

New Zealand Training Centre
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*For the grace of God,
bringing salvation to all men,
has appeared, training us
Titus 2:11, 12*

4 August 2023

To the saints in New Zealand

A Report from the Propagation in Queenstown, 19-23 June 2023

Dear saints,

The Lord is surely moving in New Zealand and He has opened the way for all the saints to participate in this move! This is a report from the propagation in Queenstown on the week 19-23 June 2023.

Background

In early 2022, there was a feeling among the co-working brothers to conduct a propagation in the lower South Island focusing on three main centres - Dunedin, Invercargill, and Queenstown, as well as some smaller surrounding towns such as Bluff, Gore, Arrowtown, Wanaka, and Cromwell.

In June of the same year, one hundred and ten saints from around New Zealand, including trainees, young working saints, local saints, and families with young children joined that propagation. Saints from around New Zealand, and from around the world, also participated through prayer and by giving.

There was a feeling to continue this propagation again this year, but this time, placing more emphasis on Queenstown.

So that you can be encouraged, we have prepared a report regarding this most recent propagation.

Propagation Report

There were around 50 saints who participated in this recent propagation. It was very encouraging to see saints from different localities throughout New Zealand join in with the burden to propagate in Queenstown to establish the church there.

A campsite was hired to accommodate the saints which proved to be very valuable as it enabled everyone to stay, eat, fellowship, and coordinate together. It was also very valuable in enabling saints to invite newly contacted ones from the day back to a warm, loving and pursuing atmosphere in the evenings. Several newly contacted ones came to the campsite in the evenings for dinner and stayed to enjoy some singing and fellowship.

Saints were divided into 5 teams and laboured in different areas such as Queenstown CBD, parks, shopping centres, suburban areas, and the smaller towns of Cromwell, Wanaka, and Arrowtown.

The main gospel activities were giving out copies of the *New Testament Recovery Version* and speaking *The Mystery of Human Life*, both with the aim to establish new contacts and invite new ones to a Bible seminar at the end of the week.

Details of each gospel activity are given below:

BfNZ Tabling

A *Bibles for New Zealand* table was set up in Queenstown and in Wanaka

In Queenstown, the table served as a base and means for saints to approach people in the CBD area. In one particular experience, a Muslim girl in her mid-30s came and stood at the table and asked to see a Bible. Her eyes were very seeking. After skimming through a few pages, she asked for a Bible and said that she was studying religion. We gave her a Bible and also offered her a copy of the *All Inclusive Christ* and *The Economy of God*. We shared with her something regarding the meaning of God's economy. She was quite attentive. We invited her to the Bible seminar later that week but she said she was flying to Sydney the following day.

In Wanaka, the table was slow going but the going out of the saints in the community was excellent. Two of the saints talked with a Filipino mother and her 20-year-old son working at a bakery. They were very open to receiving free Bibles and responded with their appreciation of our meeting with them. They have only been in Wanaka for two and half months. We returned to Wanaka later in the week and met with them again. The son is now being shepherded by a brother in Dunedin.

Because of the strong response in Wanaka, we visited Wanaka again. On this second visit, the saints at the table were approached by a young student requesting three Bibles. When she was asked why she wanted three Bibles she replied wanted one for herself and two for her church friends in Dunedin. She mentioned that she had been observing the saints at the table from a cafe across the street.

On several occasions, people even stopped by the table in their cars, rolled down their windows and asked for a Bible.

All the saints who laboured in Wanaka were encouraged and returned to Queenstown rejoicing. It is our hope that we can return there later this year for a small Bible seminar.

Door Knocking

In Queenstown saints went out in groups of three or four to knock on doors in the suburb of Lake Hayes. Queenstown is a place where many people live temporarily, or just visit as tourists. Lake Hayes, however, is a suburb that is well populated with families who live in Queenstown permanently. In this suburb, saints knocked on 585 doors with the aim of giving out *New Testament Recovery Versions*, speaking the *Mystery of Human Life*, or inviting families with young children to a children's programme that was to be held later in the week.

Bible Seminar

A Bible seminar was held at the end of the propagation and covered the topic, *Life's Principle – Changing Death into Life* (John 2). There were 45 who attended this, including 17 new ones who had been contacted or invited throughout the week. The new ones were from different backgrounds. Among these 17, there were two young men from Saudi Arabia. One of them spoke and confirmed the message concerning the worldly enjoyment running out. This person had been seeking for the truth and had been studying different religions to find the truth. This was also the case with some of the

others who were there, confirmed by their sharing of similar experiences. This shows there is a hunger even among the religious ones for the truth in the Word.

After the seminar had concluded, all the visitors were happy to linger for another hour over supper. They were in no hurry to leave. This was very precious and helped establish some good contacts.

Stars Showcase

Also at the end of the week, a programme for children called *Stars Showcase* was held. This was a live version of the weekly *Stars Club* held online by the New Zealand Training Centre. Initially, only the saints' children were present. However, after 20-30 minutes more children came. A couple and their two children came, and another contact and his son turned up as well. They joined in and enjoyed their time there. They were invited to join the local saints' weekly Neighbourhood Children's Meeting (NCM) as they had a positive response to what had been presented in the *Stars Showcase*.

Further Testimonies

One encouraging testimony has been the participation of an existing new one throughout the week of propagation. He had only joined two Friday night group meetings before the propagation began. The local saints were uncertain as to how open he was and whether he had the appetite to participate in the whole week. Surprisingly he joined every day, and he told the saints that his top highlight during the whole week was giving out Bibles through door knocking. He comes from a Catholic background and this week was his first real exposure to the gospel, the Word, and the saints. It has been very encouraging to see his positive response and pursuing spirit to be a part of the propagation and the church life in Queenstown. He has even reached out to the New Zealand Training Centre for more information concerning the Full-time Training.

Another encouraging testimony was a Brazilian couple who came to the campsite twice during the week and the saints visited them a few times in their home as well. This couple was very touched with how warm the saints were towards their one-year-old daughter, and they could sense the loving atmosphere the whole time. This is very surprising to them as they come from a very warm and loving culture, but the saints' love and care far exceeded anything they have experienced.

There is another young Argentinean girl who met the saints during propagation and received a Bible. She came to the campsite a few times during the propagation and has maintained contact with the local saints. Just recently she believed in the Lord and was saved! She has been regularly joining in Bible studies with a few other South American contacts from the propagation.

There was a couple from Rotorua who received Bibles during the day and joined the saints at the campsite in the evening. They really enjoyed being with the saints, singing together and also reading the *Mystery of Human Life*. This couple are currently not meeting with any group as their church recently closed down. They long for sweet intimate fellowship, so we were able to connect them to the saints in Rotorua with the hope of more fellowship.

Future Plans

The saints in Queenstown are endeavouring to follow up with as many contacts as they can. They are considering and fellowshiping regarding how to care for these ones according to their needs. After fellowshiping, the brothers in Queenstown feel that they can have smaller groupings to specifically care for these new ones based on relatedness or language. This will help to bring all the saints in Queenstown into the function of shepherding and caring for these new ones.

Prayer Burdens

There is a need for much prayer for the saints in Queenstown to be supplied to shepherd and care for the contacts that were made during propagation week.

Much prayer is also needed for the saints in Queenstown to be built up locally, as well as with neighbouring localities, to labour together to care for these new ones. May the Lord grant wisdom to the saints in Queenstown in how to care for the new ones according to their needs.

Lastly, due to the housing situation in Queenstown, there has been a struggle for many local saints to have a permanent place to live. Please pray for the Lord to release homes for the saints so they can continue to stay in Queenstown in order to carry out His work and move there.

Conclusion

This recent propagation in Queenstown has resulted in many warm contacts whom the local saints are now maintaining contact with and shepherding. This propagation was also an opportunity to reach out to neighbouring towns to sow the seed of the gospel. It has put the burden into the saints for further propagation with the view of raising up many lampstands in smaller towns such as Cromwell and Wanaka.

The propagation was made possible through the prayers and support of all the saints throughout New Zealand. As the propagation work in Queenstown and other lower South Island areas is ongoing, offerings can still be made into the following bank account (any offerings made for this purpose are tax deductible).

*New Zealand Training Centre Trust Board
Westpac - 03-1556-0024723-005
Please use "Propagation" as the reference*

We look to the Lord for His ongoing leading, and we open this to the saints that we could all participate in His move in the Body.

Much grace,

The Brothers Coordinating in this Propagation