

Guv~Logan~Debbie~Erin

# The Bankstons to New Zealand

## January 2003

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#### <u>Praises</u>

Send Support & Gifts To: BBFI P.O. Box 191 Springfield, MO 65801-0191 Phone: 417-862-5001

This past year God has showered my family and me with His blessings. Looking back, I see where God has trained me to do His work, by allowing me to graduate (April) from Atlantic Baptist Bible College in Chester, VA. He also prepared me by allowing me to do my internship under Pastor Ken Cornett, Midlothian Baptist Church, Midlothian, VA. He then went on to allow me to be approved (May) as a missionary through Baptist Bible Fellowship International. To God be the glory; great things He has done.

God has truly blessed my family with so many new friends, through our deputation travels. We have friends praying for us, and with us, from around the world. We do not deserve this awesome privilege that God has allowed us to be a part of. His showers of blessings are more than we can handle sometimes. We are so thankful for what He has done with our lives, and we are anxious to see what more He has in store for us this New Year.

The time has passed by so quickly and we have so many things to accomplish before we can leave for New Zealand. We need to finish our visa paperwork (January) so that we can submit it to the Embassy. This requires my family and me to get numerous medical tests and examinations. This would normally be a financial burden, but God has blessed us with a doctor that has indicated he will not charge us for any of his services. In addition to our visas, we need to finish raising our support so that we can leave the end of May 2003. We also need to get our house ready for rental, and get our STUFF packed and put in storage for shipping to New Zealand.

What a blessing God has given my family and me to start off our ministry by being a part of a fellow missionary's work in Wellington, NZ while he is on furlough. We look forward to the many teachings that God will give us through this opportunity. My family will be able to get accustomed and acclimated to the New Zealand culture while being surrounded with fellow Christians for the first year. Thank you Lord for this comforting transition for our family.

We have had several churches count us worthy to be their representative, for the Lord, in New Zealand. Thank you and God bless. We look forward to co-laboring together with you in New Zealand. God has allowed us to be a part of your family and we will not take this blessing lightly. Please continue to pray for us, as we will pray for you.

We want to wish you all a great New Year, and we are praying that God will use you greatly to enlarge His family. Thank you so much for praying for us; you are a blessing that we thank God for every day.

### Prayer Needs

- Souls to be saved
- Souls to surrender to God's calling for laborers
- 75%-100% support by May 2003
- New Zealand bound by 1<sup>st</sup> week of June
- Visas for New Zealand

#### Scheduled dates

- 1/1/03 Calvary Baptist, Bedford, VA
- 1/5/03am/pm Decatur Heights Baptist, Bladensburg, MD
- 1/12/03am Holly Hills Baptist, Powhatan, VA
- 1/12/03pm Calvary Baptist, Midlothian, VA
- 1/15/03 Freedom Baptist, Harrisonburg, VA
- 1/19/03am Community Baptist, Lenoir City, TN
- 1/19/03pm Southside Baptist, Knoxville, TN
- 1/26/03pm Faith Baptist, Covington, VA
- 2/2/03am Calvary Baptist, Smithfield, VA
- 2/2/03pm Gill Grove Baptist, Chesterfield, VA
- 2/5-9/03am Capital City Baptist, Columbia, SC
- 2/9/03pm Bible Baptist, Lexington, SC
- 2/12-16/03 Community Baptist, Chantilly, VA
- 2/19/03 Buford Roads Baptist, Richmond, VA
- 2/23/03pm Heritage Baptist, Ashburn, VA
- 2/26/03-3/2/03 Mid-Way Baptist, Raleigh, NC
- 3/5/03 Heritage Baptist, Zebulon, NC
- 3/9/03 Victory Baptist, Staunton, VA

- Children's Home School cost \$1600 received \$0
- Synthia approx. cost \$1000 received \$300
- Tickets approx. cost \$5000 received \$3000
- Shipping approx. cost \$4000 received \$3200
- Vehicle in NZ approx. \$5000 received \$0
- 3/12-16/03am Neuse Baptist, Raleigh, NC
- 3/16/03pm Midlothian Baptist, Midlothian, VA
- 3/19-23/03 Palmetto Ave. Baptist, Sanford, FL
- 3/23/03pm Liberty Baptist, Tavares, FL
- 3/26/03 Eastland Baptist, Orlando, FL
- 3/30-31/03 First Carolina Baptist, Columbia, SC
- 4/2/03 Faith Baptist, Prince George, VA
- 4/6/03am Calvary Baptist, Ashland, OH
- 4/6/03pm Trinity Baptist, Ashland OH
- 4/9/03 Tygart Valley Baptist, Beverly, WV
- 4/13/03am/pm Gospel Baptist, Salem, VA
- 4/16/03 Central Baptist, Dunn, NC
- 4/26-27/03am Layton Chapel Baptist, Spring Lake, NC
- 4/27/03pm West Fayetteville Baptist, Fayetteville, NC
- 4/30/03 Grace Baptist, Gaston, NC
- 5/4/03am Victory Independent Baptist, Roanoke, VA
- 5/4/03pm New Hope Baptist, Roanoke, VA
- 9/28/03 Albemarle Baptist, Charlottesville, VA