

Jeff & Debby **Williams** New Zealand

Sent By: Emmanuel Baptist Bible Church PO Box 129 Martville, NY 13111 Pastor Caleb Kinney

February/March 2025

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

"For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad..."

I Thes. 1:8

Our whirlwind summer is now in the books as the leaves fall and the days get much shorter! February started off with very a quick trip back to the USA for a family reunion as Mom & Dad celebrated their 60th Anniversary and Dad had his 80th birthday. Praise God for parents that love the Lord and are still serving Him!

As soon as we returned, we had a wedding as Tim and Naomi tied the knot. They asked for the gospel to be



clearly preached and we praise God for the chance to have done exactly that to well over 50 unsaved family and friends. Everything from the vows to the reception was an incredible testimony to what God had done in their lives. It was a great day to see the Lord honored and to witness the powerful testimony of this couple.

We are still seeing four or five men out on the streets most weeks doing street evangelism. Every week God opens doors with far too many names and people to pass on to you all. However, on a recent Sunday afternoon a group of people speaking a foreign language stopped very close to where I was passing out tracts. Guessing they were Chinese, I offered one of the men in the group a Chinese tract. They all crowded around to look at it, but looked quite confused. A lady in the group who spoke English said she was very sorry, but that they were from Korea. Whoops! I took the tract back and went through my foreign language packet so I could offer the man a tract in Korean. When he got this one, he was quite excited and indicated his appreciation. While they were all crowding around to look at, one of the women began to speak to me almost crying. She told me she was a Christian but that her husband was unsaved. She had been praying that he would hear the gospel and was thrilled that he had just taken a tract. We never really expected to *"teach all nations"* by going to New Zealand, but that is the unique opportunity we have in Queenstown.

The Rest of the News:

1) **Annual South Island Ladies Retreat** – almost 80 ladies congregated this year from most of our South Island churches. This was the first year that the Kiwi ladies stepped up, took over from the American missionaries and did most of the organizing which was neat to see! Debby gave a challenge during the final session on wisdom & discernment.

- 2) **Ministry Training** I have been working with several of our men doing some Bible institute classes and allowing them teach and preach in church. It has been a blessing to see Marko, Salvador and Ardson step up to be used of God. Each of them has seen a big spike in spiritual attacks as they have gotten increasingly serious about serving the Lord. <u>Please pray</u> for God to bless and to work in the lives of these men and their families.
- 3) Fairlie Bible Baptist Church Fairlie is a rural town 4 hours from us where Bro. Cameron Garner started services a year ago. Cameron came out of our teen group in Blenheim and attended our Bible institute there back in 2000-2002. It was a blessing for Debby and I to see how this group is growing and to preach the anniversary service! <u>Please pray</u> for the work in Fairlie.
- 4) Filipino Bible Study one thing we are working on at the moment is trying to start up a Bible study for Filipino community here in Queenstown. Bro. Ardson is working here as a stonemason, but knows that his priority is to be used of God. He will be heading up the project and doing the bulk of the teaching as my Filipino is basically non-existent. We are hoping to kick this off in May with a dinner and then as a Saturday night Bible study. <u>Please pray for open hearts</u> and for God to work through this outreach.
- 5) **Online Bible School** Updating the Bible correspondence school continues on as the goal is to finish this project in 2025. Since our last letter, Ezekiel, Proverbs and the Song of Solomon have gone online. Your prayers for focus and strength to complete this undertaking would be a blessing!
- 6) **Surgery** I had several surgeries on my kidneys, etc. back in Nov/Dec of 2023. Scar tissue has become an increasingly challenging problem throughout 2024 leaving me little choice but to get it fixed. Your prayers for a successful surgery in April would be a blessing.

Thank you for making it possible for us to minister down under. Thank you for taking the time to read our letter and for bringing these things before the throne of grace. We love you all and appreciate you more than you will ever know!

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