

The Bankstons In New Zealand

May-June 2024

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Graduates from Discipleship



Winter Camp 2024



Newly Saved Couple



Praises

- Visitors ● Increase in attendance ● Pastor Cody to take the work at Palmerston North ● 6 people completed discipleship ● Three salvations ● Three more grandbabies due this year

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Discipleship classes ● People to join the church ● Wisdom concerning growth ● Wisdom concerning the church expansion or relocation

This year, with the help of our church members, we have been discipling seventeen people. This has been challenging, but very re-warding. Six have just finished and have received their certificates. In May, Guy was able to lead a couple who visited our church, to the Lord. They have since begun our discipleship program. It has been so exciting to see them all grow closer in their walk with the Lord.



During the last six months we have seen our church double in size. This is due to many inviting their friends, and some of our immigrants having received their Permanent Visas and are now bringing their families to New Zealand. Our church has been full most weeks and we are now praying for direction from the Lord on what our next step will be. We will be having a meeting with the church members to discuss options for expansion or relocating.

In May we had an emphasis on Missions. To start the month out, Guy preached on Tithing to the church. After Guy preached that Sunday, several came up to thank him for the message and we have since seen an increase in the giving at the church. We also have seen an increase in our Missions giving.

The New Zealand Baptist Bible Programmer students were with us in May, as Guy taught a three-week class on Eschatology. The students loved learning about past, present and future prophecy. While they were with us, they served in several areas: they taught Jr. Church, played the piano, ran an inter-church teen activity, and two of the men preached on a Sunday night. Please pray for these students as they prepare themselves for the Lord's work.

In June we also hosted the MTT (Make a Timothy Today) team at our church. They did special music/hand chimes and preached. They also helped with our Gospel outreach and church working bee. They were a real blessing to the church. We also held our annual Winter Family Camp in June. This camp runs from Wed-Sat and is a great time of fellowship and preaching. An Australian evangelist came and preached the sessions. After he preached on Sunday, one young man came forward and accepted Jesus as his Saviour.

God has allowed me to train up Cody Hireme to take the work I have started 20 years ago. He has been our Asst Pastor for over a year now and has committed to taking the church after a transition period. We are praying about starting another work. We covet your prayers for this transition and about where exactly the Lord would have us start another work.

In other news, we had announced that our daughter, Erin was pregnant with their 5th child. She found out in May that she is having twins. Our daughter-in-law is due in two weeks with their fifth. We rejoice in the blessings of three new coming grandbabies.

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