



June/July 2008

# The Grove's

Just Reaching the  
Trailhead to New Zealand

"Declare His glory among the heathen, His wonders among all people."  
Psalm 96:3

Dear Praying Friends,

"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counselor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen." Romans 11:33-36

The past 6 months have been an example of God's wisdom; His ways are definitely not our ways! When we finally give up on our plans, He shows us how much better His plan has been all along! We were praying for God to provide the finances to take our survey trip to New Zealand. The logical plan was to sell our truck and some of our property. The Lord did sell our truck, in an unusual way, but the property did not sell. We were not able to go in April as we had planned, and yes, there was some disappointment. But God had a different plan for providing for the trip, and a different timetable. The best thing about seeing God work things out is that it is so unique, so supernatural, that it has to be His doing! There is comfort and confidence in knowing God did the planning. To make a long story short, He used a disagreement with my painting company's Worker's Comp. Insurance audit and a tornado to make our trip possible! If you want to hear the rest of the story you will have to schedule a meeting with us!

We did have a wonderful and productive trip to New Zealand May 21 through June 9. We visited with Jerry and Dawn Judd, BIMI missionaries to Ashburton on the South Island, for 12 days. Then we traveled to Rotorua on the North Island to visit with Garth and Lynette Piper at Rotorua Bible Baptist Church for the remainder of the time. The Lord knit our hearts together with both of these missionary families and the doors are open for us on either of the two islands. It does seem very evident that the greater need is on the South Island, and our goal at this time is to be back in the Ashburton, Canterbury Plains area within two years time. As we have already experienced, it will be exciting to see how God has it planned!! We are just going to be His earthen vessels, getting in the way so He can lead us!

When we returned to the states we had the privilege to attend World Wide's annual Family Week. This year we were hosted (or should I say spoiled!), by the Memorial Baptist Church in Ocala, Florida. We were challenged and encouraged by excellent preaching, good fellowship, and of course plenty of good ole' southern hospitality. Our daughter enjoyed the southern style of preaching. She said, "I didn't yawn once!" Our children had a wonderful time making new friends and enjoying the activities that were planned for them.

Please pray as we make our prayer cards, our presentation, and make phone calls to set up meetings. God has already been good to give us 3 missions conferences for the fall and winter! We are excited to see what will happen next!

In His Service,  
Mike Grove, for the Grove clan