

The Bankstons In New Zealand

July & August 2008

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Prasad & Pram (Salvation)



Anna Buhler (Salvation)



Church Project



Praises: Three saved ♦ Spiritual growth in church ♦ God's sustaining strength

Prayers: To see souls saved ♦ Physical and spiritual growth ♦ Healing for Zelda ♦ Raising support for the purchase of church and property, and our house fund.

We have had an awesome month with three souls coming to know Christ. With blessings like this you know that the devil is going to attack. He has caused some hurt in the church family, but nothing we cannot overcome through the grace of God. A family has decided to leave over some doctrinal issues they could not accept. Please pray that God heals all of us.



About four months ago we had two young men from India start attending our church services. A Philippino man in our church met them at work, and inspite them speaking almost no English, they became friends. He invited them to come to our church, so for the past several months I have been preaching to them from God's Word. I asked them if they understood what I was preaching, and they said "yes". I then asked what was the message about, and they smiled and said "yes". I knew then that it was going to take some time for me to show them, and for them to understand God's amazing love through Christ. The man in our church and his sister's family began witnessing to them, primarily through jestures and hand motions. I believe they were starting to understand a little, but were still really confused. Debbie and I invited them all over for dinner and fellowship. After dinner I presented the Gospel of John and the Roman epistle, in their own language (Telugu), to them. I highlighted the passages dealing with the Gospel message, and then proceeded to draw pictures, use illustrations and gestures, and sign language that is definitely not documented. What a blessing to see their eyes illuminate when they got the point or understood the passage of Scripture. I began to see their eyes tearup, so I asked them if they would like to repent of their sins and call on Jesus and trust in Him to save them. They both shook their heads yes. We all three prayed outloud, in our own languages, and God heard each of use. The next Sunday they came forward during the services and told everyone that they had asked Jesus to save them. Please keep them in prayer as I will begin discipling them starting next month.

The third salvation we had was little Anna Buhler. Anna is 7 years old and has an amazing understanding, like her older sister who received Christ several months back. Anna came to know Christ through her older sister and her father only three days after Prasad and Pram. She then came forward, with her sister, to acknowledge to everyone in church that she had received Christ as her personal savior. What a blessing God gave us this past month. Please pray for Anna, as I believe she would like to be baptized in the river, but we are in the middle of winter here.

Some more good news that we wanted to share is that our church is finally registered. I have spent numerous hours trying to put together all the documentation, and last April I submitted it. If we were refused registration, then all of the offerings would be taxed starting this past July.

One last thing I wanted to ask your help with. We have agreed via contract to purchase the hall that you see to the left. It is situated on ¼ acre of land and has room for parking as well as growth. We presently are short \$80k US dollars. I know many are sending their special projects offering into BBFI this next month, so if you could pray about possibly designating some of it to our Church Building Fund (C-6905-081), our church would be so grateful.

We again want to thank you for your prayers, and support. Without it, we would not be able to serve here in New Zealand.

God bless ~ Guy, Debbie, Logan & Erin Bankston