



AUSTRALIA

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Dear Friends in the Faith,

1Corinthians 16:13 *“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.”* Non-conformist Matthew Henry in commenting on this verse said *“A Christian should be fixed in the faith of the gospel, and never desert nor renounce it. It is by this faith alone that he will be able to keep his ground in an hour of temptation; it is by faith that we stand (2Co 1:24); it is by this that we must overcome the world (1Jo 5:4), both when it fawns and when it frowns, when it tempts and when it terrifies. We must stand therefore in the faith of the gospel, if we would maintain our integrity.”*

Planting the Gospel and reaping the harvest has been a very slow process in this field in which God has placed us. There is one new avenue God has opened up for us here that David really enjoys and that is the radio ministry. However, due to our heart issues we have been off the air for several months but David will return to our radio programmes in Gilgandra beginning April 13. Pam will not be able to go back for another two months or so due to the distance. Speaking of the radio ministry we recently received a prayer letter from an Australian missionary to Paraguay but who recently moved to Argentina. He had a radio ministry in Paraguay and this is what he had to say about it. *“Last Sunday was our last Sunday service in Paraguay, ONE HUNDRED PEOPLE were in attendance and we praise God for the great increase in the church BECAUSE OF THE RADIO STATION.”* That is Good News indeed! We have definitely not seen anything like this take place here but the Word of God says *“So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; BUT GOD that giveth the increase”* 1Corinthians 3:7. Also keeping on the same subject, that is the radio ministry, the local newspaper interviewed David along with another member of the radio committee here in Dubbo. We have attached the entire article as a pdf and included an edited portion in this letter. Of course it must be understood this will be a secular station just like the one we are presently on in Gilgandra but we are certain more people will listen to our programmes, intentionally or not, because of the fact the station is not a predominately “religious” station. Our desire is to have several programmes airing mostly early Sunday morning and Sunday night. We hope to also have a one minute Bible reading cd to be played three or four times per day during the week by other presenters. There has been much open opposition through letters to the editor to my being a part of the establishment of this station due to my being a Christian but so far none of the committee members have voiced any opposition. Here is an edited portion of that article from our local paper.

“Orana voices step closer to airwaves

28 Mar, 2012

A GROUP that wants to deliver a Dubbo community radio station has had a councillor turn up the volume on its bid. Orana Broadcasters was on track to receive only one-quarter of the start-up funds it applied for from Dubbo City Council until the intervention of council’s finance and policy committee. At the prompting of Councillor Ben Shields the committee recommended granting the group \$1000, which became a resolution of the council this week. Orana Broadcasters’ funding application was one of 23 the council received in the latest round of its 2011/2012 Financial Assistance Program. Cr Shields moved at the committee meeting the council increase the allocation to Orana Broadcasters to \$1000 so it could purchase public liability insurance.

Cr Shields said Orana Broadcasters had put forward a good business case. The council had also noted in its management plan that Dubbo lacked a community radio station, the councillor said. 'It would be so valuable to the community,' he said. 'We should take this and run with it.'"

We do want to thank all those who have been praying for us especially during this time in our lives. Those who emailed while we were in Sydney and Pam was in hospital were greatly appreciated, Proverbs 25:25 "*As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news (news that you were praying) from a far country.*"

Pam continues to improve each day but she does get tired easily. Our daughter Becky flew in from Atlanta to be with her mother through this time. Becky stayed with me in the hostel which was on the hospital grounds. We were able to visit Pam twice a day while she was in hospital. Becky will be here with us until the 20th of April. Before we forget we want to thank those who have sent financial gifts to defray some of the costs associated with these physical maladies. Thank you!

Thursday, March 29th, Pam had an appointment with our GP to go over the medicines she is taking. Then the 4th of April she goes to the GP for blood tests and then the 5th of April she has an x-ray taken. May 8th Pam has an appointment with the surgeon in Sydney and this will be an over-night trip since the appointment isn't until 3.15pm. Then June 4th both of us have an appointment with the cardiologist and the 6th of June David has another appointment with a second cardiologist, for a second opinion. This is all we will bore you with in this letter concerning our physical issues. It is hard to imagine we are writing all this about health issues when most of our lives have been pretty much illness free.

We will close this epistle with the words of Peter telling us to cast "*...all your care upon him; for he careth for you*" 1Peter 5:7.

In His Care,

David & Pam

David & Pam Bennett