

Little has happened on the 'ministry' front since last I wrote as we have spent much of the time in Australia – Brisbane to be precise. It was the occasion of our youngest grand-daughter Emma's wedding to Luke Wright, a wonderful time to visit family and see some friends. The wedding was a beautiful day which will bring many fond memories.

I was able to speak at Wynnum Manley Alliance church, where I have spoken several times before. It was good to renew fellowship there. I also joined a Christian male voice choir and enjoyed singing with ~40 new friends. At the final rehearsal many kind things were said to me, ending with applause of thanks for my contribution! It was I who needed to thank them for welcoming me so openly into their ministry. Each day would find me at home singing out the 1st tenor parts to the many new songs I had to learn. That, with my regular bike riding, was very good exercise for the lungs!

There were a few times when I had the privilege of speaking of things of the Lord with others, not least with our new grand-son-in-law (is there such a title?) Luke, who expressed a real hunger to go deep with God. And, of course, we took the opportunity to meet with our grandson Taylor who is attending Hillsong Bible College in Sydney. For our last day in Australia we stayed overnight in Sydney so that quality time would be spent with him. It is such a thrill to me to see his passion for the Lord deepening. That day was also special as we met a distant relative on Anne's side, Don, who experiences the miraculous movings of our Lord regularly. We were greatly encouraged before leaving for Canada and home.

Sadly, we did not get across to Perth to see our dear friends Derek and Eira or John and Marie. The former have been going through some difficult health issues and we did not want to be an extra burden to them. Regular telephone calls had to suffice.

Since returning home, the regular Thursday evening Bible Studies have restarted – we are studying 1 John – the book of assurance. I have met with some I mentor and am excited again as, just this week, two others asked me to meet with them. What a privilege it is to speak into the lives of young men! One of them, Shane is a new pastor at whose induction service I was privileged to speak two years ago. I challenged him then to make sure he spent quality time in the presence of the Lord each week, cell phone off and the doors locked. That would be new to him as he is so active as a people-person. He now tells me with great delight how this has changed his life and ministry and he safeguards it jealously. O that more pastors took this as a necessity!

Health-wise we continue to bless the Lord our healer and strength, though I am still having some difficulties with my leg and back – nothing I can't handle though it does slow me down. Anne continues to be in good health with no signs of her cancer returning. PTL!

Thank you for reading my web page – I trust it is a blessing to you.

Gareth