

the DEATRICK family



YOUR MISSIONARIES SOLOMON ISLANDS

Dear Pastor,

April 2018

Last December, we notified you about the opportunity we had to come and work with Honiara Bible Baptist Church here in the Solomon Islands. An Australian pastor planted this church a couple years ago and made trips a couple times a year, but the church did not have a pastor. He contacted me last November with the request to come and work with the people for a time, see how it went, and possibly become the pastor after a few months.

The Lord blessed abundantly and knit the hearts of the people of this church together with ours. We saw professions of faith and watched God work in the lives of our dear brothers and sisters in Christ through discipleship and encouragement. I thank God for the opportunity, and we have learned so much from this experience.

During these initial months, we learned that Honiara Bible Baptist Church was not covenanted together as we first thought. In fact, the church is still under the authority and control of the Australian pastor and church.

Having served these months in Honiara Bible Baptist Church, we learned that the Australian mother church's interests, philosophy of ministry, and direction are best served without American involvement. It is our desire to be a blessing in ministry and not a hindrance to anyone.

There are two wonderful outcomes from our time with Honiara Bible Baptist Church. First, God used this opportunity to make it clear that He wanted us to start our ministry base here in Honiara as it is most advantageous for reaching the rest of the Solomon Islands. Second, over these last few months, we have learned much of the culture and the language that will be extremely useful in beginning a work from scratch with no veteran missionaries. We now see God had a better plan and purpose.

Also, God had perfect timing in the arrival of our container! It arrived into port just days before this all began happening. Now we have everything we had packed when we were originally planning to plant a church from scratch, including Bibles, John and Romans, hymnals, a pulpit among other things. God's plan is always perfect.

Please pray with us as we launch out into this new territory. We officially had our first Sunday as a brand new church plant in our home. Besides our family, one young man showed up. I have been working with him for the last week and praise the Lord "V" made a profession of salvation today! Please pray for strength, courage, and growth for this young man as he has a lot of baggage and will be dealing with a lot of hostility.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact either me or my sending church. My email is mdeatrick@me.com or my WhatsApp number is +677 734-5923. All questions for my sending church will go through my assistant pastor, Daniel Fox. His email is pastorfox@fbewayland.org and the church office number is 660-754-6312.

Thank you so much for your continued love, prayers and support.

All for Him,
Michael, Nora and Corban Deatrick

