

## URALLA, TENTERFIELD, ARMIDALE 24-28 February 2020

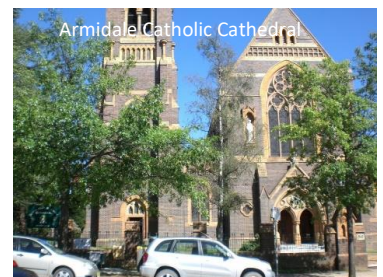
God has heard the prayers and the rain has come, but the farmers still have a long haul to restock their animals and put in crops. This called for a different strategy of ministry to them. It was easy to pray for rain but some places have had too much while some have had too little. We arrived in Walcha late in the afternoon on our first day. D, who has a property, was glad of a prayer and took our climate prayer but most people in this place were hard to God and we prayed with people who were in town from other places in NSW. At Walcha Road we met and prayed with G who was most appreciative of our stop there. We went to Wollun to meet 2 appreciative people, L and P, and pray for them and agree with P for his neighbours. They also took the climate prayer. In Kentucky we prayed for B and G and gave A, whose parents are Buddhist, 2 of our newly produced (for this trip) teenage booklets. We stayed that night in Uralla but the owner refused a prayer.

Next morning we drove to Armidale and put up the book table. Although C is important in the Anglican Church there he was very reluctant to share a prayer as he was on his way to a meeting, but S who is principal of a Catholic Primary school not only spent some time in prayer with us, also took a set of our children's books and prayed for us. When Christians have that short time with us it encourages us greatly and we prayed for another 7 people. From there we drove to Guyra, another hard place with lack of interest in Jesus, but we prayed for 2. At Ben Lomond we met and prayed with 4 people, 2 of them were travelling from Rockhampton. At Llangothlin we prayed with 2, meeting them by door-knocking. It was lovely to meet J and P on the road at Tubbamurra to pray for their properties and their families, as they really appreciated that we had come to bring blessing from Jesus. We arrived in Backwater but did not find anyone to pray with so we just prayed for the properties there. We had prayed for the owner of one of these in Guyra. We were quite late into Glen Innes and put up the book table and prayed for 5 then A came up with her children. She just hung around because she loved being with us and we prayed for her and she chose a book for herself and 2 of the children's books. Then we discovered she had 2 more children at home so we gave her some more books for them. We wanted to bless them so we offered her some money for her to buy something for them, only to learn that she had no milk to give them, so she burst into tears of thankfulness to God. This is when we feel the privilege of doing this ministry. We stayed that night in Tenterfield, and next morning put up a book table and prayed for 7.

Because there had been so much rain that most dams and tanks are full, asking people to take our climate change prayer was not effective for touching people's needs, but we have other tools for our outreach and the schools in these places are very small. When we door-knocked some people were complaining that they had too much rain and they had to mow their lawns. Certainly the grass was very long and lush. We were having much more success asking people to take our Holy Spirit prayer, and we were calling into the school offices and offering sets of our children's books, which were gratefully received and gave us an opportunity to pray with the office staff person. We used this tactic at Bald Blair School, Wollomombi School, Ebor School, and Kingstown School.



From Tenterfield we drove to Liston. It was fun to pray with C on the road and he loved it too. At Stannum we prayed for healing for C and at Torrington, where the town was surrounded by fire and people had to stay in their homes and wait it out, they were grateful that prayers had saved them and willing to have more prayer. At Emmaville we met S and her children so we gave B 4 teenage booklets and younger J a children's book, after praying for them. At Deepwater both N and R loved the Holy Spirit prayer and each decided they would like to try it on their husbands. At Dundee A thought the same after we had shared the prayer. We also prayed for K there. That night we were back in Armidale.



Next morning we put up our book table outside the Catholic Church. The priest came out to encourage us "to stay as long as you like". We met and prayed for 9. A passed by and said he was Kurdish so we had a delightful conversation and he ended up praying in Arabic to receive the Holy Spirit after reading Kurdish and Persian. We changed our schedule and drove to Saumarez Ponds where we prayed for G and then R on the road and headed back to Guyra, stopping at Black Mountain for fuel and to pray for 3. One of these, S, had never heard the gospel and was fascinated that there is a God who loves us. We had a better response at our table in Guyra this time, praying for 7. From there we had our encounters at 3 of the schools and went to Hillgrove, praying for S and T who are Christians.



On our fifth day we drove to Gostwyck and met and prayed for A on the road and then drove to Kingstown for that 4th school, but we also prayed for S when we door-knocked along the way. When we stopped for fuel at Murrurundi, R and L, who are Hindu, were pleased at our offer to pray Jesus' blessing into their lives. The exciting thing about our travels is that we are so reliant on the leading of the Holy Spirit and God has been so faithful to us.