

Grateful Greetings!

from the Grove Family to New Zealand

May/June 2014



To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven... Ecclesiastes 3:1

When God created the world He established the seasons for a purpose; sowing, growing, reaping, and resting. With today's methods of travel, it is possible to skip some of the seasons, as we have come from fall in the Southern Hemisphere directly to spring in the Northern Hemisphere. But, the seasons will go on! Nancy and I are experiencing this changing of "seasons" as we have traveled back from New Zealand to close a chapter in the Grove family – to join the ranks of the "empty nesters." This is a "season" we did not look forward to,

but we knew it was coming. It is a time of reaping as we see how God will use what we have sown in the lives of our children. As we think about these changing seasons, we are reminded that the sowing, watering, and reaping will never stop until we reach that final destination resting in the arms of Jesus!

The two months since our last newsletter have been a flurry of exciting opportunities. It was with mixed emotions that we left the many ministries behind to return our youngest, Stephen, to the States for his

high school graduation. The ministry was left in good hands with 5 key men in the church guiding the various responsibilities. Men from two sister churches will be helping fill the pulpit, and an experienced missionary pastor will be there to help for the last 6 or 7 weeks of our furlough. Pray for John, Derek, Sam P., Sam R., and Rogerio, as they share the responsibilities and learn from the new opportunities to grow.



Just before our return, we were able to be involved with the Teen Camp on the North Island. Stephen enjoyed being a leader on one of the teams. Over 80 young people were challenged to "Make a Difference" in their families, churches, and communities – for the cause of Christ! Pray for several young men including Michael, Daniel, and Jared, who have the desire and the ability to serve God in the ministry, but are in need of discipleship and encouragement.

As we travel in the U.S., please pray that we will be able to have an impact on, and be an encouragement to, the people in our supporting churches. We have already had some good opportunities to share the truth with folks along the way. People are always curious about our decision to leave our home country to go to a faraway place. Sadly, they are not as interested in their eternity.

Again, we thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. We look forward to being able to thank some of you in person! If you would like us to share in your church, but for some reason did not know we were in the country, just give me a call on 816-810-0501. We would like to visit with as many of you as our schedule would permit. God bless you all!

Serving together with you,

The Grove Family

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