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DEAR PASTOR, CHURCH, AND PRAYING FRIENDS,

WE HAVE AN OVERLOAD OF BLESSINGS TO REPORT TO YOU. JUST 7 DAYS BEFORE WE LEFT FOR AUSTRALIA, MY OLDEST BROTHER, KEN, PASSED INTO HEAVEN. HOWEVER, WE WERE ALLOWED IN GOD'S GOOD TIMING TO CARRY ON TO OUR DESTINATION. SEVERAL DETAILS SURROUNDING OUR TRIP WERE MARVELOUSLY "COINCIDENTLY" TAKEN CARE! NO! DOORS OF ADVANTAGE WERE OPENED TO US, WHICH ASSURED US GOD WAS LEADING US TO MAKE THIS TRIP.

ON ARRIVING IN BRISBANE, I GUESS YOU WOULD SAY WE HIT THE ROAD RUNNING! ARRIVING ON FRIDAY, I PREACHED SATURDAY FOR THE MEN'S BREAKFAST. ONE MAN WAS VERY MOVED, I TALKED EXTENSIVELY WITH HIM ABOUT HIS SPIRITUAL CONDITION, AND ON EASTER SUNDAY HE CAME FORWARD AND SETTLED HIS LIFE WITH THE LORD. AFTER SERVICES, THE CHURCH FOLKS PREPARED A HUGE DINNER; A COUPLE WE LED TO THE LORD SEVERAL YEARS AGO ALSO WERE PRESENT. THE DAY WAS FILLED WITH PRECIOUS TIMES OF FELLOWSHIP; WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE JOHN EDWARDS FAMILY THAT HAVE FAITHFULLY CARRIED ON THE MINISTRY IN OUR ABSENCE.

"EASTER MONDAY", WE DROVE NORTH OF BRISBANE WITH BROTHER EDWARDS AND BORROWED A LITTLE CAR THAT WE, AND OUR SON, TIM, HAD PREVIOUSLY OWNED. WE, SO VERY MUCH APPRECIATED THE GENEROSITY OF DES AND BEV STEILER WHO WERE ONE OF THE FIRST COUPLES TO JOIN IN WITH US AS WE FOUNDED THE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH. LATER, THEY MOVED NORTH AND WERE IN TIM'S CHURCH, AND NOW ARE MEMBERS IN A GOOD FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST CHURCH FOR WHICH WE WERE ABLE TO SUPPLY A SOUND SYSTEM. THIS WAS A GRAND REUNION WITH THIS COUPLE.

TUESDAY NIGHT WAS PRAYER MEETING BACK AT FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST AND A FINE MAN JOINED THE CHURCH. THUSDAY WE JOINED WITH OUR HOST FAMILY TO CELEBRATE "ANZAC DAY" WITH A PATRIOTIC PARADE THROUGH THE CITY AND CHURCH LUNCHEON AT ONE OF OUR LONG TIME CHURCH FAMILIE'S HOUSES. FRIDAY WE HEADED OUT TO MELMERRIN, QUEENSLAND, TO SPEND 3 DAYS WITH PASTOR ZIMMERMANN, WHOM I BAPTIZED AS A TEEN AGER IN THE 90'S. WE WERE THRILLED TO SEE HIS OUT REACH OPPORTUNITIES: OPEN PUBLIC WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES, A TRAINED VOLUNTEER FIREMAN, AND A MONTHLY FULL PAGE MAGAZINE ARTICLE FOR A \$200 PER YEAR RATE. WE WOULD LIKE TO HELP HIM ADD ONE MORE PAGE: WHICH REACHES INTO 7 NEARBY CITIES. ONE CITY ALONE IS 5,000 IN POPULATION. PERHAPS SOMEONE WOULD LIKE TO HELP US IN THIS MINISTRY.

MOVING ON, WE DROVE 2 HOURS SOUTH TO BE IN THE GRANITE BELT BAPTIST CHURCH IN STANTHORPE, QUEENSLAND. THE TRIP WAS HURRENDOUS WITH LIVE AND DEAD KANGAROOS TO AVOID: JOYCE HELD ON FOR "DEAR LIFE". SHE SURVIVED! SEVERAL YEARS AGO WE HAD A PART IN ORDAINING BROTHER BRENDAN DUNN TO THE MINISTRY. OH, HOW HUNGRY THIS MAN AND HIS FAMILY WERE FOR FELLOWSHIP. WE SPENT LONG HOURS TOGETHER WHICH WARMED ALL OF OUR HEARTS FOR THIS WORK.

FINALLY, WE SAID GOODBYE TO QUEENSLAND AND FLEW TO MELBOURNE, VICTORIA WHERE WE SPENT THE FIRST 18 YEARS OF OUR LIVES IN MINISTRY. WE MET UP WITH FRED AND JEAN MCMULLEN; FRED TOOK OUR FIRST CHURCH AND PASTORED FOR 20 YEARS. IT ALL CAME ABOUT AS WE WERE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THEIR GRANDSON, A PLANNED SURPRISE! WE REJOICED TO SEE THE SON, PETER, STILL BUSY IN THE LORD'S WORK. HE WAS ONE OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN, NOW MARRIED AND HAVING HIS 4 SONS IN THE MINISTRY. FRED AND JEAN MCMELLAN MOUTH'S LITTERALLY HUNG OPEN WHEN THEY SAW US. THE JOY WAS DELIGHTFUL FOR US ALL. HERE WAS ANOTHER FAMILY SERVING THE LORD NOW INTO THE THIRD GENERATION!

WE ALSO HAD A GOOD TIME WITH GEORGE AND SUE EVENS WHOM I HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF LEADING TO THE LORD ON FEBRUARY 17, 1985 AND LATER BAPTIZED. THEIR CHILDREN, NOW GROWN ARE ALSO SERVING THE LORD. OUR HEARTS WERE FULL FROM ALL OF THESE STORIES OF PRECIOUS SOULS CONTINUING ON. WHAT AN ENCOURAGING TIME IT WAS TO SEE JUST A FEW OF GOD'S TROPHIES!

THE TRIP HOME WAS HARD TO SAY THE LEAST. 28 HOURS OF TRAVEL! JOYCE COMPLAINED OF PAIN IN HER LEFT LEG AND ENDED UP IN THE ER. SHE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH BLOOK CLOTS IN HER LEG FROM THE CALF UP TO THE GROIN, AND IN BOTH MAIN ATTERIES TO HER LUNGS. SHE IS ON BLOOD THINNER MEDICINES NOW AND OUR DOCTOR HAS ADVISED THAT WE DO NOT RETURN TO AUSTRALIA AGAIN DUE TO HER HEATH CONCERNS. HOWEVER, WE ARE WILLING TO VISIT CHURCHES AND SHARE OUR BURDEN FOR MISSIONS. THERE IS SUCH A GREAT NEED FOR WILLING WORKERS, AND THE BLESSINGS ARE OUT OF THIS WORLD! WE KNOW, FIRST HAND!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT. WE STILL HAVE A GREAT DESIRE TO SERVE THE LORD THROUGH OPEN DOORS, MAYBE YOURS!

IN THE HARVEST TOGETHER, EARL & JOYCE KOON



RECEIVED \$ 242.00 FOR APRIL AND MAY, 2019. THANK YOU, GOD BLESS YOU!

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalm 126:6