

# Grateful Greetings

from the Groves in New Zealand

May/June 2022

We are thankful for your prayers as we were busy in the “Merry month of May,” with mixed emotions.... There was so much to do to prepare for a short trip back to the U.S.!



In May we enjoyed continuing our discipleship with the Oreña family. They are our newest family, having started attending as a result of their son, Eli (pronounced Ellie), being saved at teen camp last year. We baptized Eli and Hector, another young man who has been involved in our ABC's for Christian growth discipleship. Hector also led his sister, Aicel, to the Lord and she was baptized with her big brother.

For Mother's day, the teens helped prepare a catered lunch for the mothers. It was a blessing to have a good group attend, as you can see in the above picture. If everyone were able to get off work and attend at the same time, we



would have been over 80 on Mother's Day.



We had a good group for our Men's Prayer Breakfast. We try to meet once a month during the fall and winter when the farm work slows down.

Much preparation and planning was required in order to plan our return to the U.S. for a short furlough. We have four deacons, with whom I divided the weekly responsibilities. Please pray for David, Ian, Sam P., and Sam R. as they lead the church in my absence. We have been and will be in close

contact as we are here. I will preach several Sunday morning services by the way of Zoom. Brett Hoffman, who was trying to get there before we left, will be preaching several Sunday's. Two men from a sister church in Christchurch will also be filling in four of the Sunday's. The church people have been stepping up and the ministry is continuing. Our plan has been to “work ourselves out of a job”! Now we just need God to call the man to be the “Kiwi” pastor of the church.

God continues to work and we are constantly grateful for your prayers and support! Please pray for us as we travel, enjoying our time here but regretting that we had to leave our church family in Ashburton.

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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