

The Bankstons In New Zealand

May-July 2010

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Guy's Dad



Youth Group Witnessing



Praises

- Monies raised for church parking lot ● Guy's dad's passing ● God's sustaining provisions

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Spiritual & physical church growth ● Money raised for church re-siding

The last few months have been very trying for me and my family. In July I return to America for my father's passing to be with the Lord. We had a memorial service in memory of his life and it was well attended and received. Many were moved by my dad's life and how through his walk with Christ he was able to help lead his neighbor (who is dying of cancer) to Christ. After the services, many spoke with me about how they wanted to get their life right with God. I know many of you were praying for us during this time, and I want to say thank you. If it wasn't for God answering those prayers, I do not know how I would have gotten through these past several months. All I can say is, to God be the glory!



In the midst of my dad passing we shifted (moved) home, as the owners sold the house we were renting (this is the sixth time we have moved in seven years), and we brought Logan back for his summer break from college (our winter here in New Zealand). In addition, we had an teen all-nighter with fourteen teenagers, my wife hosted a ladies fellowship night (with ten ladies) and we squeezed in a week long VBS, an overnight youth rally, and a Bible revival with several other churches. Life is definitely action packed, fast paste, and very interesting while serving the Lord.

Logan has truly been a blessing to me during these past several months. He has been helping with the youth group, teaching the Teen Sunday School class and also filling in for me preaching on Sunday nights. West Coast Baptist College has done a great job, in the year that they have had Logan, preparing him for God's service. Logan will be returning to college at the end of August (sophomore year), so if you could keep him in your prayers, we would really appreciate it.

Our VBS program attendance was the lowest we have seen. We had twelve children, but they were a blessing, and they were touched by God's Word and our love. We now have three of the children attending our church on Sunday. What a blessing it is to have the opportunity to teach them God's Word on a weekly basis. I think that is what it is all about (discipleship), showing these young children how God loves them and how He wants to use them. We have had over a hundred come to our VBS programs in the past, and as many as thirteen receive Christ, but never have we had any come back to our church on a continual basis.

Thank you for praying for Tim Dann, who has surrendered to serve the Lord; his health has improved. His intestinal problem has not gone away, but his strength is returning and his weight has stabilized. We really need God to help reveal what is wrong with him. The doctors are at a loss, and they have him on every type of diet you can think of: gluten free, dairy free, etc... If you could please keep him lifted up before the Lord, we would appreciate it.

We have begun our first steps in trying to get our parking lot paved, per city council's requirement. It appears as if we will be trying to put in soak holes and a drainage field to displace the water. This process requires test holes, with engineering tests and plans to be done before council will allow us to move forward. I am hopeful that the test holes analysis proves acceptable, because the only other choice is to bore under the main highway (approx. \$20k), to get to the city pipes. We want to personally thank those that have given towards our parking lot fund; I believe that we now have the money to move forward, barring having to bore under the main road. We appreciate those that are still sending money towards our building project, as we are still short \$7k to replace the asbestos siding.

Thank you for your prayer support, and giving. God bless! Your missionaries
Guy, Debbie, Logan & Erin Bankston