

The Bankstons In New Zealand

January-February 2023

Field Address:

P.O. Box 9062, Terrace End
Palmerston North, New Zealand 4441
Phone: (011) 6421-203-7170
Email: guy.bankston@bbfmissions.org
www.guybankston.org

Send Support To:

P.O. Box 191
Springfield, MO 65801-0191
BBFI – Acct. No. 069050
Phone: 417-862-5001

Baptism



New Believers



New Students



Praises

- 3 people saved • Great Stratford conference
- 3 new NZBBTP students/8 total for this year • 1 baptized
- Granddaughter's Homeschool exemption approved

Prayers

- Souls to be saved • Piper & Garner families – comfort
- Furlough this year • Homiletics/Discipleship classes
- SS teacher to replace Debbie while on furlough

We started off January with a Bible Conference in Eltham about 2 ½ hours north of us. The main speaker was Derrick Morlan an American missionary in Oxford, England. He brought two other missionaries with him who also spoke. It was a good start to the year.

Guy is continuing to disciple one of our men in the church, as well as train a young man in Homiletics. This is always a rewarding time, and we are praying for more men and women to be discipled. The man that Guy is discipling saw his need for baptism so in January we all went down to the river after Sunday service, and he was baptized. To God be the glory!

We are always encouraging our people to invite others to church. One of our teenage boys invited one of his friend from school, who is an exchange student from Japan. He came and then brought two of his friends, which also were exchange students (from Taiwan and China). Guy asked them if he could pick them up from school and bring them to the church to talk to them about their salvation. They met and all three young men got saved! Guy gave them each a Bible. We hope to be able to start discipleship with them, but sadly they won't be here in New Zealand for much longer.

The church in Masterton, that we started, hosted a Sweethearts Banquet in February. We had five couple attend the banquet. We babysat all the kids while the parents enjoyed a great time of food and fellowship. A national Pastor gave a devotion on marriage. They all really enjoyed their time together.

We've had several workdays the last two months, to get some things done around the church before we leave on furlough. We did some deep cleaning of the church, shampooed all the chairs, erected a new fence, and are preparing to build a new storage shed. We have had a great turnout for these workdays, and we plan on having a few more before we leave. Please pray that we will be able to get everything done before furlough.

The New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP) started back up in February. We have three new students that are going through the preliminary classes before they will join the other five returning students in March. Please pray that they all do well in their studies and that they will follow the will of God in their lives.

In January our good missionary friends, Garth and Lynette Piper, received news that their 8-year-old grandson, Zeke, was diagnosed with a very aggressive cancer. Zeke lost his battle 7 weeks later and went home to be with his Lord and Saviour. His family was a huge testimony to many in New Zealand, and around the world, of their faith in God. They are praying that God will be glorified through this and they will see people saved. Please pray for the Pipers, as well as Lydia and Cameron Garner and their three remaining children, during their time of grieving. Lydia, Zeke's mum, is pregnant and due in June.

Thank you so much for your continual prayers and support. We look forward to seeing some of you during our furlough this year. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston

