



## **New Zealand Update #1.**

God is already doing amazing things here in the field! I cannot wait to share some of them with you guys. God bless!



*The Next Steps New Zealand Team.*

These are my newest family members—the Next Steps New Zealand 2019 team. This day, we got to glean wisdom and hear the burden of the Bucklands (in the center), our regional directors here. Their passion for the islands is contagious! #EveryInhabitableIsland

The Bucklands are responsible for overseeing every country within the Pacific Region. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel through, work in, and minister to these island nations!



## **The Challenge**

The Pacific Region takes up 1/3 of the world's surface. There are over 457 million souls here. There are 29 "nation" — thousands and thousands of islands. This region has the least

amount of missionaries & the number is sharply declining due to retirement, sickness, etc. there are only SEVEN missionaries located in this region!

Only 1,368,411 UPCI constituents in the region.

Less than 0.5% of the Pacific is reached.

**Currently, every person within the Church body here would have to reach 330 souls to reach everyone in the Islands.**

Brunei, the Mariana Islands, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, the Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Niue, and Tuvalu have NEVER heard the Gospel.

**PLEASE pray for these nations with us.**

**Specifically, that God would open a door for Apostolic influence in these nations and that He would call missionaries to this field.**

## The Addingtons

The Addingtons are retired missionaries to New Zealand who still reside here! Please keep Bro. Addington in your prayers as he goes through chemo and keep his family's peace of mind in your prayers.



Monday through Friday we are in class sessions all day learning on spiritual disciplines, missions in the region and world, logistics of the UPCI, spiritual warfare, heart matters, conflict resolution, and more! They have been incredibly spirit-filled and almost consistently put into action.





One of our more notable class sessions was a short lesson on prayer walks. After Sis. Mollie Borders taught us on effective prayer walking in Hamilton, our leadership set up a virtual prayer walk. Essentially they made the church out to be New Zealand & posted the cities around the building in a geographical manner. We began to prayer walk around the “cities” and God’s Spirit moved mightily. It was a time of spiritual warfare and intercession on behalf of the souls in these cities. Afterwards, we discussed everything we’d felt about specific cities. Interestingly enough, as soon as we arrived in one of these cities the next week, we all immediately felt the spiritual climate that we’d felt praying for that city in the church. I’m so thank for our Next Steps leadership putting us into these scenarios, helping us understand what we’re feeling, and preparing us for combating these spirits.



### **Nivan Reunion!**

Sis. Lynette Tamata from Vanuatu is studying here in Hamilton! She was such a welcoming face as we have kept in contact since I left Vanuatu last year.. she’s so dear to my heart, this connection made me so happy!





## Youth Bonfire

Grace Fellowship youth bonfire turned worship night! We had an amazing time with their young people. We sang songs unto the Lord all night and got to eat some cool Maori food while doing so.

## Southside UPCI

The Next Steps group at Sunday service with the UPCI church of Auckland, Southside. We had a fantastic time fellowshiping with, ministering to, and being ministered to by this wonderful church family!



## Grace Fellowship

This photo is from one of our Sunday services at Grace. Grace is the church we are based out of in Frankton, Hamilton. They have already become our family and I already cannot even imagine leaving them! What a privilege to be able to serve within such a wonderful group.



Something I do not have photos of but feel very privileged to be a part of is the Columbian home Bible study going on in Hamilton! New Zealand is home to many nationalities— Fijian, Columbian, African, Tongan, Maori, European, Australian, Indonesian, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and so many more. Wishing the last few years, many Columbians immigrated to NZ & have began attending Grace Fellowship. Many of them do not speak any English and have a Bible study done in home where a girl from the church named Dhana usually translates. This last week, I was able to attend this Spanish Bible study with Brother Borders, a girl in my group named Betsabe, and a guy named Oscar. I so enjoyed being able to experience that within this nation. It was lovely to fellowship with them and get to know them. Hopefully I will be able to attend many more during these five weeks!



## We Graduated

This is the day that we completed our three week training sessions! I am so grateful for all of the wisdom, passion, and burden that was poured out to us! If we had left after this, I know for sure my life would already be changed... but I'm very thankful we are going to be here for five more weeks.

## Morning devotionals + prayer

Every morning, our group rallies in a different room at 8:30a. We start with a short devotional. Then, we write our specific prayer points out on a marker board & pray over them. We usually after this either do a prayer walk around the city (on Mondays) or read the book of Acts aloud together (every other week day)! These have become one of my favorite activities. After we finish, we disperse into the city, whether for individual evangelism, group Bible studies, or other witnessing tactics.



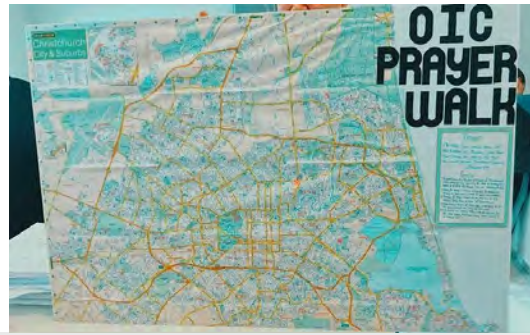
## Tauranga, NZ

This Sunday, we drove an hour and a half directly after church to Tauranga, a preaching point. They have church in a building & there are usually 3 faithful attendees. This Sunday, we quickly found that the person in charge of opening the building wasn't coming... nor the constituents. We didn't let this damper our spirits and instead decided to do focused prayer over the city and then did a time of worship. After we finished, we looked up and saw that a full rainbow had stretched across the city of Tauranga. It was a beautiful reminder that God keeps His promises.

### Christchurch, NZ

There are 360,000 souls in Christchurch, New Zealand and only ONE church. ONE.

My heart breaks more and more for this nation every single day that I'm here.. please, please pray that God would send laborers to this city!



### PRAYER POINTS

- that God would raise up Christian leaders in the Maori community to affect them from within.
- for laborers to be called to New Zealand (specifically in Auckland, Christchurch, and Tauranga).
  - Tauranga. Prayers for God to raise up leaders, for the missionaries to find dependable contacts, and for an established work in that city.
- unity, boldness, and joy throughout the New Zealand communities and churches.
  - the Border family.
- the Smith family (AIMers of 2 years, going on 3) and the Merritts (intermediate missionaries).
  - the Visa process for ALL missionaries here!



