

The Bankstons in New Zealand

September 2005

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The Carswell Family



Harvest Baptist Church



Praises

- We are all healthy
- God is blessing with new faces almost weekly
- Returning visitors
- People receptive to the Gospel during door-to-door visitation

One of our church families has asked if they could say something in one of our prayer letters to those that have been supporting us through prayer and financial giving. The following is what they have asked us to include: "It has been on our mind for some time to let you know how much we appreciate the ministry of the Bankstons here in New Zealand and those of you who make it possible with your financial, practical and prayer support. You will have had many reports about New Zealand already. However, we wanted to make it clear that you are supporting a much needed ministry. To put it simply, there are very few churches in New Zealand who really preach and practice the whole gospel. We had searched for many years for a church we could feel "safe" in. A church where the gospel was both preached and lived out. Praise the Lord, we have finally found one! We in no way take for granted the generous support that you in the United States provide and realise each week, that without you, they would not be here. We cannot thank you enough. You have a part in a wonderful work that is changing lives. We thank God for putting it into the hearts of the Bankstons to come and give their lives for the people of New Zealand. They are very, very special people with a real heart for the gospel and we love them dearly. Thank you for giving them to us. Love in Christ, Ian, Joanne, Jordan & Caitlin Carswell."



We are so thankful that God is given us the privilege of serving Him here in New Zealand. It is His calling and your faithful prayers and support that have made it possible. We have had many challenges (many of which you also face where you are), but God is always faithful to see us through. One thing that has made it difficult is the exchange rate. With the fluctuation of the dollar here, times have been tough. Your extra giving has made it possible for us to stay here to continue the ministry rather than coming home to raise additional support.

Could you please remember to pray for our Holiday Bible Program that will be held on the last week of September. We are asking God for 100 kids. Pray for souls to be saved. Our sending church (Midlothian Baptist) is sending 12 people to help run the program. Pray for travel mercies.

If you could also pray for Lachelle. We witnessed to her while going door to door. She knows that she is a sinner, as we all are, but is not quite ready to receive Jesus into her heart. She told us she would come to church this Sunday with one of her children.

God bless you! Your missionaries, Guy, Debbie, Logan, and Erin Bankston

Prayers

- Physical and spiritual growth at Harvest Baptist Church
- Holiday Bible Program, 100 kids, souls to be saved
- Safe travel to New Zealand for Midlothian Baptist Church
- Teen all-niter program coming in October, souls to be saved
- Lachelle and her family to get saved and come to church
- Zelda not well after surgical removal of facial cancer