

The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2014

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Children's Choir



Two New Believers



Woman of Virtue



Praises

- 6 finished discipleship course
- 3 students finished 1st year of NZBBTP
- Brittany's visa extended
- Six souls saved & 5 baptised
- New members of HBC

Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Physical and Spiritual Church growth
- Outreach
- Brittany's Permanent Residence

We have seen the Lord do a mighty work at Harvest Baptist Church, in the year 2014. Five people were baptized, six people accepted Christ as their Savior and we had one family and two single men join the church. We also had six people go through a discipleship course, three students finish their first year of the New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program and four surrender to serve in their local church. How exciting to see the Lord work.

We had two people get saved in November. The 15 year old daughter and 11 year old son of the lady that got saved in September. Her son went to Brittany, after Jr. Church, asking questions about salvation, which led her to lead him to the Lord. The daughter received Christ the week her mom was to be baptized. Praise the Lord! We are now praying for their father to be saved. He has been attending church for the last month and is very open.

November 30th we had two baptized in the river. It was a beautiful day and we had a good turnout. After the baptism we had a picnic lunch at one of our member's house nearby. It was a great time of fellowship and rejoicing in what the Lord was doing. During this luncheon, a visitor, that had just started attending services asked if Guy could come out to the Air Force Base, where he is stationed, and talk to him. Jordan had a Catholic background, but after talking to him, he realized that it was not by works that he could get to heaven, but only through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He got saved that day and is being baptized January 11th. Because of his friend inviting him to church his life has changed forever.

On December 12th we had our last Teen activity for the year. Each year we have a progressive dinner with the Teens and Young Adults. This year we had twenty-five attend. Three families in our church graciously opened up their homes to host one of the meals (ie., appetizers, main or dessert). We all had a great time of fellowship. The next Friday night we had a Christmas get together for the Ladies of the church and the young women of the Women of Virtue Program. We had a cookie exchange and a wonderful time of fellowship. It was a great way to end the year.

Because our Christmas Day service has not been well attended, this year we had a Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Our church choir and children's choir both sang a special. Because of this, the family of two of our Sunday School children came to church for the first time. They seemed to enjoy the service and we pray that we will see them return. Many who attended the service requested that we do the same thing this coming year.

We successfully completed another year of the New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP). Classes start back up on February 9th with five new students and two returning students, who completed this year. They will start out at our church for two weeks. Please keep this program in your prayers. We have seen this greatly benefit the students, as well as the churches involved. All but three of the students, who have attended this program, are still serving in their local church.

Thank you for your prayers for Brittany's visa. She has received an extension of her working visa for another year. She submitted her paperwork for her Permanent Residence, but it was returned because they still have not received their background checks from the FBI. Please pray for that to come in soon, and also for Brittany who is 25 weeks pregnant with our first grandchild. The baby is due April 19th.

Thank you for your prayers and support. God bless, your missionaries in New Zealand: Guy, Debbie, & Erin Bankston

