

Grateful Greetings from the Groves

May/June 2020

Your Missionaries to New Zealand



“What in the world is going on?” – A question heard many times over the last week or two. Jesus said it would be this way! In Matthew 24 His words are recorded.... “And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you... For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.**”

Paul warned Timothy in 1 Timothy 4 and 2 Timothy 3.... “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith... Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron...,” “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

Peter simply said in 2Peter 3:3, “Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts....”

As Christians who believe the Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God, we shouldn't be shocked. In fact, we really should be excited! We are getting one more opportunity, with illustrations, to show people the accuracy of God's Word and the solution to the problem – the blessings of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

After preaching on “ZOOM” for 10 weeks, we are finally able to be back together in the hall. The “Corona virus” may be eradicated from our islands for now, but these are still very clearly the “latter days”, the end times! As we see our



country, “a team of 5 million,” attack and conquer the virus, our leaders are legalizing the murder of children up to birth, including legally denying medical attention to a child that survives an abortion. As we see the conquering of the virus, we see the leaders pushing for the legalization of THC for “recreational use” – threatening the lives of how many young people who just survived the COVID-19 scare? We also see the tightening down on the “dangerous” practice of teaching about Christianity in the public schools – the scoffers seem to have finally gotten their way here in rural New Zealand. Please pray for us as we continue to share the Truth with those who will hear. As in the U.S.A., we too have an important election coming up later this year which could very well be the difference between preaching the Gospel being a “hate crime” or not! If the current leadership stays in power, we could be facing criminal charges for sharing the Truth. The latter days are upon us!

We are still pressing on with the usual ministry efforts, with a renewed urgency as we see the potential changes coming. We are averaging 50 people in our Sunday morning services and continue to see people inviting their friends and helping us to be a bigger team in our town. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as we continue to sow, water, and reap the harvest.

Serving together with you,

Mike and Nancy Grove

Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton

Home Church: Eagle Heights Baptist Church, 5600 N. Brighton Ave., Kansas City, MO 64119 Ph.: 816-454-7410

Missions Office: WWNTBM, P.O. Box 725, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 Ph.: 704-730-1440

E-mail: fivegrovesinkcmo@isotechnetworks.net; Skype username: michaelgrove64 Skype phone: **816-399-4820**

Field Address: **54 Cross Street, Allenton, Ashburton 7700 New Zealand** Ph.: +6433084695

Prayer Requests:

- Nancy's and Mike's **Bibles-in-Schools at Hampstead primary school - cancelled until further notice. Currently being evaluated by the school administration to see if they are going to open it up on a "opt in" basis instead of an "opt out" basis. Pray that we will be able to get back in now that the lockdown is over.**
- Kid's Club (Sunday School) at 9:30am on Sundays. Sam and Michaela are continuing to teach the 5-11 year old class.
- Our young families with small children, pray that we will be able to guide them in the proper Biblical training up of their children with proper Biblical discipline, despite the cultural false teachings. **We will be hosting a "Parenting Conference" in July – pray for good attendance.**
- For the ones we are currently discipling: Randy and Ruby, Leeanne and Paul, Sam and Michaela
- Discipleship of new believer, Richard. Still trying to work out a consistent discipleship time. Pray that Richard will see the importance of discipleship so that we can have a consistent time with him and his wife, Gina. His job is emotionally stressful making life difficult – all the more reason he needs to understand what he has in Christ!
- Pray for God's Word to soften and convict hearts during these difficult times. More people are hearing the Word of God preached than ever before with the easy access to online services.
- Pray for our families to grow stronger in the Lord.
- Pray for our young people as they attend the public schools** – peer pressure appears to be as bad as or worse than in the U.S. – especially regarding immorality and alcohol. (RJ, Luke, Isaac (unsaved), Lydia, Nikki, Hector)
- Pray for Jacob, he is now 18 and will be starting discipleship to become a member. It is a blessing that he desires to stay involved in church. He still needs to find a job and make decisions about the future.
- Knowing what to preach each week in order to effectively allow the Word of God to convict hearts and challenge believers to actively participate in missions wherever God has put them.
- Our new church attendees - taking the next steps in baptism and church membership
- Pray for our Church families, their spiritual growth and effectiveness in reaching their unsaved friends and family.
- Contacts we have made at local businesses. (Joshua the barber; Dave and Nathan at the auto shop; Ivan at the 2nd hand shop, etc.)
- Pray for us to know what to do about purchasing a building or property on which to build.
- Unspoken requests.
- Pray for RJ, Luke, and Sheena as they desire to travel to Japan and the Philippines with the MTT team led by Bro. Bob Landis, out of Morningside Baptist Church in Greenville, SC, but the trip has been postponed until May 2021. Any funds that have been give toward the trip will be held until then and applied to their account. They are continuing to save for the trip.**
- Praise the Lord for his blessing in providing our needs – God is good, all the time!
- Stephen – Now moved to a new job in Bonham, TX. Pray for him as he learns the new job, gets used to living on his own and finds the right church family to join. His girlfriend, Megan, lives in Wyoming. They are praying about future plans. ☺



Thank you for remembering us in prayer! Feel free to send prayer requests for us to take to the Lord on your behalf.