

#NSNEWZEALAND19

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF RACHAEL MCBRIDE

NEW ADVENTURES AND HAPPENINGS

• AUCKLAND AND TAURANGA



• ADVENTURES



• ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END.



HELLO AND GOODBYE FROM THE OTHERSIDE OF THE WORLD

BY RACHAEL MCBRIDE

Where do I even start. Every minute of this trip has been amazing and even better than I expected. New Zealand has a way of growing on you and getting into your blood. There is so much to do and see. I feel like 2 months was not enough time. God did so much in and through me that I came home a totally different person. My Dad continues to comment that I came back changed. I have been home for a week now and trying to fit back into my routine has been a challenge.

God took a lost and confused 33 year old and totally wrecked her world. The little I thought I knew about missions was just that, a little. This trip has opened my eyes to a real understanding of how things work behind the scenes. My Pastor sits on the Missions board so when Missionaries are going to be in our area, he does his best to make sure they come through and speak. It is hard to get a good understanding of what they do and what they fight just those few moments of time.

I was able to gain a new sense of what missionaries do and give up to do Gods will. I was totally unprepared for the way God wrecked my view of Missions and how this country stole my heart. It is said that you leave a little piece of yourself where ever you go. I did not leave a piece, but left my whole heart in New Zealand. God is doing incredible things in this nation. I gained new family while there and friends that I will cherish for life.



MY ADVENTURES

AUCKLAND

What an incredible country and what amazing people. I was so blessed to get to go back to Auckland and help the Southside Pentecostals have church. Saturday we helped clean and do some yard work that needed to be done. On Sunday they gave us the whole church service and let us lead in prayer, worship, and preaching. We had an awesome move of God and then they fed us again. This church family is so warm and welcoming.



THE NEXTSTEPPEERS PEN

This is a picture of me and the welcome paper that is handed to every church member as they come in. I got the awesome privilege of writing what is called the "Pastor's Pen." For this occasion they called it "The NextSteppers Pen." That was cool to open this and see my writing.



LEADING WORSHIP

Here is a picture of me and my fellow NextSteppers leading the church in worship. It was incredible to lift up Jesus in song with these amazing people.



CLEANING

Saturday was spent cleaning and helping pick up branches around the property. I have never had so much fun just cleaning windows and pushing a broom. It's the little things we do for Christ that will last.

Tauranga

THE SERVICE

What an amazing time we had in the Lord. It was well worth the hour drive to be able to worship with a Columbian family that lives in Tauranga. We had no music, no fancy lights, and no projected words on a screen, but God still showed up and showed us that He is in control.



MY FAMILY

This is Sis. Baya. I absolutely love her to death. She is from Fiji and lives in New Zealand. She is one of the many reasons why I did not starve while on the mission field.



THE SCENERY

How could I not be in love with this country when it has views like this. My God's handy work is amazing and breath taking.



KIA ORA

BOTH HELLO AND GOODBYE



ALL GOOD THINGS MUST COME TO AN END

How do you say goodbye to 17 strangers who have become closer than family? The truth is you don't. You simply say "See you next time." This is not all of our group as some already flew out that morning, but those of us that were left felt the loss of them deeply. I am not good at goodbyes so I chose to save my tears for the plane ride and 13 hour layover in Sydney. It hit me at 3 am the next morning, while reading the kind words that my new family had written in my journal, that I was going home.

How do I go home after 2 months in a country that literally stole every piece of my heart? The truth...it's not easy. I thought Sis. Angie was kidding when she talked about goodbye's in our last class. New Zealand holds a special place in my heart and the beautiful people I met have FOREVER changed my life. I am so glad I was able to go on this trip. God has opened my eyes and now I am waiting on Him to open doors, but until He does, I will praise Him in the hallway so I will be ready for when the door opens.