

NEWS FROM DAVID AND GRETA

OCTOBER 2023

We hope that you will take a few minutes to read what has been happening in our ministry recently. The Perspectives section reveals some of the things God is currently doing in the world and the church.

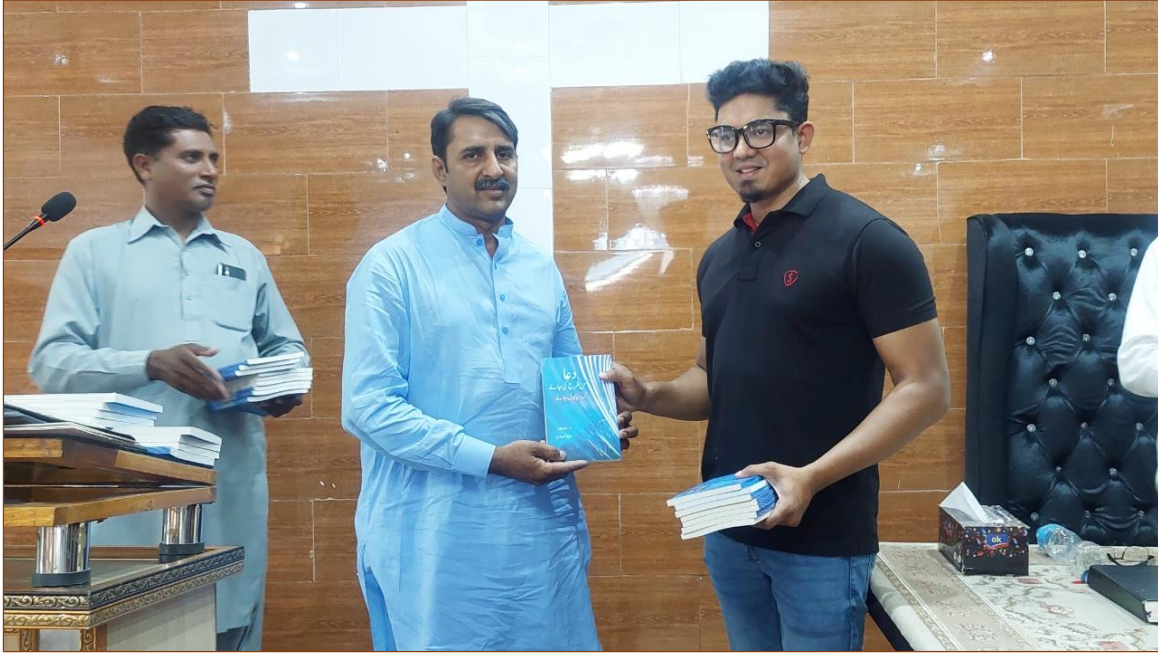
During August and September, we visited 8 churches, ran 3 seminars, and spoke at 5 leaders' meetings. Some highlights included:

- Ministering at **Faith City Church, Whanganui**, home church of outgoing Assembly of God national leader Iliafi Esera, and at **Journey Church, Te Kuiti**, home church of newly appointed AG national leader, Terry Bradley. We were so impressed by both leaders and their wives Fia and Rowena.
- Speaking to 135 staff from the four **Life Church campuses in Auckland**. We noted the hunger and maturity of the leaders, especially as they navigate the courageous health battle of founding pastor Paul de Jong.
- Our first visit to **Greymouth Elim Church**, led by longtime friends Mike & Jeannie Knott. The wet West Coast weather didn't stop people from coming to the mid-week encounter service where many were touched by the Holy Spirit.
- Continuing our 13 years of journeying with **Causeway Church, Mangawhai** and **Life Church, Christchurch**. It is a privilege to have played a small part in what these great churches are becoming in their communities.
- Enjoying growing relationship with **Surfside Church, Raglan** and **Morrinsville Baptist Church**, newer churches to us in recent years.



Life Central, Auckland

HOW TO PRAY PAKISTAN



Evangelist Gohar Bhatti (on right) giving books to pastors.

Last year, evangelist Gohar Bhatti translated our book *How to Pray and Change Your World* into Urdu for Pakistan. 1000 books were printed and given away to pastors and leaders. Here are a few comments:

- *This book has blessed me and my church immensely. I have been sharing with my congregation many teachings from the book. A lot of people gave testimonies in our church how their prayer lives were strengthened after they heard the sermons.*
... Pastor Dilawar Munir, Faith Church, Lahore.
- *I do evangelism in villages and outreach areas. The book has helped me on so many levels. I am now able to share the Gospel more effectively telling the way people should pray after becoming believers. Over 50 people were baptized in water recently. My message contained many teachings from the book.*
... Evangelist Tariq Masih
- *The book changed our entire perspective on prayer and we really understood praying in the Spirit. Miracles started to happen after we started praying this way. Many who were facing depression were delivered through prayer. Many were healed from diseases and we also started a prayer meeting at our church every Saturday evening.*
...Pastor Bashir Inayat, Multan.



October 1: Church Unlimited, Auckland City. Sunday morning.

October 1: Church Unlimited, West Auckland. Sunday Evening.

October 7-8: Gold Coast Chapel, Queensland, Australia. How to Pray seminar plus Sunday meetings.

October 14-15: Hopepointe Church, Caboolture, Australia. How to Pray seminar, Sunday & leaders' meetings.

October 22: Good News Church, Maungaturoto, Northland. Sunday meetings.

October 29: Hope Church, Auckland. Sunday meetings.

November 5: Liberty Church, Whakatane. Sunday meetings.

November 26: The Upper Room, Auckland. Sunday meetings.

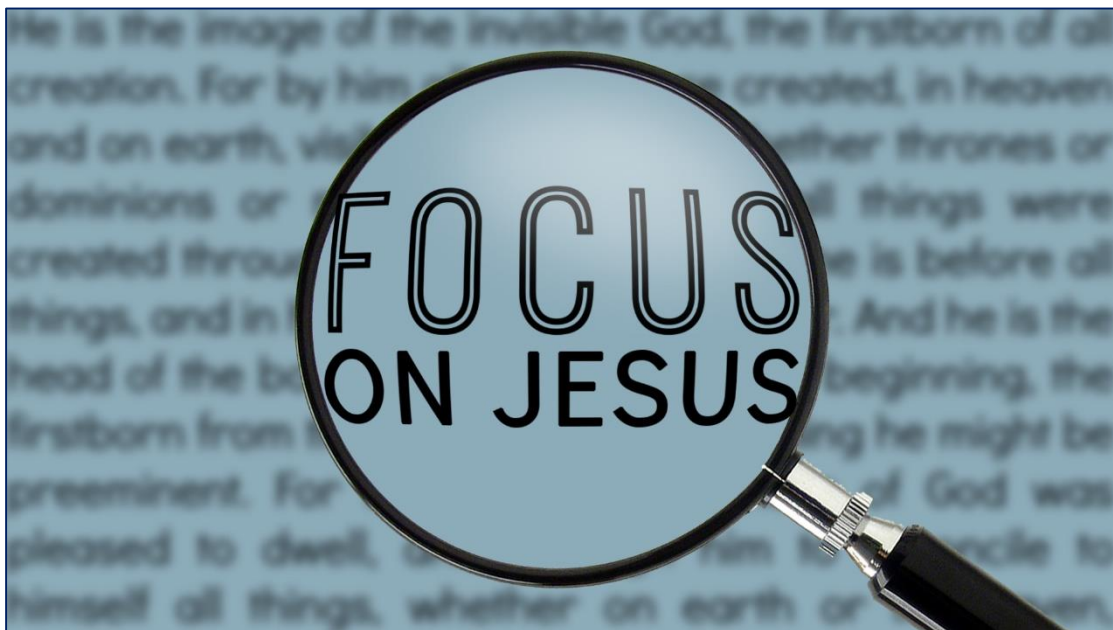
PERSPECTIVES

As Greta and I have travelled this year, people have asked us what God is doing in the world at present. We don't know everything he is doing, but some observations are:

- **God is awakening the world to a greater God-consciousness through global shakings in preparation for a great harvest of lost souls.** These shakings are not his judgments of wrath (reserved for the end of time) but judgments of discipline to correct and awaken a world that has become shameless in its evil doing and rejection of God's truth. (God's plan A is always love and mercy to lead people to himself. But if they reject him, then plan B is discipline.) Job 14:7-9 says, *"If a tree is cut down, there is hope that it will sprout again. Though its roots have grown old in the earth, and its stump decays, yet at the scent of water it may bud and sprout again like a new seedling."* There is hope for the world that the tree stump of God consciousness can grow again which will bring greater openness to the gospel.



- **God is awakening the church from spiritual sleepiness and prayerlessness.** There is a shout from heaven and an alarm clock is sounding – alarms are meant to wake us up not scare us. The fires of prayer and mission are being lit in those who fervently desire for this world to be reached. While all ages will be involved, the younger generation will be especially impacted.
- **There is a renewed focus on Jesus.** Our eyes will more and more centre on him, and less and less on ourselves and peripherals. A fresh revelation of him will help to rouse many from passive Christianity. May the Holy Spirit draw us increasingly into a simple and pure devotion to Christ.



- **There is a fresh honouring of the Holy Spirit** in many churches, with a resultant increase in his presence and power.
- **There are the stirrings of a fresh move of worship** that is in spirit and truth, not form. At times, worship may be prolonged and will release people into encounters with God. Also, believers will increasingly see their sacrificial service to God in all spheres of life as acts of worship (Romans 12:1). When I was caregiver to my first wife Jane, who was disabled with multiple sclerosis, Jesus once said to me, “Your service to Jane is worship to me.” Worship is not only in song; it is in service too.
- **There is a shift from churches being pastoral to churches being apostolic.** The pastoral is rightly concerned with church growth and health. The apostolic is concerned not only with that but also with community and national transformation, and Kingdom expansion into all society. An apostolic mind-set thinks, “How can I make a difference?” rather than, “How can my needs be met?” Any church can access an apostolic anointing if they ask for it.

In Chris Tomlin’s song *Awakening* he sings:

*In our hearts, Lord, in this nation awakening;
Holy Spirit, we desire awakening...
Like the rising sun that shines, from the darkness comes a light;
I hear your voice say, ‘This is my awakening.’*

A prophetic cry for where the world is right now. May we be alert and prayerful to see this come to pass.

Blessings,



David and Greta

Ministry Support

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