

The Bankstons In New Zealand

May-June 2015

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Flooding



First Service in Masterton



New Preacher



Praises

- 2 saved ● Canvassing Palmerston North and Masterton with gospel tracks ● God's protection from flood ● Two Men completed Homiletics class ● Start of new work in Masterton

Prayers

- Souls to be saved ● Physical and Spiritual Church growth ● Outreach ● Brittany's Permanent Residence ● God to call a national to train for PN work. ● Debbie speaking at Ladies Retreat (Aug)

Thank you for your continued prayers for us here in New Zealand. In May we prepared for our first service of the new work in Masterton. Each Saturday a team, from Harvest Baptist in Palmerston North (PN), travel to Masterton to evangelize on the streets and to distribute flyers of the new work. Our first service, on May 31st, we saw 18 people from the Masterton area attend. In addition we had 27 from the church in Palmerston North also attend and show their support for the new work. To date, we have seen four of the men be faithful to attend the services. One of them came forward and accepted Christ as their Savior. Praise the Lord! We have also been seeing visitors come each week. Please keep this work in your prayers.



Two more men, in the Palmerston North Church, have completed the Homiletics class. These two along with three other men, I have trained, are preaching the evening services in Palmerston North, while I take care of the evening services in Masterton.

The New Zealand Bible Baptist Training Program (NZBBTP) finished another semester. They have been a big asset to the churches that host them, and they received a lot of experience in church ministries. Brittany's sister, Marigrace, received her one year visa and will be returning on July 29th to start classes again. I will be teaching two weeks of classes during this next semester. Please keep this program, the students and the instructors in your prayers.

Outreach has been very strong and more and more are getting involved. We have groups going to Masterton and groups staying in Palmerston North. Some put flyers with the Gospel on it in the letterboxes and others go to the town center to witness and hand out tracts. Just recently we had a small group from our church hand out tracts and witness to attenders of a championship boxing match in our city. They gave them the "One Moment After" booklets by Mark Cahill.

Debbie is holding monthly ladies fellowships, where they are learning about making right choices for the Lord. In addition she has a Bible Study each Thursday where they are studying about Heaven and laying up treasures for Christ. These studies have grown and are strengthening the other ladies in the church. One lady has now stepped out to do a discipleship course with another new Christian lady. In May three of the women travelled up to Rotorua for the Mother/Daughter Banquet.

June 26th I got a call from a young Philippino man who has been attending our church with his family for about a year. He needed some help doing the paperwork for his working visa. This opened the door for me to really speak to him about his salvation. He admitted that he was not saved and wanted to be. Before I left he received Christ as his Saviour. He will be baptized in July.

Saturday, June 19th, our area got hit with a severe flood. We received a month's worth of rain in a 24-hour period. 200 people in the Palmerston North area were evacuated from their homes. Most major roads in the region were closed with flooding and slips that covered the roads. Debbie and Erin were coming back from a ladies activity, during this time. After being rerouted around flooded areas and slip, they finally found one road that was still open to get to Palmerston North. It was a rough night, as our house was surrounded by water and water came up to our first step of the front porch. God is good and He protected us from any damage and the waters receded quickly, after the rain stopped. Many other cities in the region got it much worse than we did.

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