

July 2023

Miller's Newsletter

"Knowing God and Making Him Known...in the South Pacific"

Dear brethren,

Here we are in the middle of the year. How time does seem to literally fly by. As I write this, I sit on my raised chair. Doctors' instruction as of 4 days ago I had my left hip replaced. The physio gave me some stern instructions "Mr Miller I can see you will try to overdo it, don't, as you don't want to be in here again getting us to refit your joint, be patient." So, as I write this, I do am thankful that I could get my aching hip replaced. For I know in some countries this is not always possible. I'm not sure that I always have a spirit of thankfulness. But I want to be, more conscious of it. Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ



Jesus concerning you." Paul tells the Thessalonian believers that God's will for them is to be thankful. We want our children to show gratitude to us and to others. So, God wants the same thing from me. I have the next 4 weeks ahead of me not being able to do a lot of things but one thing I can do is thank God a lot more.

Being in Grace Hospital gave me many opportunities with the surgeons and nurses and staff. As the question normally always comes "so what do you do?" In which I try to explain without trying to confuse them more. Some will ask more questions while others will allow the conversation to move on. But none the less I want them to know that by being around me, they have experienced some kindness and grace. I am praying that I can be one of the 26 conversations that they say it takes that will one day lead them to Christ. If I can be one of those praise be to God.

I was blessed this last month to preach in Napier and encourage the brethren there. It



was good to get with several of the members for coffee on Saturday. This always have been beneficial as it has allowed them to download and express concerns and needs, they might have. Being a small group comes with its on challenges.

Melinda and a few of the ladies hosted a Ladies Day and had several of the ladies speak and address topics. It was successful and the

ladies appreciated it.



Took Wijit one of the SPBC students, from

Thailand, out on a bike ride and then had a Bible study at the coffee shop. He appreciated the time we had together to study and hang out.

We had our yearly get away with the elders and wives and a few of our ministering servants in May. We talked more this year about spiritual





health to make sure we are maintaining this so we can be there for the long term. It was a successful time away.

The studies online continue with different individuals, and it allows me to be teaching from a distance as well as my one-on-one studies locally.

Our son, Aaron, (Captain) and his wife Angelique (lead staff nurse) are presently in in the outer Fiji Islands, which has

about 330 Islands with about a third that are inhabited. They are presently doing dentistry and medical checkups. While there, Aaron took a few of the crew fishing and got bitten by a shark they caught. God was looking after him as they were still in Suva at the time and managed to get medical help at the local hospital. He now has a good shark story to go with his Skipper's stories.

And just this week they announced their 9 years of waiting on a pregnancy. They have been so faithful in their prayers and patience in this matter. We are thrilled for them and are thrilled we will have another grandchild. Angelique is keeping well, and baby is due New Year's Eve.

This has been a long road for them, but the first round of IVF has blessed them. We are all very thankful and excited to meet this new Miller family member at the end of the year.

Abby and family in Calif. stay busy with life there. Charis will begin her second year at College in August, Ethan will be in 11th grade and Indy in 7th, so they are growing up quickly. Our youngest son Nathan is enjoying his second year of teaching 7th grade. His wife, Georgia is doing well in her music career and has been performing all around New Zealand. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of our work.



Blessings,

Chris and Melinda Miller

