

5:07 p.m.
Houston, Texas
M.D. Anderson Clinic

Dear friends,
early this morning I sent out our 2nd update regarding the earthquake and tsunami that struck the Samoan Islands. You may recall that the Samoan Islands are comprised of two nations - American Samoa and Samoa. American Samoa has 7 islands, of which Tutuila is the main island and where our home is located. Samoa has two major islands, Upolu and Savaii. The earthquake that struck on Tuesday morning has been reported to have been 8.0. Brethren on our island reported to me that the earthquake lasted well over 1 – 2 minutes.

President Obama has declared American Samoa a **Disaster area** and therefore aid and agencies are in route and being setup to work in conjunction with local offices to help with various needs. Still, there will be many needs not met by government and community. This is where we Christians can help. **Please, consider providing funds for relief work in American Samoa. Contributions should be sent to the following address: Forest Park church of Christ, P.O. Box 1405, Forest Park, GA 30298. Please memo funds to be used for Samoan Relief Fund.** We will be able to personally see that these funds are properly used to meet the highest priority needs.

Since the time that the earthquake and tsunami struck, we have been in contact with residents in the territory every few hours. We will continue to do this until we arrive there on Sunday night. Although we feel a heavy burden over not being “there on the field” for members and all our dear friends throughout the Samoan Islands, there has been some benefit to us being here in the USA over the next 3 days. **First**, it has enabled us to provide up to date reports on what we know has taken place in this disaster. Likewise, we continue to have a direct link into the KULA studios and we are thankful that it continues to be up and running that it may serve in ways especially needed for the community at this time. **Second**, being here in the USA has enabled us to speak with many of you, thus relaying the great need that exists in the Samoan Islands. **Last**, being here is enabling us to purchase precious supplies that are likewise needed at this time but may not be available in the territory.

Today while at M.D. Anderson Cancer Clinic, I had appointments and tests with 4 different doctors. I must have walked every inch of this huge place! People everywhere would stop me and ask about the current situation in the Samoan Islands. Lobbies, offices, cafes, and clinics all had television monitors showing the devastation – much of which is just few minutes from our home on Tutuila Islands. Cancer patients struggling with severe illness, deformity, and some near death paused to ask “how is your family”. The staff in all of the clinics that I visited today knows that we live and serve in American Samoa. Their care and concern shown toward me today extended far beyond the excellent medical care that is provided here.....on this day, they cared in a very special

way. Sincere words of deep concern and kind words were expressed from many. Offers of help were extended in a loving and caring way from people of all walks of life.

The kindness shown by you and many others in the past two days has touched my heart and caused me to be reminded of an important lesson: *People in America care. Regardless of who they are, where they are from, the color of their skin, or their standing in this society.....they care!*

Thanking you,

Randy English
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P.S. – we will continue to update you each day. Please, as you have the opportunity, write to us at thesonlight@hotmail.com - it is a great encouragement to hear from you.

P.S. S. – by the way, every single test, evaluation, and check-up that I had today received good marks!! Thanks be to God our Father and for your many prayers!