



1st Quarter 2026

Dear Friends and Co-laborers,

The new year of 2026 has brought many changes in the world at large and in our ministry and life here in Australia. The latest world events have affected us much like it has affected those of you in the US, with fuel being the main thing that has been affected. There is even talk of rationing fuel here in Australia if things continue.

There have been changes in the church as well. We have had one family move, and others are talking of moving. We also continue to miss some of our extremely unwell people. However, we have welcomed back one of our faithful ladies who has been absent since October as a result of a health-related reason. Likewise, we have seen one of our teens return who hasn't attended for nearly a year.

Among the changes that have occurred, one of our relatively new Christians made a meaningful step. She comes from a Muslim background, and she has been divesting herself of all ties to Islam. Among those things was a name change. Her given name and surname tied her to Islam. She has made the step of putting off her old name and putting on a new name – it was a beautiful picture of her new life in Christ. We had a party celebrating her name change, and I preached a sermon on the meaning of a name.

Last, I have had some changes to my health since I spent five days in the hospital in late January. I had a serious infection, and I really felt, on several occasions, that I might not make it out of the hospital alive. I have had a long recovery, and although I have some continuing problems, I have been able to get back most of my health.

Thank you for praying for the ministry and our family here in Australia.

To the praise of His Glory,

Gary Lester

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