

KIWI NEWS

Steve & Gill Raine @ The South Pacific Bible College

February 2014

New Zealand



You may recall the church here is working through our Vision process and we are in the communication / teaching / preaching stage. "Summertime" see us half way through and we had just concluded the theme of "Transformation". Before SPBC Graduate Marcelo Toro left NZ he shared a lesson on his own background and growth in the Lord. (He and Matraca are en route to return to his homeland Chile and plant a church there). As a part of his journey and time here we witnessed his evangelistic passion and one of those he brought along was Brad (I think I mentioned him last time). As a part of his lesson on transformation, Marcelo invited this new convert Brad to give us his testimony. It was a very powerful morning and we heard how God has been at work in their lives to put Christ at the centre of their hearts and responses to Him. It was a very moving experience to be a part of.



Brad Sharing his Journey to Christ

On a personal note - a budding relationship is developing between our daughter Emma and Brad. They appear to be a great couple together!

Back to the vision process, the rest of the summer was used to recap, review and discuss on a more practical level our 4 main values and now we are onto "Community" which is the 3rd

value and we anticipate by mid-year the process will be concluded.

SPBC



Well it's full on! February sees the students return to the classroom, but first a few days up in the beauty of God's creation and New Zealand's native bush for Orientation Camp.



Students engaging in creative presentations

We used to conduct orientation at the campus here but decided a number of years ago we could make it much more interesting and productive by getting up into our beautiful natural bush setting. We utilise a couple of different camp sites that allow us to have a much more informal and relaxed environment. Apart from the fact that we cover all of our student orientation material, we also get 3 days to get to know each other and begin to build relationships. It provides a great window for getting to know our new students.



Gill "in charge" at Team Building Games

Gill's primary role here at SPBC is to work with students and so Orientation Camp is a part of her responsibility. Gill has really enjoyed working back at the College where she excels working one on one with the students.



Prayer & Blessing of the Students

The following Sunday its introduction to the Otumoetai church and our concluding prayer for the morning is one of blessing the students as they begin their journey, not just at SPBC but also with the church family. This is followed by a picnic in the park and a chance for the church to get to know the new students. Our incoming students come from New Zealand, Australia, Thailand and China, joining existing students from NZ, Australia, Philippines, Korea, USA and Tonga. Its early days but we are excited about the potential for God's Kingdom and our small part in their transformation, development and service within it.



Sunday Picnic & Fellowship in the Park

This quarter I will be teaching two classes and in addition to that have taken on the supervision of Andrew Redmayne as a 3rd year Intern student - but I would like to tell you more about him and his exciting program next time.