

# The Bankstons in New Zealand

May 2005

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We just finished our Fall Teen Camp at Forest Lakes in Otaki. The focus of camp was on what God's Word says about love and dating. There were a lot of teens that were broken because of their past promiscuous lifestyle. Many made decisions to stop living that way and try to remain faithful to God. Each day was completely filled with activities, challenges, scripture memorization and devotional times. Some of the teens memorized well over fifty verses of Scripture. In the end, I believe God received the glory for a camp that really impacted the teenagers for Him. One girl, from another church, received Christ as her personal Savior.



I am so thankful for my wife and children. They have been such a blessing and have tremendously impacted the lives of the New Zealanders. All of the kids look up to Logan as a leader, and he has been such a good influence on them, showing that you can have fun while serving the Lord. Please be in prayer for Logan as he is thinking about going to a three month Christian boot camp next year. This camp will introduce and prepare him for the life of ministry.

Erin has also been a great influence for the younger children. She has been active in singing with the ladies and helps in Junior church as needed. Debbie, besides being Super Mom, is doing an awesome job in Junior Church and children's Sunday School. What would I do without her?

This past week Debbie and I led a sixty-five year old lady to God's saving grace. We had visited this lady (Zelda) on two other occasions and had questioned her concerning her eternal salvation. She persisted that she was saved. A few weeks later, I received a phone call that she had a stroke and the doctors found an inoperable tumor in the middle of her brain. We made another visit to see her. She then proceeded to tell us that she had never prayed and asked Jesus to forgive her of her sins and save her. She had been taught that just being a Baptist, being good, and going to church would get her to Heaven. It is funny how things change when we are faced with death. Praise the Lord, she bowed her head and called out to Jesus to save her. Glory!

This past Sunday we had a young boy (8) that came forward after the service, who got saved last year while attending Harvest Baptist Church, and told me that he was ready to get baptized. He finally overcame his fear and realized that I was not going to hold him under the water. We are now looking for a suitable place to baptize him. No baptistry in the school hall.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We are forever grateful and praying that God blesses you richly. Your missionaries in New Zealand, Guy, Debbie, Logan, and Erin Bankston...

## Fall Teen Camp 2005 (Forest Lakes)



## Harvest Baptist Church Ladies Choir



### Praises

- One salvation (please pray concerning Zelda's brain tumor)
- One coming forward for baptism

### Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Physical and spiritual growth at HBC
- Permanent residence approval (should hear in July)