

MAY 2022

# The Faafouina Family

## Missionaries to Samoa & New Zealand



**Sending Church: Metropolitan Baptist Church, 6051 Azle Ave., Ft. Worth, TX, 76135**

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Dear Praying Friends,

Praise the Lord for His provision and direction as we begin this term of ministry in New Zealand. These past two months have been full of both ministry and all the many things that go into setting up a family in a new place. It was sometimes difficult as when we arrived in New Zealand, they were still at the "Red Light" setting which meant many businesses and government offices were operating under limited staff and hours, but we have managed to set up our banking, purchase a vehicle, and rent and furnish a small apartment in South Auckland.

I am grateful for the opportunity we've had to minister to the believers at Lighthouse Baptist Church. This is the church in which I was saved and spent the first eleven years as a follower of Christ. Unfortunately, they went through a terrible time of trials in the past year which resulted in a church split that left only a handful of families - most of them my own family! The missionary that was working with them had to retire because of poor health, so they were desperately seeking the Lord's help for guidance and direction. Robyn and I are honored to be here at just this time to counsel them as they overcome what was a very bitter split and lead them into growth - both spiritually and in souls added to the work. Right now, I am working with the men, encouraging them in their Bible Study and sharing of God's Word during the Sunday services. I have ordered literature to begin outreach to the mostly Samoan community around the church, but with the multi-cultural nature of Auckland, we just pray the Lord will give souls - regardless of their culture! We are also going to begin doing discipleship classes with those interested and, particularly, with the young people. There are several teenagers and young adults who have made professions of faith, but don't seem to have grown spiritually - some of them haven't even had the opportunity to follow the Lord in believer's baptism, so that is something else I am working toward accomplishing.

As for Samoa, Covid finally made it's way into the country and over 11,000 people have now tested positive. At the time of this writing, there have been 23 deaths attributed to Covid. One of our preachers, Malaki, tested positive and was quite ill, but praise God he has fully recovered and I was able to see him back behind the pulpit on the Live Facebook broadcast of LBC Samoa's Sunday morning service this past weekend. In light of so many being vaccinated and many people having recovered from the illness, the government has announced plans to reopen to all citizens and residents in July, and to the rest of the world in August/September. We are tentatively planning to hold Malaki and Laau's ordination service on 17 September and have already purchased tickets to fly to Samoa the first week of September. Please pray the government will go forward with the reopening without quarantine and vaccine requirements so that those wishing to travel to the country for the ordination service will be able to do so.

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and financial support for our family and the ministry God has called us to do! The knowledge that you are holding us up before the throne of God gives us strength and encouragement to accomplish the task God has laid before us.



Some of the men at Lighthouse Baptist Church  
From Left: Makesi, Ben, Pene, Reece

His Servant,

Peneueta Faafouina