



# THE BROWNS IN NEW ZEALAND



JUNE 2020

How do you begin a prayer letter without mentioning Covid-19? Impossible!! It's amazing how a virus changed the whole world.

At the end of February, Janet went back to the states to help her sisters take care of her mother for 3 weeks. Elsie had taken a fall and needed 24/7 care. Little did we know at the time that her flight back to New Zealand would get her here before the country went into lockdown. Self-isolation was required upon her return but the following week the entire country went to a Level 4 alert. This was what the New Zealand government considered the highest alert level. Only essential services were open, churches were required to close, and it was back to total home cooking.

Tim Guenther took on the responsibility of Zoom Bible studies on Wednesday evenings and online preaching for Sunday. We are thankful for the technology that allowed us to continue to meet together online but nothing compares to being in God's house! After 10 weeks of no physical church services, we were able to meet on Sunday morning, May 31. With hand sanitizers in place, contact tracing in order, no hugs or handshakes, we enjoyed the sweet fellowship of being a family once again. God is good. Psalm 122:1, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Even after dropping down from Alert Level 4 to Level 1, for the last Sunday in May and the month of June we have only had Worship Services on Sunday and Wednesday evening Bible Study & Prayer meetings. Because we are in winter months (June, July, & August) and normal flu season, we are taking precautions to keep our people safe but still be able to meet together.

Our borders are still closed except to New Zealand citizens or those holding permanent residence. Upon arrival, two week quarantine is a requirement. Because we were able to contain our borders, New Zealand has recorded only 22 deaths for the entire country.

We are thankful the Lord has allowed us to stay healthy. We would appreciate your prayers for Janet's mum who continues to battle with terminal lung cancer. Also, my dad has been in assisted living lockdown for several months. He did get Covid-19 but was treated quickly and has recovered but still struggles with Alzheimer's. He still knows who I am when we're able to talk on the phone. That is a blessing!

We appreciate those of you who have continued to be faithful to us especially during this time. We realize the financial strains many of you face. We have been in New Zealand for 29 years and God has always taken care of us through his people. Love and blessings abound when we put our trust in Him.

Keep praying as we minister together.

By **HIS** grace & for **HIS** glory,

*The Browns*

**Dale and Janet**

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