



Jeff & Debby Williams New Zealand

Sent By:
Emmanuel Baptist Bible Church
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Pastor Caleb Kinney

December 2024 – January 2025

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

***“For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry,
ye are God's building.”***

I Corinthians 3:9



Kia Ora from a very busy summer down under! The big news this letter was the official organization of the Queenstown Bible Baptist Church. After six months of preaching and teaching on through our statement of faith and discussing what it means to be a Bible believing local church, we had our charter service on Dec. 15th with twelve charter members. Pastor Sam Hutchens from Christchurch gave us a great

charge on being laborers together with God. **Please pray** as some of our regular attenders are still struggling with doctrinal baggage from the past.

We have had a great spirit among the believers with folks continuing to step and serve wherever they can. In January Debby organized a baby shower for one of our ladies and a wedding shower for another. Such opportunities for fellowship are crucial in bringing our people together.

We now regularly have four or five out for our street ministry every weekend. The new year has marked a step up in working with several of our men regarding preaching and teaching. Last Sunday two of the brethren taught a Sunday school lesson for the first time! **Please pray** our desire in 2025 is to take some serious steps in training the folks in Queenstown to serve as we work towards this church being able to stand on its own. And for just a bit of icing on the cake, we hit a new high on the Sunday before Christmas with 42 in attendance!



The Rest of the News:

- 1) **South Island Family Camp** – our annual, island wide family camp was held the first week of January in the little town of Waipara. We had about 130 people from nine different churches for several days of preaching and fellowship. This year we had ten of us there from Queenstown.



- 2) **Summer Evangelism** – in the lead up to Christmas and New Year, Queenstown was packed with tourists and we had (and continue to have) many opportunities to get pass out tracts and talk to people on the street. Pray for God’s word to do its work as it goes out.
- 3) **Online Bible School** - Updating the Bible correspondence school has now hit the 80% threshold! Since our last letter, Jeremiah, Lamentations and Acts have gone online. As we mentioned last month, almost every week we get feedback from our students. One student in prison wrote to us to resign from his studies. He said that he had done so many wicked things that there was no way he could still be saved and there was no point in carrying on with his studies. Pastor Ben was able to counsel him about God’s grace, love, forgiveness and the doctrine of eternal security. Some sound doctrine brought much joy to this fellow who assured us he was saved, but was taught by his former church that he could lose it. Needless to say, he is back doing his lessons.

From another student this month:

“Thank you for your ministry, I am really enjoying the studies and learning an abundance of biblical knowledge that’s drawing me nearer to our Lord!” Tama M

- 4) **Grandbaby #3** – we had good news from Idaho that we are going to be grandparents again! Grace and Michael are expecting their first child in July which is exciting news indeed. Lord willing we will be able to nip back for a few weeks in July or August to see the new baby and to attend Pastor’s School in Boise.

It is hard to believe that January marks 34 years since we first came to New Zealand! We are truly humbled to go to family camp and see three of the Kiwi men pastoring on the South Island today who were once part of our teen group and Bible institute in Blenheim. Debby’s role in mentoring many of these younger pastors’ wives (Titus 2:3-5) is critical to helping their husbands thrive in the ministry. There are many moving parts around here at the moment and **we would appreciate your prayers** as we try to minister the generation following us and the one coming up after that (II Tim. 2:2). Wisdom in allocating our time and resources has never been more necessary.

Thanks for being used of God to make all of this possible. We love you all and are grateful for all that you do!

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Only Because of His Grace,

Jeff & Debby