



Dear Pastor & Fellow Saints!

Greetings To You All In Jesus Blessed Name!

Ni Sa Bula Vinaka! from the friendly Islands of Fiji

As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is a good news from a far country - Proverbs 25:25.

The Great and awesome God whom we serve is truly a living God and deserves all the praise we can give Him. Our lives are but a vapor and our very breath is in His loving hands. Colossians 1:17 reads "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." This lovely verse states that the King of Majesty and the King of all Wonders always knows about our itty bitty details and happenings in our lives and everything hangs on His Very Word. We do not take out the coincidences in our lives but rather allow the Sovereign Providences of our Heavenly Father to mature our faith.

My family and I are so thankful to all supporting & praying family and friends and the recipients of our newsletter and count it all joy in the ministry as we strive for the Lord here in Fiji.



Our last newsletter ended with the baptism of a young man wanting to join Lighthouse Baptist Church and also to take part in the Lord's Supper. It was indeed a privilege to walk him through the lessons of baptism and to have him work alongside me in the ministry now.

We have had such a bad trend this past couple of months and many good Baptist church members have passed on to be with the Lord. A faithful Baptist preacher and his wife lost their

only daughter to a sudden heart failure. Such a tragic loss to our fellow comrade in the ministry, but such is life and with our earthen vessels slowly yet surely deteriorating even with many new ways to stay fit and healthy, ours is to look to our blessed Hope and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. Even despite the sorrow, the preaching of God's Word was presented and 4 souls trusted Jesus into their hearts. Praise be to God for His is the Victory.

Thank you always for your prayers for us and for my family as we have taken up many more speaking opportunities here in Fiji in order to be a blessing to those that want us to preach at their churches and even with my wife being given the privilege to talk with the ladies. It is an enormous task to travel with my whole family as our family van although strong is literally worn out. However, at the end of our speaking engagements, we hear testimonies of lives encouraged and families restored through the preaching of God's Word and our faith is revived, our love for ministry is boosted and we have hope that God is always in control of our every need.

What an amazing way to live your life for the Lord knowing that your life can be a blessing to someone just by talking to them, preaching to them the oracles of God and then to help them in counseling and simply just allowing God's Word to disseminate anything that is not of God's.

The men in our local New Testament church have really taken up the reins, if not more responsibilities in the preaching department and also other little ministry roles, which I, as their shepherd and Pastor am so proud of and am thankful for their help and initiative even. It has being a long personal prayer that even though we are a small church, it is better to equip ourselves before we venture out onto new territory. We have being praying for a piece of land and this kind of working together assures me that God is still in the business of answering prayers. It is almost like we are preparing for the rain.

Thanking you all through this newsletter is one way of knowing that these responsibilities and issues are prayed for and thought about. We celebrated a number of birthdays in the month of April, one of which was my son's on the 27th. His little face was bursting with joy when he was told he could go to Burger King for a birthday meal. It's these little things that I can do for my children and even taking my wife out for a date every now and then that gives me comfort and strength to keep on keeping on for the Lord.

I love preaching the Word of God and count it all joy doing what He has called me to do – Preach!!

The last Sunday for the month was a real blessing when after the preaching of God's Word on that day, 4 souls raised their hands to ask Jesus in their hearts. The enlightening look on their faces is never the same and it is always encouraging to see church members who take them aside and show them from the Bible the way of salvation.

Mother's Day Celebrations

The month of May was a super hectic month for us all and we had little time to spare for R&R and so when the opportunity to spend a couple of days at the Mears Farm was offered, my family and I jumped for it. My family and I enjoyed the time of fellowship and work at the farm with the Mears family and truly the fresh air was really good for us. We returned back to base with a refreshed mindset and ready to get back to work, school for the kids and teaching for my wife. Amidst the busyness of school, and work and different lifestyles, our church family was able to come together on Sunday evening and celebrate Mothers Day and serve and appreciate the women folk – mothers and grandmothers in the church for all that they do for their husbands and children.

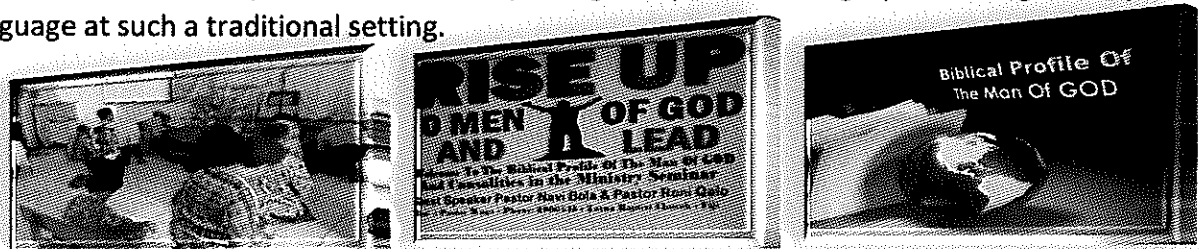
The men served the ladies while the youth set up the chairs and tables out on the lawn and we all enjoyed the cool evening fellowship. God's word is sweeter when we hearken unto it and more challenging when we open up our hearts to the Holy Spirits leading. It teaches us things we never even realized we could be taught and on that Sunday we learnt from a mother's perspective on how important a mother is. The Word of God is new every morning and so when we looked at the life of Mary and the turmoil she could have gone through but she didn't because she availed herself completely to God. Every year we celebrate Mother's Day and show our appreciation but still God's Word is fresh and new every morning just as the early morning dew at the dawning of a new day.

Fine Arts Competition

Our little Christian school was really put to the test when only my children were the only ones going to attend the annual Fine Arts Competition held in Nausori where our mother school is located. I reminded my children and also the staff that joined us that this was an opportunity to get to know other people in the ministry and that it's not about winning. However, playing honestly and doing your best to win at every event is more rewarding to not only yourself but also with those whom you play alongside and up against as well. There is competition.

Revival Meetings at Tavua.

Straight after the school program in Nausori we had to travel back home (another 3 hours drive) in order to prepare the following day for a weekend long revival meeting that was to be held in the largest village on the island of Viti Levu. The chief of the village himself had requested that I preach at the meetings and so it was a privilege to present the gospel message in my own language at such a traditional setting.



Many decisions were made and the **chief of the village** and **his sister** were present right to the end and that night they received the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord & Saviour. This was a humbling

sight as we had no idea the extent of turmoil the village had currently being going through and the preaching of God's Word did its work in their lives, as we later found out from a Pastor Waqa who is staying near the village.

On Friday 27 salvation decisions were made including the village chief and his sister, the following night 46 villagers made commitments to follow Christ and on the last night 70+ villagers, young and old walked out to the front for prayer and forgiveness from each other and from the Lord. There were other pastors from other denominations that were all present throughout the week and whom had many different doctrinal views but the light of God's Word shone on their darkened faith and their blinded ways that it was truly an amazing sight to behold. The writer of Ecclesiastes was right in saying there is nothing new under the sun and that, "SIN WILL ALWAYS BE SIN" but the wonder of God's work on their faces was worth all the long travels and busy schedules.

There have being many opportunities to preach and the need for proper training for willing young men and women is also urgent but then there is also the challenge of recruiting those that will not turn back once they take up the call. More than once young people have made the stand to follow Christ but the daily temptations and trials and foolish friends they hang around with have taken them off the course. Our little church has its ups and downs but the one thing I am proud of is that we always seem to get back together and work things out and travel down life's journey. It is a responsibility on all of us whether we are praying, giving and/or going. My hopes of reaching my country is and can only be done by God's leading and guidance. **Even as I am just a vessel and an instrument, you are all a part of me and I am thoroughly grateful for this privilege. Your support has tremendous impact in the ministry of Lighthouse Baptist Church and to the many other local churches I go to.** People need to know about the truth and my family and I are more than willing to take up that cause and keep the fire burning till the Lord returns.

The month of June has being somewhat a counseling month for young couples wanting to tie the knot and two nights every week my wife and I held in depth counseling sessions with two separate couples. Young people have such a stubborn mindset when they think that God is not helping them in their lives and with the problems they may be facing in their lives when in actual fact they have never asked God in the first place at all.

God's love is so real and He is so faithful. We, humans fail him countless times and are so prideful in thinking our salvation is our ticket home to heaven with no sweat at all. We are ignorant to God's fellowship and His care for us and His yearning to commune with us. He lovingly sends the rain to water our crops and then He sends the sunshine to make them grow and then adds bonuses when there is forgiveness in the camp. How can we not see a loving God in the life?

We always forever fall short of His goodness and love for us. Shame on us!!

God's Word rebukes, challenges, corrects, encourages and uplifts us all the time but it also teaches what is the right thing to do and how to do it and when to apply those principles He is teaching us.

We need to make time for God to speak to us even as we take time to preach God's Word, and I find that I can do that when the house is quiet and the community sleeps. My time with God is sweet and prayer time is at a different level. I enjoy the fellowship and thanks to all your prayers and support, every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before.



During this month I was able to do a **Baby dedication** & did also challenge the parents for their role as they raise their child up in the admonition of the Lord. Pastor Orisi Naulumatua will be looking after the work when we come to the states for furlough. Please do pray for him, his dear wife & their baby boy Orisi junior.

Calvary Baptist Mission

A new mission work we have started in Lautoka City right in the heart of Lautoka. A young couple was searching & looking, little did we know that this was to be the start of many bible studies to come? The two young men I am discipling and training for the ministry accompanied me to this meeting and **three people got saved that evening 17th of June 2017**. A 74 year old grandmother, a 36 year old man and a young 24 year old woman all made that wonderful decision to trust Jesus in their hearts. I'm sure the heavens were rejoicing because God's word is so simple and so straight forward that it always goes forth to do its will and complete its purpose.

Open Door Baptist Mission - Second mission work that the Lord have allowed us to start in Sigatoka Town, Please pray for this two New work – Pray for strength in reaching out to all this family & their Community. God just open the door to this places to reach them. Many are hungry and are searching & please pray that many more places we will reach for the Lord. It is our prayer to reach the western side of Fiji with the gospel of Jesus Christ

Engagement

On June the 19th we hosted our very own little engagement for one of our young couples, it was the lady's birthday on that day and the guy wanted to propose to her. We had family and friends come together and everyone helped to make that night a memorable one for the two young lovebirds.

This event was made even more special when through this meeting families were able to set aside their differences and come together for this special occasion. Parents and their children were not on talking terms and parents were somewhat irresponsible and yet through the love of these two young people, everyone worked together and they were able to build a bridge of hope.

The Lord we serve has so many plans for our lives and only wants to do what is right and never to do anything bad, we are so careless and unfaithful to Him that it hurts Him when we sin and disobey.

As the negative things of this world should be seen as stepping stones into becoming better people, so we should allow the positive things in this world to continue to stir us to do right. We are not perfect but there is always room for improvement. The young people in the church who attend the public schools are going through some major exams that will determine their future and we covet your prayers for them as they prepare and sit for their exams.

Translation for “The ABC Christian Growth”

We have an elderly couple in our church that has taken up the responsibility of translating a series of Bible Study topics from the **ABC Christian Growth written By Pastor Robert. Sergeant**. Even with limited resources they were both able to get much accomplished and the following is a quick update on how far they have come. **Mr. Eroni. Utovou**. And his wife are both so determined to get this work done that they have **now come to letter “M”, or rather Mrs.Utovou** has hand written the translation until that letter. After announcements were made in the church that a laptop was needed for this worthy cause, we had 2 volunteers come and see me to assist the couple. **The first one was a little bit rusty but the second one worked well and so the typing of all the work up until letter “G”**. A total of 59 pages altogether have been typed with 16,885 words to be exact. The couple takes pride in the service they can render. Please do pray for them as well.

Preaching Engagements in Nausori and Suva

Even as the opportunity arose for me to preach in these areas we had a lot of challenges and thank the Lord for them as we knew the Lord will bring many to make important decisions. We had 3 sister churches that attended the revival meetings and had a total number of 6 souls from City Baptist and 20 from Nausori Baptist (4 of them were students from Nauru that are attending the Christian School in Nausori). A Tuvaluan from the local University was one of the young people that got saved on the Sunday that I preached there, I heard from the Pastor of City Baptist that he returned on the following Sunday with a bunch of his friends and one of them trusted Jesus that very same day. **Now that is good news!** There were many visitors that came along during these meetings and many made important life-long decisions and God truly deserves the glory for the way His Holy Spirit worked in each of these commitments.

Our Annual Revival Meeting in July

The Lord speaks to us in many ways and uses many different people to feed us spiritually, **we had the privilege of having Pastor Richard Miller from Little Rock, Arkansas with us for 3 wonderful evenings**. On the first night he preached a message entitled “What in Hell do you want?”, and on the following night, he preached from 2 Corinthians 4: 7-12 on the message entitled “We have a

treasure in this clay jar". And laid down some important guidelines on how to control this earthen vessel and use it for God's glory. And then on the last night he hit a home run with the message titled "Nobody is laughing in Hell". Among many encouragements, he emphasized that there would definitely be no food, no laughter, no light, no rest, no sleep, no babies, no preaching, no specials, no singing but only regret. There was definitely seeds that were planted in the hearts of those that came and even the neighbourhood was silent and our prayers are that they were would also be listening as well. On Sunday 16th July a young teenage girls by the name of Milika accept the Lord Jesus Christ to be her Lord & Saviour. We do thank the Lord for all the prayers been made about this ministry. If you can kindly pray for our prayer request will be a blessing indeed.

Our Prayer Requests

- Church Land
- Individual church ministries
- Church members and their lives.
- Our upcoming 20th church anniversary in November 2017
- The 40th Anniversary for the Baptist Churches in Fiji & **ABC's Lessons For Christian Growth In Fijian will be unveil.**
- Our family's furlough to the States.
- **Pray for the two new work that we have started & by God's Grace that it will be fruitful .**
- Pray for the man in the Church to Strive Together in looking after the work, Pray for Strength, Wisdom as we reach this two areas for the Lord. Truly the labourer are few.
- Pray for 3 urgent prayer request for our family.
- Pray for New Family Van
- Pray for our Family Land & Building that God will provide all the funds
- Pray for more KJV Bible we rant out need some more.

We are looking forward to visiting all the churches that have being praying for us and also those that are supporting us. We find it a great privilege to be in the ministry and to be serving the Lord. Truly there is no greater joy.

Thank you for your continues support & prayers we are eternally great full.

Your Missionary to the Fiji Islands

Roni Qalo, Orma Qalo, Orianna Qalo, Randall Qalo, Roy Qalo & Orlana Qalo

"The heart of God is too grieved, the path of man is too dark, the Cross of Christ is too glorious for me to quit now." unknown

[Luke 19:13 – "..... and said unto them, Occupy till I come...."]