

August 2012 Greece, France, Cape Verde Islands, Brother Grigory

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Mark 7, and there's an MP3 on this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/mk7.mp3>

FRANCE

For some time now we've been in correspondence with a Russian speaking family living near Paris. We recently visited them and are pleased to report the baptisms of EDGAR, his wife ANI and his brother VAHI. Edgar has been on a long search for Bible truth and spent a whole day recounting to us his true understandings of the nature of God, Jesus, the devil, the Kingdom of God, the death state etc. He has carefully studied our literature and is very keen to assist in spreading the true Gospel further. We brought him stocks of Russian literature. Our thoughts, prayers and hopes are also with his mother and grandmother, who are also in Paris and who were with us for the whole day. Here's the happy group outside the room where Edgar lives:



In the evening, sister Julia of the Horley UK ecclesia, who's living and working in Paris, was able to attend our breaking of bread.

Edgar emailed us afterwards to say that "*This was the very best day of my life*". The family face an uncertain future, depending on whether or not they can remain in France, and our prayer is that their situation gets resolved positively. We have great hopes that other Russian speaker in France will also soon be baptized.

BROTHER GRIGORY

We continue encouraging baptisms at the **Riga Bible Center** to feature the involvement of those who have first introduced the Truth to those baptized, so here as last week brother Sasha features, this time in the baptism of GRIGORY. The high temperatures in Riga's brief Summer means the beaches are very crowded, so we drove out to a lake for this very calm and lovely baptism. On the way as we drove out to the lake, our brother recalled how many years ago he had decided to be baptized in another church, and whilst driving out to the lake for the baptism, the vehicle had broken down and he'd spent the rest of the day walking back to Riga- and never got baptized. So God really does know His people and we each have our time with Him.



Brother Toussaint from the Manhattan, New York ecclesia continues to attend our meetings, you can see him in the center of the photo of last Sunday's feeding scheme in full swing:



GREECE

Recent Carelinks have mentioned the presence of Iranian assylum seeker brethren in Athens, Greece, including two recent baptisms of Iranians there. Bankrupt Greece simply can't cope

with asylum seekers and they are getting very tough with them. Last weekend alone, the Police in Athens alone mounted an operation whereby they rounded up any Arabic / Persian / Afgani looking person- the BBC reports that 5000 were rounded up in Athens alone.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-18371800>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-19140831#story_continues_1

This is obviously a very unpleasant situation for our Iranian brethren in Athens and we ask for your prayerful support of them in their most uncertain situation.

CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

We have had some contacts on these islands for a few years. Some are really quite interested. These remote islands, situated half way across the Atlantic Ocean between Brazil and West Africa, are fast becoming a holiday resort for the curious. Anyone interested in a trip there to follow up on the contacts?

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks