# Mark and Kim Gardner Christ's Burning Bushes For The Pacific October 2020

**During COVID lockdown** so many Fijians lost their employment. Many turned to farming the land, but there was a vulnerable segment of the population that was not able to do that. Many single moms and grandmothers who were raising children lost income, and were not able to sustain themselves from the land or the sea. There were also pastors with families who were no longer receiving any tithes and were struggling to feed their kids.

**We worked with church leadership** here to identify the greatest needs, and through the generosity of our Assemblies of God USA churches and individual partners, we were able to help many of these families with groceries and funds.











### **Spirit-Filled Children's Ministry Course**

During the COVID lockdown, international flights were cancelled, however, after August the South Pacific Bible College was able to open back up, which allowed us to teach Children's Ministry to about 65 students from Vanuatu, Tonga, Western and American Samoa, and many of the Fiji Islands.

We just wanted to stretch these guys and enlarge their vision for Children's Ministry – that kids can be born again, that they can be used in ministry, to give them the meat of the Word, to bring them into an encounter with the Holy Spirit, and not just tell Bible stories and play games.

In the picture below, you can see that we have broken them into groups where they are having to plan and organize a Kids' Camp for over 100 kids, with the objective being to train kids 8 - 12 years old in Spirit-filled ministry. Even though kids camps are some of the most spiritually impacting events in the lives of children, the vast majority of churches in these South Pacific islands are not doing, and have never done; a Pentecostal or Charismatic style kids' camp.



#### The following are some links to videos of some of the ministry we have been doing in

After the Lord's Supper having fun, praising God with the kids: Kiko and Mark having some fun with the kids after the lesson is over: Church online - Producing storytelling segments for Children's Church in Fiji: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zq3yDgn79u4 Church online - Leading Your Family in Lord's Supper at home segment:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMv1jklTJYw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwElDDdHevI&t=8s https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-TAn 4hkYY

#### Hindustani Ministry

With blue skies on the right and ominous clouds on the left, it looked like the only thing holding back the deluge was the rainbow, the promise of God's mercy.

I was taking a picture of the rainbow, but afterwards noticed my neighbor's shrine to his Hindu gods in the foreground. To me, it's still a picture of God's patient mercy, holding back a different type of deluge.

Thank you so much for continuing to pray for us as the Lord has been opening doors for us to speak into the lives of the Hindus around us, as well as to now minister in Hindi speaking churches, and to work with and train Hindi speaking children's ministry leaders.

These pictures below are from Kinoya Assembly of God, and in November we have been invited to train and demonstrate kids ministry in Nausori as well. Everything significant moves through prayer.





## **Please Pray With Us**

- 1. Thanks for praying for us! First of all, a few answered prayers were:
  - a. I (Mark) had a successful hernia surgery, and am up and running.
  - b. Kim had been experiencing chest pain and we found out that it was actually bacteria she had picked up that had made its way through her esophagus and was attacking her. PTL, that is now being knocked out!
  - c. Even with COVID going on, we still had a tremendous response for people coming to that Children's Ministry Course, and it went great!
- PRAY for an outpouring of the Spirit upon our lives and ministry these next couple of months as we continue to minister in Hindustani settings, as well as traveling into the Highlands to minister to the Itaukei people in the interior.
- Keep Kim in prayer We bless her as she turns 50 this month (Oct 13)!!!
- Keep Bree in prayer After so much hard work, she graduates at Thanksgiving with a Bachelors in Science, but we can't be there due to COVID : - (

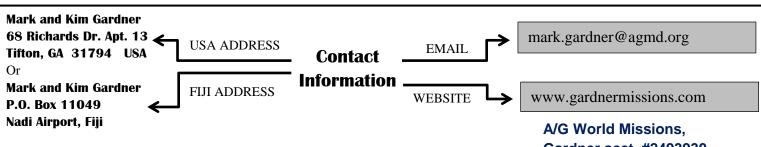
As many of you know, Asia's Little Ones helps us to take care of the kids at the <mark>Freasure House Christian Children's</mark> Home, an orphanage here in Fiji that was started by a couple of AG Missionaries



Anyone want to walk or run with ma Our Goal is to have a 1000 people join us. Please check it out and consider joining us. https://www.asiaslittleones.org/run

#### **OUR VISION**

BRING KIDS into an ENCOUNTER with the HOLY SPIRIT, So they can KNOW THE GRACE of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and BEING thus EMPOWERED







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