## Grateful Greetings

from the Groves in New Zealand

Winter is almost over! The weather has been mild, not too many frosts, but lots of rain! Many of our shrubs have decided it's time to blossom. The farmers are in full swing with calving season upon us. Unfortunately that means the numbers in church are down, but the opportunities to minister have not been hampered by the cold or the calves.

We finished the month of June with the NZBBTP students. They joined our teens to end their time here with a formal night at a nice restaurant followed by Mini-golf and finished with games and snacks at our house. It was a fun night to replace the local "high school's" formal banquet which is not an appropriate activity for Christian young people.

We continued our 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday outreach by distributing our remaining John/Romans. Nancy has enjoyed

her Tuesday morning "Coffee time" with the ladies, and the Men's Prayer Breakfast has been a good opportunity for the men to join together for fellowship and prayer.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of July, we were able to baptize 3 of our teenagers. Two of them are now official members of Victory Baptist, while the third one has to wait until she is 18. The teens are growing up quickly and it is a blessing to see them want to join the church as members as they reach "voting" age.

We were invited to Auckland for the last Sunday in July. A sister church invited Mike to preach for their annual "Thanksgiving Sunday." It was a blessing to spend the day with brothers and sisters in Christ, celebrating our God who is Greatly to be Praised!

On August 10<sup>th</sup> we were able to begin an afterschool Kid's Club at the Primary school were we rent the hall for our Sunday services. What a blessing to see 11 children walk in the door for our first day of club — "Kid's Under Construction." The program was written by a fellow missionary, Pastor David Smith, who gave us permission to adapt it to our 1 ½ hour after school program for unchurched 8-11 year olds.

Please continue to pray for the borders to open allowing new missionaries to come into the country. We would love to see the Hoffmans here to help us by the end of the year! Thank you for your continued prayers and support!! We wouldn't be able to reach the people here in the Ashburton District if it

wasn't for faithful people like you. May God richly bless you as you serve Him!

Because of Christ,

## Mike and Nancy Grove Victory Baptist Church of Ashburton











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