

June 26, 2021

Local Conference Advance

It started as a normal day, August 5, 2010. Miners went to work in the caverns of northern Chile.

A little later, the cries of alarm sounded. The mineshaft had collapsed. All 33 miners, half a mile down, had no way to escape. A check of the underground emergency shelter revealed only a few days' worth of food rations.

When their plight became known, officials brought a Pennsylvania drilling company. They bored a small shaft to reach the miners. It took 17 days for a new drill to bore a small hole to reach the men.

During the wait, some men considered suicide an option. But their leader urged that it was better to work and stay busy than to give up in despair.

On August 22, a small shaft reached the men. They sent food, water, and medicine. The rescue crew communicated with the miners, who regained hope.

On October 12, a one-man capsule went down, and the first man returned to the surface. It took 69 days after the collapse tragedy to rescue all 33 miners.

Today our Conference Advance has a rescue plan. The plan is to rescue souls buried not only in sin, but also in the circumstances of life. As we give to Conference Advance, we are taking part in the rescue of precious souls for Christ. "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." John 12:46