

# The Bankstons in New Zealand

December 2004

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## Parkland School Hall Harvest Baptist Church



## Carswells - First Church Family



God has truly blessed us the past three months at Harvest Baptist Church. We are receiving calls every week with people asking about what independent and fundamental means. We are finding that people are really searching for a church that is preaching and teaching God's Word. There are so many churches that are just feel good works where the Gospel is never told. It saddens our hearts to think that all of these people are being deceived to think they have assurance of eternal life. Please pray that we can make a difference here in New Zealand, and around the world for that matter.



It appears that we may have two additional families join Harvest Baptist Church. I am starting a new members class that they will need to complete, and then make a decision as to whether or not they still want to join. I'm pretty sure they will, and we are praying that God gives them wisdom to make the right choice. We have come across so many people that have decided they will never join another church. They have been so hurt in the past they do not want to try again. Most do not even want to get involved, which has really hurt their spiritual growth and their relationship with God. The Postmodern movement has really taken a toll on God's children here in New Zealand. Please pray for them.

I had asked in our last prayer letter for you all to pray with us for a young man (Hash) who is a Muslim, to receive Christ. Praise the Lord, he came forward during the altar call and said, "Pastor, you told me to let you know when I was ready to receive Christ as my Savior, well I am ready." We knelt and prayed. It was awesome to see God move on this young man's heart. I watched him as he struggled to take that first step from his seat during the altar call. He stepped out, then he stepped back, then he stepped out again, hesitated and then continued to come forward. He prayed an awesome prayer on his own and everyone rejoiced with him. We now have two that need baptized.

Thank you to those that have helped towards the sound equipment. We are still short \$1100, and know that God will provide. If you are able to help, please send to our account above.

Thank you for your prayers, and sacrificial giving to this ministry. We wish you all a Merry Christmas. God bless you for your faithfulness!

## Praises

- Hash Ali (a former Muslim) received Christ as his Savior
- Additional members
- Additional growth in our youth and adults
- Acquired additional space for children's classes
- Received half of the money needed for the sound equipment

## Prayers

- Souls to be saved & growth at Harvest Baptist Church
- Remaining money for sound equipment
- Possibly starting of another service on the south side of town