice for the Hungry,



Benjamin Evans
Operations Manager
FTH Australia & New Zealand

-----✂-----

Yes, I want to help! Please accept my donation of: \$50 \$30 \$100 Other\$ _____

- For: Horn of Africa Famine Appeal
 Feeding The Hungry (Used where it's needed most)
 Feeding EveryChild EveryDay (Orphanage support)
 Take Away Hunger (\$6 provides 100 meals)

- Please send me additional TAH Flyers _____
 Please send me the **Take Away Hunger Day** DVD
 Please send me additional field reports _____

- I pledge to send \$ _____ every month.
 Please send me information about Nicaragua Mission Trip

Other _____

CREDIT CARD

Card Number Expiry /

American Express Visa MasterCard

Cardholder's Name

Cardholder's Signature

Contact Phone number

Contact Email Address

CHEQUE / MONEY ORDER

Please make cheques and money orders out to "Feed The Hungry"

AUTO-DEBIT FORM:

Please send me information about debiting my bank account or credit card automatically each month.

DIRECT DEPOSITS

Deposits can be made directly through your local bank branch or online. We request that you use your contact name and project name as a reference with all direct deposits.

Australia:

BANK: Westpac Banking Corporation
BSB: 032-000
A/C: 36-1670

New Zealand

BANK: Bank of New Zealand
BSB: 020-528
A/C: 0447062-025

SUBSCRIBER #: Available by Request

MAIL MY RECEIPT TO:

E-MAIL MY RECEIPT TO:

NO RECEIPT REQUIRED

Thankyou for your support. Gifts received above a specified need, will be used for other Feed The Hungry programs where the need is greatest. Please note that donations to Feed The Hungry are not tax deductible and that receipts are issued for all donations unless otherwise requested.