

The Bankstons In New Zealand

July-August 2011

Field Address:

P.O. Box 9062, Terrace End
Palmerston North, New Zealand 4441

Phone: (011) 646-355-8333

Email: guy.bankston@bbfissions.org
www.bbfioceania.org/bankston

Send Support To:

P.O. Box 191

Springfield, MO 65801-0191

BBFI – Acct. No. 069050

Phone: 417-862-5001

Following The Steps Of Jesus



Youth Winter Camp-out



Youth Rally



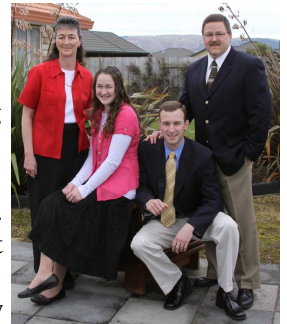
Praises

- Discipleship Class ● Fruits From NBT ● Churches support NZBBTP

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Spiritual & physical church growth ● NZBBTP ● Discipleship class

The last two months (July-Aug.) were very exciting. We had several activities planned to get people motivated and committed to serve God and follow Jesus' example. We began by attending a week-long seminar on "Following The Steps Of Jesus". After the seminar we had a ladies fellowship night & a men's prayer breakfast, followed by a three day youth rally and a three day winter youth campout. When August came we were a bit worn out, but that did not stop us from attending a Bible Revival meeting at one of our sister churches we fellowship with. It was great to rally together with other churches that love the Lord and want to see His Word preached and proclaimed throughout New Zealand. We have already begun to see the fruits from these evangelistic activities. The Lord is working in the hearts of the people.



The weeklong conference encouraged our people to be faithful in attending church, to be punctual for services, and more importantly to be serious about reaching out to the lost. The ladies fellowship night was also very encouraging. The ladies in the church have taken a more active role in outreach; they have taken it upon themselves to be more involved in supporting our missionaries and their ministries. As for the men's prayer breakfast, I have seen all the men step up to prepare devotions. They are now sharing them with the other men, which is very exciting for me. The youth rally and youth campout has motivated the teenagers to look at maturing themselves in the Lord. Two of them have asked me to disciple them and two others have committed themselves to enroll in a Bible training program this next year. I am overwhelmed at how God is moving upon the people.

I have found that it is working better to go to the people to disciple them rather than have the people come to the church. I think the cost of fuel has become a contributing factor (\$7 a gallon). Since the two young teenagers have asked me to begin disciplining them, one of their mothers has also decided to join them. For the past month Debbie and I have been meeting in her home for discipleship classes. What a difference it has made in hers, as well as the two teens' lives. They are actually excited, and they look forward to each week we meet together. They have asked me if we could do additional discipleship classes after finishing the ten week course we have started. I began the class letting them know that the devil would do all he could to stop us, and he has. We have had to shift the class a few times during the week and this past week one of the teens did not show up for church nor for the discipleship class. Please pray that God binds Satan, and that we see this young born-again believer stay the course.

I have had several meetings with some of the pastors and missionaries concerning the New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP) I have envisioned starting this next year. It appears as if it is going to happen; praise the Lord! The concept is a bit different than most training programs. The students will be traveling for two years while being trained to serve in the local church and prepare for full-time ministry. At this point, we have nine churches that have voted to support the training program, as well as host the students at their respective churches. Please keep this program in prayer as I believe it will produce some amazing fruit for our Lord.

An update on Logan: He has finished serving with the Neighborhood Bible Time (NBT) and has now returned to West Coast Baptist College for his 3rd year. I believe he will be sending a letter out to all those who have supported him this past summer. I have heard that many have been reached for Christ; praise the Lord! I know we all will see the fruits, from our support and prayers for Logan, one day.

Thank you for your giving and prayers so that we can serve the Lord here in New Zealand. Your missionaries: Guy, Debbie & Erin Bankston.