

The Bankstons in New Zealand

November 2005

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I have to say that this past month has been the busiest yet. We managed to fit into the month a fellowship meeting, youth all-nighter, missions conference, youth rally, church luncheon, and a preachers' conference. When you put it on paper it doesn't seem like that much, but the planning and effort taken to prepare for these was overwhelming. What a blessing to see God working in so many areas. And praise the Lord we are still running the race before us.



There is such a need for Christian counselors here in New Zealand; they are a rarity. I have yet to find a counselor that will use the Word of God as a source to guide marriages. One missionary couple here has seen this need, and has been training through distance learning in hopes to make a difference. Please pray that God will raise up professional Christian counselors. As I mentioned before, God has opened the door for me to provide some marriage counseling for a couple here in New Zealand. This has been a struggle dealing with the cultural barriers. Please keep this couple in prayer (Neil and Robyn).

We managed to stay awake for the teen all-nighter that we hosted, and it was a blessing. There were 36 teenagers, some of which were non-believers, who came and heard the Gospel preached by a national pastor. I do not believe anyone made a profession of faith, but the Word was preached. We are praying that we will see future fruits from this all-nighter.

We have been praying that God would increase our numbers at Harvest Baptist Church. It appears as if He has started answering our prayers as a new family has been coming for the last 6 weeks. I believe they are coming because we are faithfully going out as God has commanded. Sometimes we get frustrated that no one comes from our going door-to-door every week. We have to continually remind ourselves that He never promised us that they would come if we go, but He still commands us to go. This new family has three small children that are not saved, but both of the parents are. I believe it is just a matter of time before they decide to join the church. Debbie and Joanne Carswell (member of our church who has just started teaching Sunday School – Praise the Lord!) are really excited, as they have now doubled their Sunday School and Children's Church classes. Please continue to pray that God will prepare the harvest as we go into the field each week.

Your prayers and financial giving make it possible for us to be here doing the work of the Lord, thank you so much.

God bless! Your missionaries, Guy, Debbie, Logan, and Erin Bankston

All-Nighter



Youth Rally



Church Luncheon



Praises

- Survived October's busy schedule
- Increased Children's Sunday School & Children Church
- Marriage counseling opportunity

Prayers

- Physical and spiritual growth at Harvest Baptist Church.
- Neil & Robyn's marriage to be reconciled