

NT- Update on Kate

August 2009



half of team...at the rock!

Hi friends!

Thank you all so much for your prayers while I was away on mission, it was a great time. There are so many stories that I would love to share with you but if I was to choose two theme words for mission they would be: *flexibility* and *humility*.

Flexibility because before we had even left Sydney our itinerary had undergone some major adjustments. We ended up spending less of our time in Canteen Creek (the small community) and more time in Tennant Creek. This meant a major change in expectations. Tennant Creek is a town of around 3000. It is very different to the small community. Much like other small towns the church is small but loved having visitors, particularly the kids. We stayed with them from Mon-Sun and ran a 5 day kids club for around 30 kids. On Sunday we traveled to Canteen creek where we attended Church (sharing and singing around a campfire), and ran 3 days of kids program.

The need for *flexibility* continued as each new day provided new challenges. Things often didn't go the way that I had envisioned that they would. For the control freak within me this was a great challenge but God was very gracious in helping me to adapt to constant changes.

Humility was the second major theme. I knew that there would be lots of learning experiences, but that was an understatement. One of the steepest learning curves was with the teaching program. After the first few days we realised that the teaching program we had prepared was not working. We were trying to teach too much and

were not using simple concepts in simple English. This led to a rewrite of most of the program that we had prepared. It was great to get feedback and encouragement from Richard and Sue who had been working in indigenous ministry for over 20 years. It was amazing to see the things that God has taught us and the way we grew from the first day of the program to the last. Praise God that he works even through our fumbling attempts. Praise God for the teams humility and willingness to learn.

Humility was also needed in traveling with 16 people! It was great to get to know all of the team much better. The team was a great illustration of the body of Christ with different gifts working together. Praise God for the great team I got to serve with.



Acting out a skit in canteen creek.

And the back...

Thank you particularly for your prayers for my back while I was away. God was very gracious and I was well enough to travel and be involved in most of the mission activities. It was a humbling experience having to rely on my team so much, for carrying my bags and setting up my tent. The team was very gracious and even let me sit in the front seat.

The sad news is that my back is being annoying again. I am listening (and obeying) my physio and my doctor...and spending no more than 30min sitting or standing at a time...as you can imagine this poses many problems, for class, study, life! Please pray I will have patience to let my body recover and humility to allow people to keep helping...

♥ Kate