

The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2015

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Venus & Angie's Baptism



NZBBTP 1 & 2 Year Graduation



Praises

- 3 saved • 2 baptised • Canvassing Palmerston North and Masterton with gospel tracks • Masterton work going well

Prayers

- Souls to be saved • Physical and Spiritual Church growth • Outreach • Brittany's Permanent Residence • God to call someone to train for Palmerston work.
- Torme family's Permanent Residence to be approval • Mission trip to India • Cody, Nicole & Kyle's studies in the NZBBTP next year

2015 Overview

- 14 Souls saved • 5 Baptised
- NZBBTP: 3 – 2yr graduates, 4 – 1 yr. graduates & 1 in pursuit

Thank you for your continued prayers for us here in New Zealand. We saw the Lord work in an amazing way these past two months

We started off the month of November with a man named Philip receiving Christ. Philip had been attending Harvest Baptist for a couple of months and asked me to speak to him about his salvation.

He called out Sunday morning and asked Jesus to be his Saviour. Praise the Lord! Also in November we said our “goodbyes” to a young lady from Tennessee who had been in New Zealand attending Massey University for a semester. She was a blessing to us and we miss her, but look forward to seeing her again in the future.

We started the month of December off with two ladies getting baptized in the river. Both had been saved when they were in the Philippines, but had never been baptized. It was a glorious day to see them being obedient to the Lord! They are now going through our discipleship program.

One of our Philippino families had to return to the Philippines until their Permanent Residence is approved. We are praying that this will be soon. If they deny it, then they will not be able to return. We have seen the Lord do a mighty work in this family this year, and are praying they will be able to return.

The New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP) is doing well. We just graduated 3 students in the 2 year program. Next year we will have 7 students again (3 returning 2nd year students and 4 new). The container I am fitting out as a dorm, is going well. I hope to have it down by the end of January. We have three pastors that joined the program to teach, which helps. This will greatly relieve the load off the pastors that are teaching now. Please pray for the students as they study and train. Three of the students (Cody, Nicole, and Kyle) are from our church. Kyle is finishing up his discipleship, which is a prerequisite to the program.

Outreach continues to go well in both Palmerston North and Masterton. We are canvassing these areas with the Gospel and also witnessing to people on the street. It is so good to see our people get involved in this ministry. Time is running out and we must be diligent to get the Gospel out.

The Masterton work is going slow, but good. The people that attend have been tossed to and fro, which has led them to many different beliefs. By request, and prayer I will be teaching on the “Church”, “Baptism” and the “Lord’s Supper” in the month of January. We are praying that the Judds (missionaries trying to get the New Zealand), will be here soon to help with this ministry.

In December the ladies attended a Christmas Banquet at Grace Baptist in Wanganui. They had a great time of fellowship. We had a Christmas Eve Candlelight service again this year. The children did a special and the Gospel was preached. We had a visiting family of 2 of our Sunday School children attend. During the invitation two young girls raise their hands for salvation. After Debbie talked to each of them individually, making sure they understand, they both bowed their heads and asked Jesus into their hearts. These girls have been coming to Sunday School for quite a while now and have learned a lot in Sunday School.

We ended the year with our annual Family Camp. We had over 200 people attend this year. It was a true blessing and a wonderful way to end the year.

As I write this letter, Cody and Brent (members of HBC), are in India on a mission trip. They are visiting and working with two missionaries for three weeks. Please pray that God does a mighty work through these faithful men.

Thank you for your continual prayers and support of these ministries. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston

