

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Aloha again Whanau and Friends,

The end of lecture phase has come faster than expected and faster than what was planned for our team heading to Samoa. On Tuesday, our staff announced that instead of our planned date to leave of the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, we were now leaving six days earlier on the 25<sup>th</sup>. This was a bit of a shock, but it brought a lot of excitement. The reason we will be leaving just under a week earlier is because we will be helping run a youth gathering in American Samoa aimed to fire the young people of American Samoa up and inspire them to go out and share the gospel whether that be in the nations or in their own!!! We are the first YWAM team, from Kona at least, to go to American Samoa so it's a true blessing and amazing opportunity that brings a lot of excitement.

On that note, speaking to the whole of lecture phase, what an amazing season of intentional growing and formation not only of my faith, but my rule of life and my character as well. I really look forward to being able to put into practice the habits and disciplines I have developed here in an environment where it isn't so easy like on outreach because I will have to create that routine again. I've really been able to see the fruit from spending time in the word and in prayer daily and even notice when I haven't spent enough time in that space.

Have been fortunate enough to have my brother and sister-in-law in town visiting over last weekend and now my old flat mates, Pastor Sarah and her husband, Stephan (mum and dad). Have loved sharing stories with them face to face in depth. It's been a real blessing to see them before heading off on outreach. Was very refreshing and brought a lot of life to the end of a very full-on season.

This whole week has been targeting spiritual hunger and there has been some great teaching based on what we can implement into our lives to continue growing in our faith and spiritual disciplines to fuel the hunger that we all have to know God more. There was some challenging teaching as well around specifically what we mean by being hungry. The speaker posed the question of "Do we think we need more of God or is it more about the pursuing of less of our flesh?" Got a lot of people including myself thinking deeper.

As always, I appreciate all your support hugely and have been so blessed by the generosity within our church!!! Continue to ask for prayer specifically around the unity of our team as we are four days away from going on outreach. Prayer that we would be centred around the Goodness of God and that our team would be a unit that people we can minister to would feel so very comfortable becoming part of the team and welcome to join us and the mission. Once again, I thank you all so much. One for investing in this journey, and two for all the support whether it be prayer or finances, it doesn't go unnoticed!!! Bring on Samoa!!!!