

Grateful Greetings!

from the Grove Family to New Zealand

August/September 2015

For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. Isaiah 61:11



The long Winter is over and the first signs of Spring are here. The daffodils are blooming and the trees are in blossom. Calving season is almost over and the farm workers are recovering from the long hours. Hard to believe the time has flown by so quickly. Stephen's short visit was a blessing to all. We enjoyed his ministry on the piano, teaching the children's Sunday School class, and helping with the young people's activities. The children probably miss him as much as we do.

Since our last letter, we have been to a "Soul-winning Conference" at Rotorua Bible Baptist Church. It was a blessing to be reminded of the power of the Gospel and to learn some new methodology from an experienced "Soul-winner." Finding was to turn conversations to the "theme of themes," getting people to think about their eternity, allowing the Word of God to do its work in their hearts, this is our goal.

Later in August we hosted a meeting with Creation Ministries. Dr. Jim Mason, a Canadian Nuclear physicist was touring the country and spoke to a group of over 50 here in Ashburton. It was a challenging and encouraging evening for us as we heard from a scientist who has not "bought into" the lies of evolution.

We ended Stephen's visit with a Sunday School Party. The children had been divided into teams for the winter and the winning team was rewarded for their efforts. The teens are also looking forward to teen camp coming up at the end of September. We will be taking 4 teens to camp this year. The Pastors and their wives do all the preaching and organizing of the camp so it will be a busy time for all.

Two of our teen boys were involved in a Robotics competition in Christchurch this month. It was an interesting time for the former science teacher and both boys did well though they narrowly missed bringing home trophies.



Our regular services have been going well, consistently having 20-30 in attendance despite this being the most difficult time for the farmers. Bible studies and discipleship times are slowly getting back to normal as people's schedules normalize, usually 6-7 times of discipleship or Bible Study meetings per week. BLAST club is still going well, we hit a new high of 13 a few weeks ago! The next big thing on the schedule will be the teaching of the Old Testament survey course – the Poetical Books, in the New Zealand Bible Baptist Training program. This time Mike will be travelling to Wellington to teach the class.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support! God bless you all!

Serving together with you,

Mike and Nancy Grove

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