

# The Bankstons In New Zealand

November-December 2023

## Field Address:

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

## Send Support To:

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

## Church Baptisms



NZBBTP Certificate Presented



Heritage Camp 2024



## Praises

- Safe arrival back to NZ
- Increase in attendance
- Completion of 13 years of NZBBTP
- 15 people being discipled
- New Church Members
- 5 Baptized

## Prayers

- Souls to be saved
- Discipleship classes
- Joson's family to arrive in NZ in July 2024
- Guy's health to continue to improve
- People to join the church

We enjoyed our last leg of our furlough with the churches in Oregon that we were able to visit. We got to spend some time with Guy's mom and some of the family before flying back to New Zealand on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Our whole family and some of our church family greeted us at the airport in NZ. Your prayers for safe travel was answered. Though it was sad to leave family and friends it is good to be back where God has called us to serve Him.



Our first few weeks back, has been getting to know some new people in the church. Cody, with the help of some of the men of the church, did an amazing job keeping the church running smoothly. There have been a few times that we had to rebuild after coming back from furlough, but this time the church grew. Several have joined the church and five were baptized. Several others are considering joining the church. Some of the growth came from four of our Filipino farmers receiving their residency and bringing their families over from the Philippines. Some came from outreach and inviting friends to church.

In December we had the New Zealand Baptist Bible Training Program (NZBBTP) students at our church while we taught classes. Guy taught Church Practicals to the men, and Debbie taught Lady's Ministries to the ladies. We had a great time seeing the students again before the school year ended. Next year we are projected to have seven students, of which six will be new.

Cody and several others in the church have been visiting the elderly in a rest home, one Sunday each month. We sing hymns and bring a message to the people. In December we were able to sing Christmas hymns to some of the people and hand out a little treat to them. We take time after the services to speak with the residents about the Gospel. Guy spoke with two ladies who listened and knew they needed Jesus. Please pray they put their trust in Him and Him alone. The residents look forward to us coming each month.

The day after Christmas we had our annual Heritage (Family) Camp; where several Independent Baptist Churches get together for fellowship and spiritual growth. The Pastors preach the messages, including our Assistant Pastor Cody. Guy handed out the NZBBTP certificates of completion for the one-year and two-year students. There were five students that completed their second year, and two students that finished their first year. Family camp was a good finish to this year, and we look forward to next.

Please continue to pray for those that we are discipling. We pray that these lessons will help them to grow in their Christian walk and be a witness for the Lord. We also have several new people that have been talking about joining the church. Please pray that they will make that decision.

Thank you so much for your continual prayers and support. Guy has been dealing with some medical issues, that now seem to be under control. God bless, your Missionaries in New Zealand: Guy & Debbie Bankston