Thank You, Australia!

I’m grateful beyond measure for the keen interest in missions and warm personal response I received on furlough in Australia. My travels took me to every state and territory on the Australian Mainland and included each of Australia’s nine largest cities, plus many other places in between. Topping off my program on the 20th of January, I caught up with Momentum Church on the Gold Coast and Acacia Ridge Samoan Church in Brisbane, bringing the total number to 78 churches in just over six months.

What did this experience teach me? More than anything God has His diversely shaped people planted in vastly different communities. But we can bring together our unique strengths to connect with what God is doing through a strategic location in another country.

This vision is not there to overwhelm us, but give us faith to trust God for greater things in the days ahead. I look forward to this ongoing partnership between the Australian Church and our eternal brothers and sisters in the Solomons.

Mutual Learning

Aristotle once said that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. And it’s along this line that I value the chance to contribute from and to a society so different from my own cultural roots, even in a late stage in my life.

This opportunity comes into sharp focus with a weekly Inductive Bible Study Group activity in which I participate. I offer years of learning and experience that shape my particular perspective on Biblical Interpretation. But I also find myself enriched by an enhanced understanding of Melanesian Culture that views the world through a God-given lens so unknown to me.

In this process, I not only gain a broader view of what is needed for others to flourish. But I’m learning more about myself, particularly my own blind spots that hinder me from becoming all God intends.
Praise and Prayer

- Praise for numerous reminders God provides of His presence and power and how doing His will leads to joy
- Praise for Richard and Justina Soto and family moving to live at the training centre and the huge contribution they make to its life and ministry
- Praise for Alister and Elaine Moss for their faithful service to the training centre, whether they are present in the Solomons or through close contact in Australia
- Pray for our brother Graham Tiokopitu that he would witness God’s peace as we trust in God’s power to restore his body from the damage sustained with his stroke
- Pray for the ongoing development of the training centre such that the church can provide a viable and effective facility for fulfilling the Great Commission
- Pray for growing endurance for all of us so we might witness the glory of God in our lives