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**Prayers for Haiti**

Dear Lord,

We intercede to you on behalf of the people of Haiti. The recent earthquake destroyed over 70,000 homes - each one occupied by an individual or a family; people made in the image of God and carrying a special dignity and worth that flows from that. For each of those families; children, parents and grandparents, we ask the blessing of your presence.

Strengthen and energise those organisations like Tearfund, and local churches and partners, who are on the ground making a difference. We pray that each emergency package of food aid, each offer of financial assistance to buy essentials, and each emergency shelter provided might speak loudly of the love and grace of Jesus. Increase provision and resource to those providing help and multiply the impact of that which is given.

And for the long-term development of towns and communities in Haiti, so often set back by events such as these, we pray that you undertake to see whole communities transformed; lifting themselves out of poverty.

We pray that you would equip the local church to take the lead - not just now in a time of emergency but in the future as communities rebuild.

We pray for those impacted by recent gang violence

- frustrate the plans of those who mean harm

- turn the hearts of individuals and groups towards you

- bring such a change that the very atmosphere is different.

For those grieving, or living in fear, we ask for your special provision – as you speak quietly and clearly: ‘Do not be afraid.’

Lord, bless the land and people of Haiti.

In Jesus name,

Amen.