

AUSTRALIA

August, 2022

Dear Pastor and Church,

Once in a while someone comes along in your ministry who is like a breath of fresh air. Their lifestyle and attitude is reviving. We have a ninety-year-old lady who comes to **every** scheduled church service, driving her own car. She never complains about her health, even though she went to the hospital this week for her second hip joint replacement surgery. She said, "I'll miss next Sunday (4 days away), but I plan to be there the following Sunday. Usually it takes about six weeks to get around well after the surgery. What a testimony she is to other believers. Some use puny excuses to avoid church, while others are dedicated to presenting their life as a testimony of God's faithfulness. Can you image what a church would be like if everyone was as committed to God's house?

A week ago we went to Dalwallinu, a drive of 250 km, to see our daughter, son-in-law and some of the grandchildren, as well as to be in his church. Our son-in-law is the pastor. While we were there I had to go to the hospital because of back spasms. This is the fourth time I've had them. They give me morphine and other medicines to try to stop the spasms. I was admitted overnight. My wife had to drive us home the next day. I can't say it was an enjoyable trip, but it was good to see the family. We were able to visit the church there and enjoy Christian fellowship. Isn't it wonderful to visit other believers and have good fellowship because of your common belief in the Scriptures and your faith in the finished work of Christ on our behalf.

We still have people slowly returning to church after Covid. They seem to be sporadic in attendance. I guess they got used to being at home and it takes effort to get ready and come back to church services.

Pray that God will open doors for someone to come alongside and take some responsibility in this ministry and hopefully take my place. I will be 80 years old next year, and it's time to realize my body is not functioning as it did even five years ago. So many churches here need pastors. The church our son-in-law is pastoring had been without a pastor for ten years.

Prosperity and pleasure seem to be the focus of many. In other words, making money and enjoy spending it for fun and excitement. Sports and travel hold first place in most adult lives. Australians travel much more than most Americans. They will travel completely across the country just to see one football, basketball or cricket game, and it won't necessarily be a playoff game.

Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send forth labourers into His harvest.

Sincerely,

Roger and Sandra Monasmith