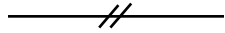


The Bankstons in New Zealand

April 2004

Field Address:

P.O. Box 202
Paraparaumu, New Zealand 6450
Phone: (011) 644-902-4826
guy.bankston@bbfimissions.org
bbfi-oceania.org/Bankston/index.htm



Send Support To:

P.O. Box 191
Springfield, MO 65801-0191
BBFI – Acct. No. 069050
Phone: 417-862-5001

Winter is upon us, snow in the hills



Off to Jr. Camp in Taupo (cabins)



The last month or so has been very good to us. We have been running non-stop since we got here and needed some time to stop things from spinning. God allowed us some time to relax, but not to much. We still had Friend Day coming up and Easter was just around the corner.

Friend Day was great, we had over eighty people. We hired/rented out the Senior Citizen Center so that we could host a luncheon after the morning services. One of our members brought ten visitors (winning the most visitors award) however, it was a family of ten. We had twenty visitors in all. We had three song specials, our teen girls, a duete, and a soloist. I then preached a message on what a true friend is. The highlight of the day was when a sixty-five year old lady accepted Jesus as her savior. To God be the glory!

We started practicing for our Easter program right after Friend Day. We did not have a lot of time to do something big, so we decided on a short (ten minute) skit/drama would be best. The skit was called "He Took My Whipping." Yes, you guessed it, this was based off of a popular story of how another person took the whipping of a guilty person. I added some live video clips from the Jesus film, to showing how Jesus took our punishment. The people were moved, and many told me that they really enjoyed the services. Thank you for praying for this as we could feel your prayers. The highlight of the Easter Service was when three of our youth called upon Jesus to save them. God is truly blessing.

Just wanted to say thank you for those that had a part in helping us raise money to repair the church. Several of the members had said, "How can we come up with the money, there isn't anyone here with that much money." We began to pray and God did the rest; six weeks later we had received the money needed to do the work. God used many of you to help us meet this need, thank you. The deposit is paid and the material is on order.

We would like to ask everyone to continue to pray for our support; we have had an increase, but we are still short.

Thank you for your continual support and prayers. God Bless...



Praises

- Four people received Christ as their Savior

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Ladies Retreat April 16-17
- Junior Camp April 19-22
- Growth at Kapiti Baptist
- Missions Conf. May 14-16
- Teen Camp July 12-16
- Personal support increases
- Starting a new work