

**Essay from the bold pastor**  
**#18 - Miki Endo - 1 year since the great earthquake**  
**from the back numbers**

“20 feet tsunami is coming. Please evacuate to uplands!”  
On March 11, 2011, Miki Endo (24 year-old at the time), an employee at Crisis Management Division of Minami Sanriku City, Miyagi Prefecture, warned the community through radio from Disaster Prevention Measures building. She stayed behind and continued alerting people to evacuate and got killed by over 32 feet tsunami along with 20 others about half an hour after the earthquake occurred. She was a newlywed who just got married in July of previous year. Her heroic deed is still being praised to this day.

A year after the tragedy, Department of Education in Saitama Prefecture announced that they were going to include the story of Endo in the education material for public schools within their district. The prefecture was to put together the episodes from the earthquake themselves and was going to provide the material to around 1250 public schools. Hundreds of thousands of children are going to learn sense of responsibility and kindness from Endo’s story. This story is surprisingly similar to what Jesus did for us. He says,

**“ I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.” John 12:24, NIV**

This is the worldly famous parable, “a kernel of wheat”. The late Martin Luther King Jr. was one of the people whose action proved this saying to be true. The verse directly means that Christ Jesus became a kernel of wheat and sacrificed himself to save us. It also means that we can build a better world filled with love if we put others before ourselves. I wish for Japanese people to believe in God’s love and for their efforts to bear fruit one day.

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