

# Good News to New Caledonia

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## Flora and Fauna



## Welcome to Paradise

In researching New Caledonia I had read of the amazing beauty that is readily found at every glance around the island, and even though I had read these things, I still felt unprepared for the beauty that awaited me here. The exotic flowers, the clear blue waters, and the amazing sea life are just a small part of the majestic landscape that I have been privileged to witness.



# Services and Home Groups

New Caledonia is an amazingly diverse island. There are not only the native New Caledonians – *the Melanesians* – but there are also many Europeans, Asians and immigrants from other Pacific islands. But no matter the origin or the language, God is always at work among those who are hungry.

## Fijian Home Group

God has a fascinating way of connecting people. Here we are in New Caledonia, a French-speaking nation, and he has connected the local missionaries with a group of immigrants from Fiji. Many came for better job opportunities, but no matter the reasons they are here, they are hungry for the word of God.

We meet on Monday nights for a time of singing, devotion, prayer and fellowship. We always leave with a full heart, full bellies and a few new Fijian words or expressions.



## Baptism Testimony

Meet Rosa. Rosa made the decision to be baptized in the name of Jesus this month. She testified about the goodness of God, how she is thankful for what God is doing in her life, and about the change she feels in her life since being baptized. We are praying that she will be filled with his Holy Spirit soon.

## Saturday Services

Weekly services are held on Saturdays here in New Caledonia. According to the missionaries, this was done to coincide with the Jewish traditions. The pastor coordinates a trip to Israel every year, and the church here believes very strongly in our ties with Israel. Their worship is even filled with elements of Jewish culture. For example, there is a man who plays the shofar and will use it to signal the transition between prayer and worship.



# Children's Ministry

## A Trip to the Beach

Living on an island gives one ample access to the beach. One Wednesday, we took a walk to the closest beach, Magenta Beach, to learn a lesson on the Wise Man versus the Foolish Man. We had a sand castle building competition close to the waters edge to help reinforce the lesson.

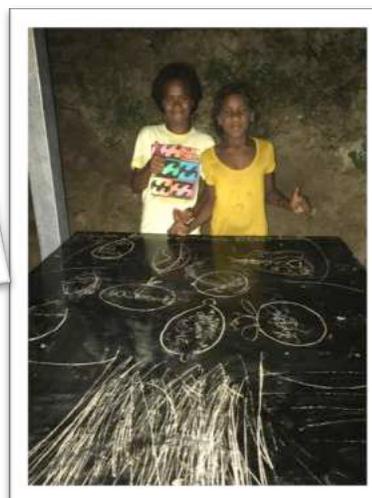
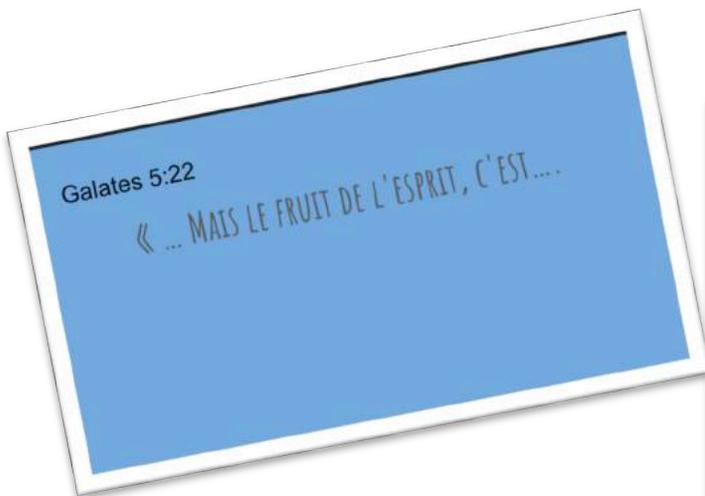


## Memory Verse Games

We have been working to guard the Word of God in our hearts. So far we have learned Matthew 7:24, Galatians 5:22 and I Jean 4:19.

## Les Fruits de l'Esprit

While hiding the Word of God in our hearts, we are also in the middle of a series on the fruit of the spirit. Our first lesson, an introduction to the fruit of the spirit, we drew trees with the fruit of the spirit inside.



## Happy Birthday, Nouméa!

On June 25 the capital city of Nouméa celebrated its 163<sup>rd</sup> birthday. We had the great privilege of attending a small festival celebrating this momentous occasion. There were food, games, music, and the highlight of the evening, a lantern release! It was great moment to celebrate the diversity of the culture present on this island.



**I am thankful for the opportunity to be here and to be a part of the ministry here in New Caledonia. My heart has fallen in love with the wonderfully hospitable people, the culture and the indescribable beauty of this place.**

**I look forward to seeing what more God has in store for the duration of my time here.**