

## **DENMARK AND THE BALTICS, September 2005**

In recent years we've had a number of contacts from Denmark studying the Bible Basics course with us, and during the last few years JOE and JOHNNY have been baptized by our co-workers in the CBM. More recently, it's been a wonderful experience to get to know MIKAEL, who came to us through the websites. Mikael was a computer programmer whose life experience lead him to look seriously for God's truth. He began with very little knowledge, even purchasing and reading Religion For Dummies, and going on to study about everything from Judaism to Mormons to JWs. Having studied Bible Basics and voluntarily helping with translating our Living with Alcoholism literature into Danish, Mikael decided he'd like to be baptized, and recently we were able to visit him, and are delighted to report his baptism in the Baltic Sea near Vordingborg. Despite our often rainy Baltic weather, it was a perfect day and location for the baptism, and it was a wonderful experience to see a highly intelligent and sensitive man come to God in truth after such a long and rigorous search.



Mikael still in wet clothes soon after the baptism.

We went on to visit Bro. Johnny, whom we found to be a very studious brother with a wide theological library. It was a pleasure to break bread with him and speak of ways in which we can with God's help rev up His work in Denmark. Bro. Johnny lives in an area where there are many Moslem immigrants and there always seems potential in such communities. He has some contacts who are seriously interested in our message but not yet ready for baptism. We are sending out more copies of Danish Bible Basics to assist our brethren in their witness. So, we pray for Denmark, that the Gospel will spread.

En route we spent a night in Berlin with our dear brother Dominik and sister Anja, and were encouraged at their zealous spreading of the Gospel in Berlin. The German translation of Bible Basics is nearing completion and we'd be grateful for any assistance towards publishing it and distributing it. There are many people in Berlin, including immigrants, who are looking for a Christianity that makes sense. We discussed the plans for a campaign in Berlin, deciding to wait until Bible Basics is actually printed and ready to give out to contacts.

In many parts of Eastern Europe, this Winter is going to be hard to cope with, as the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. The CCM are already getting clothes, blankets and other such aid to those who will be in need. Rising fuel prices means that many people in the cities can't afford to pay for their heating bills this Winter; if they pay them, they are left with no income for food. In rural areas, the old and sick who have no family to support them are often left with no way of getting firewood or insulating their homes against the cold. A group of CCM brethren in Australia have assessed the problem and will soon be launching an appeal. Whilst our note here is as it were a heads up, we're including a photo of some graffiti which recently appeared in Latvia- it sums up the harsh reality for some who are in poverty through no fault of their own. We are determined not to let any of our brothers and sisters go cold or hungry this Winter, and so we're planning in advance.



Graffiti in Latvia.



Delivering clothing to Latvia kindly provided by Australian sisters at a 'women at the well' retreat. The sister had just been out gathering berries with which to make tea. She lives in a city so this was quite an achievement. You can see the berries on the table.

With love to you all

Your brothers and sisters of CCM