

# The Richey Report

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**SIM**  
Serving In Mission

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**'PARTNERING WITH AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES IN SENDING MISSIONARIES FROM ANYWHERE TO EVERYWHERE'**

THANKS FOR BEING THE CHURCH!

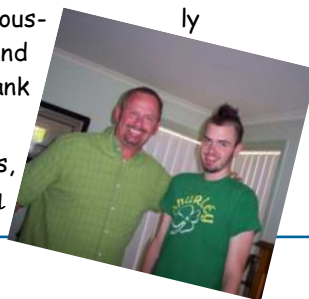
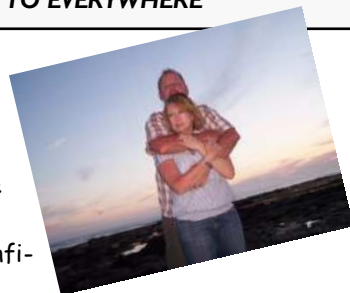
Greetings & Blessings to our praying friends,

The Christian life is a *Journey*, not an *Event*! This was the theme of a recent message Stan gave challenging people to "Stop going to Church" and to "Start being the Church". As we consider that message in the context of our partnership with you in God's global mission, we are thankful that you have chosen to be a part of this journey with us. The outpouring of love and support that has been shown to us the past couple of months has given us renewed hope and confidence in the Church!

At the time of this writing we find ourselves engaged in spiritual warfare like never before. The ministry God is allowing us to be a part of is going very well and we are encouraged and humbled by His goodness. While we are seeing God working to send missionaries to dark places, we are seeing the enemy attack here at home. Since the first of the year we have felt the continual onslaught of attack. Our vehicles were broken into on New Years Eve with several hundred dollars of items stolen including all of Grants motorbike gear. Grant lost his job in January and then severely sliced his finger working a free-lance shift which put him out of even searching for work for over 3 weeks. We had about \$1300 worth of car repairs in January. While all of these things added up to major headache and inconvenience, the spiritual attack reached even greater intensity as the calendar page turned to February. On February 11th Jill was admitted to the hospital in a very weakened condition for a 2 week stay. She is home now, but full recovery to good health will take at least 6 months or more. **Please PRAY** for Jill and us, especially Deanna, as we walk this road of recovery. A constant theme and reminder this year has been *Ephesians 6:12* — "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Also on the family front, Julia is well into her final year of high school, which for those who are reading this outside of Australia, is extremely demanding and intense. **PRAY** for her as she seeks to be diligent in her studies while also maintaining her spiritual and social life as well. Garrett has started uni again and is working towards a double degree in science and education. Grant is seriously searching for a new direction in terms of a career path. Please **PRAY** for Garrett and Grant both as they continue transitioning and find their own way in life. Again, thank you for your partnership and for being the church!

All because of Jesus,  
Stan & Deanna, Garrett, Grant, Julia & Jill



## HELPING MISSIONARIES WHEN THEY RETURN...

One area of missionary life that is often overlooked is their re-entry. GOING is exciting and met with much fan fair, but returning can be one of the most difficult experiences they have ever had to deal with. It is difficult for those at home to understand because the expectation is that the missionary will be thrilled and excited to be "home". The reverse culture shock can be far worse than the shock they experienced when they arrived in the foreign land God had called them to. They

have changed significantly while on the field and life at home has changed drastically as well. Some of the practical life issues that confront missionaries when they return home include; sorting out shopping, finding doctors, getting kids set in schools, buying vehicles, finding housing, and possibly finding new jobs. The missionary will also be dealing with a host of emotions and feelings they may not have expected such as; loss of identity, grief over loss of ministry, loneliness, not being understood, missing

home (the field) and working out how to help the kids cope with the new life they are facing.

One of the aspects of our role with SIM is helping the returning missionaries and their churches to be prepared for re-entry. Over the past several months we have spent many hours meeting with Australian pastors and mission teams helping the churches develop plans for how they can best care for their missionary upon return. During this time we have welcomed back 10 Australian

missionaries and their children. We have enjoyed getting to know them and hearing their stories as we journey together to help them thrive through their re-entry. **PRAY** for those missionaries that have returned, their churches, and us as we help them navigate this road.



To learn more about helping missionaries with re-entry read "The Re-entry Team" by Neal Pirolo. More info will also be available on our blog at rich-ey-sinoz.com

**Developing Strategic Partnerships for multiplication of Mission!**

## EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITIES

In October our role with SIM expanded dramatically. We were previously working in parts of Victoria and Southern New South Wales, and now we are responsible for the entire states of Victoria and Tasmania, as well as the ACT (Canberra). This change meant that we immediately inherited a State Leadership Team, and also responsibility for 18 career missionaries on the field as well as about 6 or 8 short termers, most of which are on 6—12 month assignments. If we put this change in terms of church ministry, it is kind

of like going from pioneer church planting to pastoring a large church with lots of ministries already in place. The past few months we have been busy getting to know the new role and new people we are working with as well as sharing in churches and conferences in Victoria, Canberra and Tasmania. Please **PRAY** for us as this transition continues and we begin the process of strategic planning for the future!

## BY PRAYER...

THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON HAS GREAT POWER AS IT IS WORKING. JAMES 5:16B (ESV)

- **Pray for our family!**
- **Pray for Jill's recovery**
- **Pray for Wisdom and direction in strategic planning**
- **Pray for our support to continue to rise**
- **Pray for the missionaries who have recently returned**

## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

As I look back over the past few months to share with you what we have been doing my mind is flooded with memories of churches, people, and places that God has allowed us to see and minister with. A few of those are highlighted below.



Strategic planning in Sydney

In **October** Stan attended a leadership conference in Geelong, ministered in East Gippsland at a regional Mission Conference, and we ministered in 4 churches in Melbourne.

In **November** it was another trip to Canberra to teach on cross cultural mission at their annual mission marketplace, and preaching in another church on the Sunday. We had a great meeting in a church southeast of Melbourne, and then finished the month in Sydney involved in strategic planning meetings.

In **December** it was Canberra again for the annual AFES (Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students) conference with more than 1300 university students from across Australia. Then in Melbourne there were 2 commissioning services and we finished the month off at the Belgrave Heights summer convention.

In **January** we began the year at Belgrave Heights and there was one speaking engagement in the Western suburbs of Melbourne before we took a very much need family holiday.

In **February** we traveled to Warrnambool to debrief with returned missionaries and then Stan was off to Tasmania for a weekend of meetings and a commissioning service. The month finished with a wonderful opportunity to speak in the church we are attending in Werribee.



Stan with a student at AFES



Deanna with an applicant who is now in Africa

Those highlight mostly weekend meetings and conferences we were involved in. Along with that during that time frame there were approximately 60 other meetings with enquirers, applicants, pastors, missionaries, and other strategic partners. The other task that won a fair bit of our attention this past few months was the re-development and launch of our web site. Now the next task is for us to become disciplined in keeping it up to date. More of our communication effort will be spent there in the future. To stay current with what we are doing visit [www.richeysinoz.com](http://www.richeysinoz.com) on a regular basis!

Once again, our hearts are full and we are overwhelmed with the blessing that is ours to partner with churches and their missionaries in God's global mission.



Julia & Jill with Kangaroos at Phillip Island

## WHAT WILL WE BE DOING IN COMING MONTHS?

Over the next few months we would invite you to journey with us through prayer as we are engaged in...

- SIMCO - Training of new missionaries going to the field
- SIM WORLD Victoria— A state wide mission event
- Strategic Planning for SIM in Victoria and Australia wide
- Welcoming another long term missionary family home
- Looking for a new PA for the office in Victoria
- Working with several Bible Colleges in Melbourne

**In December, if all goes as planned, we will be making a 3 month trip to the US for the purposes of enlisting the partnership of churches, small groups and individuals. If you would like for us to put your church or small group onto our schedule please contact me as soon as possible so we can be sure fit you in!**

## Join Our Support Team!

**We need prayer partners! Send an email to [deanna.richey@sim.org.au](mailto:deanna.richey@sim.org.au) to let us know you are praying with us.**

**We need financial support! You can donate online using the following links. Be sure to put "Stan & Deanna Richey" as the missionary you are supporting or #32194 as the missionary ID.**

**In Australia –**  
<http://www.sim.org.au/onLineGiving.shtml>

**In the US –**  
<https://usanet.sim.org/SIMGift/missionaries.php>