

August 2019 Tenerife, Finland, New Zealand

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Romans 13 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/rom13.mp3>

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://christadelphia.net/audio.htm> and on iTunes at <https://itunes.apple.com/ca/podcast/christadelphian-bible-talks/id987163468>

Download the *NEV Bible* with commentary and *Bible Companion* bookmarks at <http://n-e-v.info/NEVBIBLE.pdf>

Helps for the *Bible Companion* readings this week:

2 Samuel <http://n-e-v.info/2samcomm.pdf>

Jeremiah <http://n-e-v.info/JeremiahNEVCommentary.pdf>

Mark <http://n-e-v.info/NEVMarkCommentary.pdf>

A reminder of the *Carelinks Australia* conference next Sunday 11th August at *Pine Rivers ecclesia* in **Brisbane**

TENERIFE

Wonderful two days in Tenerife [one of the Canary Islands, belonging to Spain], visiting sister Marianne Barbe and baptizing CARMEN. Marianne suffers from intense pain most of the time, but she has wonderful enthusiasm for the Lord's work and her dream is to start an ecclesia in northern Tenerife where she has lived many years. She speaks fluent Spanish, and gave a Spanish *Bible Basics* to an old friend she met on a bus. Carmen loves all the teachings, it is all what she has been searching for all her life and she feels very much at home with it all. Especially since getting disillusioned with Catholicism. Carmen lives with Alex and her mother in a derelict building up a mountain on a banana plantation. They have no electricity nor running water, but have renovated the building nicely with minimal resources, and keep it amazingly clean. They use a solar panel to power their phones and thereby have internet. They now go to Carmen's flat twice / week to wash and charge appliances- and talk about the Bible. They walk this 10 km. each way as they have no car and like many people in northern Tenerife, live in hidden poverty with minimal or no state support. Carmen and her mum are from Ecuador. Her 88 year old mother is an amazing person, and insisted coming to the baptism along with her dog. But it's too bad that here in the European Union, an 88 year old has to squat in a property with no electricity or water. Carmen takes the cotton and wool out of discarded sweaters and makes wonderful socks, headbands and lightshades which she sells to tourists on the beach. She knitted a pair of very thick ones to give away at the *Riga Bible Center*, although (see later) we gave them to a new African sister in Finland.

Marianne did a great job interpreting, and we all enjoyed her flute playing at the baptism and then playing anthems to us from a 1950s Christadelphian Hymn Book she has. She did this with her ice pack in her back support to reduce the pain so she could go on. We broke bread together really in spirit and truth. Marianne, not sparing her blushes, has just such a huge desire to bring others to the Lord Jesus. And she has the outgoing, passionate personality which makes her a powerful witness. In the video you will see her interpreting into Spanish, just as interpretation should be done- with passion, little additions, personal appeal, panache...

You can see the video of the baptism at <https://youtu.be/K53ARL1vd8s> and of the Spanish-English breaking of bread with sister Carmen at <https://youtu.be/mB53PlywGZM>



We also produced a series of talks going through all our basic doctrines, following the chapters of *Bible Basics*, with Marianne again interpreting into Spanish.

They are

at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqHWDPHDmR_wKWHv97JDYMsLzXHpfARzw

This should be a useful resource for preaching the Truth in Spanish.

Sister Marianne has a large network of folks she knows in the local community. There must be quite a few of you who go to Tenerife for holidays. Why not go and visit our sister and also Carmen? They could do with Spanish Bibles. If anyone has any laying around, please let us know and we can give you Marianne's address to mail them to. And please do pray for our sisters in their very difficult lives, and their desire to develop an ecclesia in Tenerife.

Here's Marianne explaining to sister Carmen how this life is but a few millimeters compared to the eternal, unending line of God's Kingdom. And so indeed it is:



FINLAND

In the photo above you can see sister Marianne reading from her green *NEV Bible*. Brother Tommi from Finland sent us a photo of how he breaks bread alone, also with his green *NEV Bible*. We're so grateful for those who've donated to enable the printing and distribution of these Bibles worldwide; although the cost of postage is now extremely high:



If you're on Facebook, you can join in our online breaking of bread services usually held Sunday mornings European time. Although that's going to change a bit God willing whilst in Australia the next few weeks. But you can go to the "*Carelinks Ministries*" page on Facebook and play the videos of them at any time; our stats show that up to 600 people view them within 24 hours of the meeting, and around 50-100 watch in real time. There are indeed many faithful ones and twos all over the planet, waiting for the Lord's return.

We visited **Finland** this week to baptize YVETTE, wife of brother Ezekiel. They were refugees from **Congo** who ended up in an awful refugee camp in Zimbabwe for nine years. We had been sending *Bible Basics* and *NEV Bibles* to that camp and an ecclesia developed, and Ezekiel was baptized there. They were mentored by brother Moses, a local Zimbabwean who lived near the camp, who we had baptized in the 1990s. Again this is the fruit of long term nurturing of relationships.

Now Ezekiel and Yvette and their three young children have been given asylum and have been given a place to live in a remote part of Finland. Brother Moses told us of them and has faithfully kept mentoring them from afar. In this land of countless forests and lakes, midnight sunshine [in

Summer] and long dark brutal Winters, there are now many resettled Africans.

Far from home and in such a different culture- after years of suffering in camps and endlessly on the move. No wonder they turn to the comfort of God's love in spirit and truth, but the human consequences remain, in terms of trauma and psychological effects. Do pray for them all.

Yvette and Ezekiel are keen to start a home group in the housing estate where they live. So many African families have been sent there to live. As they had no baptismal facilities in the flat, we took a taxi to a sauna pool (see photo).

It was no problem getting local African women to come and mind the children whilst we went- three of them turned up in no time. So let's pray they succeed in helping these folks to the Truth as well, we've given them *NEV Bibles* and *Bible Basics* to help them in this. We gave sister Yvette the super wooly warm slipper-socks which sister Carmen in Tenerife had knitted- she'll appreciate them when Winter comes:



NEW ZEALAND

John Daniel Aldersley, Sam Brown and John Mazlin can be seen in this photo of a driver-reviver stall in New Zealand with a difference- not only free coffee, but also free *NEV Bibles* and literature about the Bible. We're looking forward to having Daniel working in Riga later this year Lord willing. Let's all be inspired to just by all means 'get the word out there'



PRAYER POINTS

- For those recently baptized
- For Marianne in Teneriffe and Ezekiel Yvette in Finland as they try to start home groups
- For all our resettled refugee brethren as they try to make sense of a new life in the West
- For all those breaking bread in ones and twos [and thank God for the internet]

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks