Earthquake kits are not sacred. You can use them any time - and you should. The more often you use and replace the items in your kits, the more likely they will be in good working order when a disaster strikes.

Donate canned food to a local charity and replace your own food. (once a year)

Donate batteries to “Toys for Tots” or other charities and restock your kits with fresh ones. (once a year)

Store cases of bottled water and use them regularly. Replace cases, as needed. Place newest water where it will be used last.

When you get new pairs of glasses, put your old ones in your earthquake kits.

When you buy a new pair of tennis shoes, put your old ones in your earthquake kit or under your bed.

Keep a five-day supply of important medications with you at all times. Each time you refill prescriptions, exchange the pills in your emergency kit with a fresh supply.

Need help putting together emergency kits? Pool money and resources. Buy in bulk with friends. Divide lists so friends or neighbors have only a few things to purchase. Plan to create emergency supply kits as part of a block party.

Think about this…If you can’t get into your home for three days, what supplies will you want to have to reduce the inconvenience and make you more comfortable?

People are different. Some go camping and sleep on the ground under the stars. Some go camping and sleep in a large recreational vehicle with a satellite dish. Your level of preparedness is up to you!