

The Bankstons In New Zealand

June-August 2012

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Youth Rally In Wanganui



Church Mission Trip To Vanuatu



Ladies Retreat In Hamilton



Praises

- 94 souls saved ● Bible training program
- Inter-church participation

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Physical growth at our church ● Discipleship for new believers ● Additional supporting churches

Since our last prayer letter my son Logan, and his fiancé Brittany have been here for their summer break. They were a true blessing and we enjoyed having them with us. They both served in the church, as well as held down a job. Logan worked in large tree nursery and Brittany worked as a school administrator.

One of the things our church wanted to do while Logan and Brittany were here was take a missions trip to Vanuatu. It was our plan to visit the missionaries that our church supports and spend three days in a village that was going to take us 4 hours to drive to and an additional 3 hours to walk. On our way there, we had to turn back because the rivers were too high to drive across. If we parked the truck and walked it would take us a couple of days. Instead, we visited a village that we passed on the way and spent a couple of hours there. Logan preached while Matthew translated and 3 received Christ. Two days later we were asked to teach in the local school's religious classes (they spoke English). Logan spoke in one class and Guy spoke in another. We were given the opportunity to preach and give an invitation and 19 received Christ. The principal of the school invited us to return that evening during the students devotional study time (students board at the school). We split up and went to different dorms, Logan to the year 9 boys, Debbie and Brittany to the year 9 girls, and Guy went to the year 12-13 boys. God moved on their hearts and 61 boys, and 11 girls received Christ. We were overwhelmed at the response and desire these young men and women had to receive and know Christ as their personal Savior. The missionaries are now working out how they can follow up and disciple them. Vanuatu is the field that Logan and Brittany have felt God calling them to. Please pray for them as well as these who have received Christ.

The New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP) is going exceptionally well. The students, churches and members of the churches have been extremely excited about the program. We have been encouraged to hear many of the youth, who will finish school in the next year or two, already making plans to attend the program. The students have been actively involved in: preaching, teaching, leading in ministries, visiting and witnessing, all while attending classes at each church. The students were asked to run the children's program while at one church and they were to write and perform three puppet skits. Traveling, learning and ministering in different churches across New Zealand is proving an effective way to prepare those who have felt God's call on their life. Please keep the students, instructors, and the NZBBTP in your prayers.

We have had several combined church activities over the past several months. There was a youth rally in Wanganui, a Bible Revival in Rotorua, and a Ladies Retreat in Hamilton. Each of these outreach ministries were designed to motivated and encouraged the churches to spread the Gospel message. I believe we are running out of time and truly need to see people not only on their knees praying for souls to be reached, but also on their feet taking the message to the lost.

Finally, I want to remind you that we are planning our next furlough. We will be leaving in December this year and returning to the field in May 2013. It is our intentions to try and visit as many supporting churches as possible, but also to raise some additional support. We're also planning to attend Logan & Brittany's wedding on Jan 5th and their graduation on May 8th. If you know of any churches that might be interested in being a part of this ministry, please let us know? You can see our furlough dates at <http://bbfi-occeania.org/Bankston/Furlough.htm>.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and giving, so that we may serve the Lord and reach souls for Christ. Your missionaries: Guy, Debbie, Logan & Erin

