

The Chile Chico

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Michael and Willem taking an afternoon work break overlooking Valparaiso

“My family looks to me in times of trouble” Eugenia lamented, “but I was starting to sink into depression!” Eugenia was recounting her experience after the fire in Valparaiso to a small gathering of fire survivors hosted by John and Cathy Rug at CEMIPRE in nearby Viña del Mar

“I had almost given up hope,” she continued, “but then John Rug visited us and said he could help. A week later a team came and built a beautiful set of steps for my elderly parents as well as building a bathroom!”

This account and several others was typical of the ten families the disaster team heard at the dinner that evening. It was good to hear the people “vent” as they dealt with this disaster. They were also appreciative of being able to thank the Rugs and the disaster workers in attendance. Following the *thank yous*, John gave a devotional from John 3: 1-8 and the Gospel was presented.

We had been busy. The team had framed and roofed a house for a family of five who had been living in one room. They also plumbed out a bathroom and built a new roof for a lady who was handicapped. John had also arranged to pass out several much needed hot water heaters called calefontos and some specialized equipment for a man who lost all his dental tools during the fire.

It had been a good week. I enjoyed getting to know the people we helped as well as the team pictured below. Once again, we are indebted to our brothers in Christ from Puerto Octay in southern Chile. We can also pray that the Rug’s hope of starting a Bible study in Valpo will be realized!



**L to R: Radford, Jessica, Dan, Jan, Willem, John, Dave, Ernest
Thanks for all your hard work!**

In His service,
Dan and Jan

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