



The Lesters serving in Australia

2nd Quarter 2021

Dear Co-laborers,

As we finish out our second quarter, you all are in full swing with camps, summer fun, and VBS; and we are well on our way to the winter and cold and flu season. Our cold and flu season seems especially bad this year. Someone in our house has been sick non-stop for at least the last month, and we are just now coming into cold and flu season.

We have seen illness, hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and a Covid shutdown affect the church as well. In the church, we have seen at least five hospitalizations (not including Sherrie's chemotherapy), at least five emergency room visits (including a child with a broken collar bone, injuries caused by an exploding basketball, people passing out, and someone stop breathing), not to mention all the cold and flu sickness. All of these things have definitely affected attendance and caused a time of just ministering differently.

During this last quarter we also had our Resurrection service. For most Australians, Easter is a holiday to travel and party as the majority have a four day weekend (Good Friday to "Easter Monday") and most have no idea the Christian background to the day. On that day, we entered the facility that we rent to a huge mess. There had been a party the night before, and because of the mess and biohazards that were there, we were not able to meet inside. That day we met outside and everyone was happy to meet there. Although many Easters in the past have been rainy, this one was sunny. It was a blessing to see people wanting to hear the message so much that they were willing to sit outside for the service.

Finally, thank you all for your prayers for Sherrie and her cancer and treatment. She has been doing relatively well, with only a few minor setbacks. Her last chemo treatment was in May. Her PET scan is coming in July, and we will see how the cancer is doing and what the next steps will be. From here, the doctor says two years of maintenance immunotherapy is the usual protocol.

Please continue to pray for our new Christians as they go through discipleship. Also, please pray for everyone to be healthy in the months to come. Thank you for all your prayers and support!

To the Praise of His Glory,

Gary Lester

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