

The Bankstons In New Zealand

February 2007

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Here is the Vaipulu family: Soane, Lovely, and their daughter Charisma. They have been members of our church since March of 2006. Soane was raised in Tonga, while Lovely was raised in New Zealand. Soane works at a steel factory, and Lovely works at a Tongan daycare.

This family came to us from the Tongan church in Palmerston North, NZ. Soane was preaching (in Tongan) and Lovely was very active in their church. Through God's leading, they felt led to come and be a part of our church. Soane brought with him his mother and father. Both of these families are a blessing to us.

Lovely received Christ and they were both baptized while attending our church.



I can honestly say that we have been truly blessed since we have been back to America. Everyone has showered us with prayers, gifts, monetary offerings, and just plain love. Many of you have opened your homes, hearts, and lives to us. We thank God for all He has, and is doing through each of you. Praise the Lord!



God allowed me the opportunity to share His Word, while eating lunch at Cracker Barrel, this month. I spent several hours talking about how we can have eternal life through Jesus Christ. My heart is so broken when I hear someone say that they are sure that they will go to heaven because of their family, religion, good deeds, or some other means other than grace alone through Christ. The devil has done a good job deceiving the world to look to self, rather than to Jesus. I am so thankful that God allowed me the time to unveil the lies and deceits Satan has woven. I wonder what the waiter thought when they heard someone at our table begin praying out loud to be saved? What a joy it is to see someone receive Christ, as their Lord and Savior. Please pray for this new believer as they seek to find a place to attend church, and grow in the Lord. The devil is real, and I know he is probably already attacking.

Missionary Lewis Howell, who has been overseeing our work, has reported that they are still seeing new visitors. He reported that they have had over thirty visitors since mid December. A few of these visitors have been faithful to return. I know God is and will continue to grow Harvest Baptist Church. I am asking God for wisdom in how we can accommodate His growth. I am hopeful that we can find property to build, and of course, the funds to build with. I know God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and is able to provide. Please pray with us in this area.

It is drawing near to the time that we will be returning to New Zealand. Though we will miss seeing you all, we are also looking forward to returning to the work God has called us to. Please keep us in pray as we begin getting things in order. We only have a few weeks left before we board the airplane (March 19th).

Thank you for your prayers and faithful giving. Thank you also, to our new supporters, for counting us worthy to represent you in sharing God's Word in New Zealand.

If you would like to be a part in supporting this work, please use the "*Send Support To:*" address on this page.

God Bless, your missionaries, Guy, Debbie, Logan & Erin Bankston

Praises

- God's continual blessing to see one more accept Christ as their Savior
- Over thirty visitors and some returning visitors

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Physical and spiritual growth at Harvest Baptist Church
- Wisdom in leading and growing God's work
- Zelda's health (still on feeding tube)
- Howells return to America, and our return to New Zealand
- Travel protection as we are still traveling to supporting churches
- A church home for this new believer in Christ