



## **Resources for Teachers**

### **Prayer For Young Children**

Dear God, we thank you for your goodness. Bless the people of Haiti, especially the children, who need your loving care in a special way today. Help them to know how much you love them. Send them your Spirit to give them hope and courage. Help the doctors and nurses and other workers who are there to help them, as Jesus always helped those in need. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Discussing the Earthquake in Haiti with Young Children**

Primary grade children may have witnessed disturbing images from television and newspapers from the earthquake in Haiti. Even if parents have shielded them from the more disturbing images, they are probably aware that children in another part of the world have lost their homes, their parents, and even their lives. These images create insecurity and even fear, and may conflict with their previous experience of a loving, protecting God. To their parents will fall the principal task of allaying their fears. However, classroom teachers and catechists can support their efforts and assist them in helping to remind children of God's place in all that is happening.

Neither natural disasters nor any evil or harm can ever come from God, who is all-good and all-loving. Disasters come from extremes in the weather or, in this case, from movements from deep inside the earth. Sometimes people or animals get hurt by these events. Since God is love, God is present to anyone who is suffering. God cares for all people, just as we do. Our parents and teachers help us to be safe. Jesus' whole life showed us how to care for others, and the Holy Spirit gives us the courage to continue Jesus' work today.

We can see God's love at work through the outpouring of care and concern around the world, especially in the heroic efforts of doctors, nurses, and relief workers who are working in the disaster area.

## **Facts about Haiti**

Here are some simple visuals that you may wish to use in your religion classes to help children know a little more about the nation of Haiti and its large Catholic population. There are many more resources about the island nation of Haiti available through your Web browser.

[Map of Haiti](http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx008c.pdf) (http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx008c.pdf)

[Statistics about Archdiocese of Port-au-Prince](http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx009c.pdf) (http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx009c.pdf)

[Human Impact of Earthquake in Haiti](http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx010c.pdf) (http://rclweb.com/resources/wp-content/uploads/2010/01/10gx010c.pdf)