Walgett and Colly Under the Son

We are very thankful to start 3-weeks leave on Monday (Red Rock – Sydney – Canberra/Jindabyne). We are very thankful for Dick and Michelle Ferguson doing a locum, and can't say enough how helpful it is to have retired people help out in rural parishes. We are ready for a good holiday, and couldn't do it without locums!

This is our fifth year here and we still wonder what we are doing… should we stop running events and focus on personal relationships, put more time into the town or farming community, focus more on Walgett or the other centres, focus on evangelism or equipping believers, and what about more time for visiting and following-up funeral families, what about more for the men, and since over 50% of our finances still come from you our supporters is this a viable ministry? Later this year we hope to set aside time to 'review' what we are doing… if nothing else, for our sanity! Your prayers toward this would be greatly appreciated.

With Jacob and Annika happily at school, we have both tried to have a fun hobby. Just for fun… Tory is on-call in the 'Fire Brigade' (FRNSW), and Jo is doing speech and sound groups at the Primary School 2 days/week.

On fun, Jacob (still) loves Lego and has taken to backyard tennis and climbing things. Annika loves her dolls and fairies; and is enjoying her K-1 class… especially learning to read, and telling us how naughty the boys have been each day.

Sunday Club at Walgett have been learning about people in the Old Testament who trusted God (see photo of quilt). It's always a surprise as to which kids are there, but most weeks are more than Jacob and Annika… last Sunday was 8, but how many this Sunday?! How much craft to prepare?! Which adult do we ask to come out as a helper …who would get most by staying in church for the sermon?!

Tory is preaching through John's Gospel (6–8). Personally, I've always been challenged from John as to what real belief in Jesus is; he's quite explicit this is why he writes (20:31). The descriptions of belief in these chapters (bread of life, eat, drink, to know, to come to me *etc*) have shown the personal, intimate, and deep aspect to belief that gives life in Jesus. And in chapter 7:25–52, I was struck by how much irony there is about Jesus. After deep theological conversation with Jo over the kitchen table (at which time Annika hit her 'funny bone' … not funny, another irony!) I think irony is when the appearance doesn't match the reality. John uses irony to help us not judge Jesus by mere appearances, but go ('drink'?!) deeper into him so that we really know him. Jesus' words give a good clue to this too… 'Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly (7:24).'

Speaking about belief that leads to life has upset some people. Please pray for wisdom to love and care for people who hurt to hear that not all people will be in heaven, and whom hurt to hear that we are not saved by how good we are. Please pray for people who attend church but don't read the Bible, to find the joy of Jesus as they come to him in the Word, and that they too might say 'Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.' (John 7:68–69)

Love in Jesus, Tory, Jo, Jacob, and Annika Cayzer (6828 1590 / 0407 466 459).