

PORT MACQUARIE north to CUDGEN 20-25 July 2020

We had been greatly inspired by a friend about "the difference between the Old Testament law and the new Covenant of Grace. Under the Law, everything was about how we could keep ourselves uncontaminated and safe from sin, sickness and problems. Under Grace we are the force of infection, able to fearlessly Love and 'contaminate' this sin sick world with the irrepressible power of Grace. Under Law we are on the defensive, but under Grace we take the lead and have the authority. This is not ordained by man, but flows directly from the person of Jesus Christ". So we prepared to follow this advice. We had our children's books printed and decided to offer a set of 12 to as many schools as would accept them. We planned our route and booked accommodation, confident in the fact that our government had encouraged us to "go into the country and be a blessing". The devil obviously was not pleased, and just two days before, the schools closed their gates to unnecessary visitors, parents and carers. But our friend had inspired us so we knew God would make a way and we set out.

On our first day we arrived in Wauchope and took the Oxley Highway, stopping at Huntingdon, who would not receive them. We were able to pray for W and leave a copy of our Jeremiah leaflet. At Comboyne they did graciously receive a set (of 12) and also at Long Flat school. Here C also took a copy of Psalm 91. We drove into Ellenborough and K and C received a set delightedly, for the children they love, then we drove into Port Macquarie for the night. At each place we went through, including Byabarra, we were able to pray with people and some took our prayer leaflets.

Next morning we put up a book table in the town. T had just come back to God after a long time of backsliding and took a copy of 'The Light Shines in the Darkness'. She also took a set of the children's books. K was desperate for God's blessing, so we spent some time in prayer and gave her a set of books too, to help her into ministry after the time of trial she had been through. From there we drove towards Tweed Heads and the five schools we had been unable to connect with last trip. But the time we had spent with K meant we had to leave the two nearer ones in order to get to the three closer to the Queensland border. We delayed lunch and just made it by 3.30 to Cudgen, having stopped at Pottsville who received the set of 12, and Bogangar who would not accept because of COVID. But at Cudgen we were graciously received by a teacher (E) at the gate and she also took a copy of Psalm 91. We then drove back to Mullumbimby for the night.



Next morning we set up our book table and prayed with 10, sharing the Holy Spirit prayer with L, who was a strong believer that God is punishing us with COVID. We trust the Holy Spirit will enlighten him that Jesus has taken all our punishment on Himself and seek God about His Grace and Love. We drove to Main Arm school, where we were

shocked to see the sign which we then saw on nearly every school gate thenceforth. STOP! DO NOT ENTER! Since this was a first we took the photo and went to the local shop where we met N who said she would like to give the books to children in her area. At The Pocket school J saw us at the gate and received the books graciously enough. As we drove on P was on the side of the road so we stopped. She knew about being born again but did not know what to do, so that was an easy Divine appointment for us. Her help came just after we had finished praying. We then drove to the next seven schools on our schedule; Wilsons Creek, where the staff were very friendly and appreciative, but because it is a very New Age area they did not know whether it would be a waste. They let us pray and suddenly they thought that they could just display them in the office for any children to see and perhaps browse. Then Goonengerry, where we had to phone the office from the gate; at Eureka where they were not interested but thought the Scripture teachers might like them; at Clunes where they were most appreciative; at Rosebank where they were actually enthusiastic and took a copy of Psalm 91; at Corndale, similar, and at Bexhill we prayed for H and K who were appreciative of our offer and took the books too. But we were surprised how quickly we were in and out and we arrived in Lismore reasonably early and had late lunch at the motel where we stayed the night.



We put up a table in Lismore and prayed for eight people, then drove to South Lismore school to offer the set of books which were received graciously. However many of the office staff we were meeting accepted them to give to the Scripture teachers. At Caniaba school S accepted the books and a prayer and we drove to Clovass where in all our travelling we had not prayed for anyone. K just happened to stop to answer his phone so we at last prayed with someone at Clovass. The church building closed there in 2018 and it is looking very neglected. From there to Wyrallah where we prayed with J and K and gave them a set of the books. J was most grateful and gave us a donation. At the school they received a set of books too. Tregeagle school accepted a set and though at Wollongbar we had to phone for permission to enter the office, M graciously came out to the gate and invited us in to explain, then accepting a set also. Alstonville school was last on the day's schedule and we had a great chat with L whose parents are pastors. He enthusiastically accepted a set of books and a copy of Psalm 91 to consider sharing with any at the school who are fearful. But it was only lunch time and we realised we could go back to the two schools we had missed two days before. Tintenbar/Teven school and Newrybar school received us with generous spirits so we felt God had been so good to us and blessed us with favour. We went to Ballina and put up a table, praying with seven and drove to Woombah for the night.

On our fifth day we only had five schools and five packets of the children's books left. We finished our week with Iluka school, Palmers Island school, Yamba school, and Gulmarrad school where P was quite ungracious but took the books for the Scripture teachers. So it was lovely that our last school was Wooli where BJ was so enthusiastic, thanking us for coming all this way to bring the books. We had distributed 360 books to 26 schools and four individuals who wanted to share them. Thank you Lord!