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Colossians 2: 5 For though I be absent in the flesh, yet am I with you in the spirit, joying and beholding your order, and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ. If Debbie and I ever left our hearts somewhere, it was this September and October in West Wyalong, Australia. The Gateway Baptist Church captured our hearts with their love and faithfulness to our Lord.



Early last winter it came to my attention that Gateway BC hadn't been able to complete their building and had been without a pastor for quite some time. Also their sponsoring church Sherwood Hills Baptist Church was without a pastor. God worked it out that Bro. Edward Brown would go to Australia as interim pastor for Sherwood Hills. While he was there he enquired about Gateway and how they were doing for me.

To make a long story short, both churches invited Debbie and me to come over to work on their building, but to also to fill Gateway's pulpit for five weeks. I had never had the responsibility of this position for that length of time during my ministry. It was one of the most joyous times I have ever spent working for the Lord. The faithful members had been listening to tapes for the better part of a year and a half. Occasionally, a preacher from Sherwood Hills would come out to preach. West Wyalong is in the middle of no where, six hours from Campbelltown, so it isn't easy for preachers to be there. The people had grown in the Lord so much in the four years since we had been there. They meet faithfully every Sunday and take turns hosting the midweek service in their homes. Let me say, they pick the Word of God apart and study it, that it puts most of us to shame.



I went to West Wyalong to encourage the church and to minister to them. I think the church did more for me than I could ever do for them. As far as their building, we were able to get it ready for the tradesmen to come and finish. That is a waiting game for the church, because there are few tradesmen and the church just has to wait until they can get to them. Since we have returned home, they have finished the car park, which was a major obstacle for an inspection.

I ask you to pray that God will send Gateway a pastor and that they will soon be able to occupy their building. Many of the community told us they will come to the church when they get in their building, but the church needs a pastor to help them minister to their community. The town has doubled in population since

2004. There has been a gold mine to open outside of town and many families have moved in for the jobs that are offered there. There is a great need for the gospel at West Wyalong as well as all of Australia.

I would like to thank Gateway BC and Sherwood Hills BC for inviting us to come and help and also the financial help that made it possible. I thank also the churches that sent us special offerings to help us make this trip. God is good and faithful. Even though Debbie & I left our hearts in Australia and didn't want to leave them and come home, we have much work to do at other places. Please pray for us as we meet with churches and pastors with their building needs. The month of January will be spent trying to nail down some dates for projects for next year. Pray that we will be sensitive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Pray for traveling safety and for the health and well being of our family.

I thank God for the past year and all that He has done for us. I look forward to the continued work He has before us. I thank God for all of you ... for your support... for prayers ... for your help. Let us praise God together. May God richly bless you. Merry Christmas!

Laboring together,
Randy Taylor