

Australia May 2004

There have been a total of 453 replies from Australia from the internet advertising of Bible Basics over the past 18 months or so. These have been faithfully mailed out by Steve & Robin Jones and their team in Hurstville ecclesia, Sydney, and followed up by co-workers of the Bible Basics Follow Up Team. There have already been two baptisms and some more are imminent, God willing.

It may be interesting to consider the following statistics:

| | % Requests for Bible Basics | % Population | Coefficient replies: population |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| ACT | 1.1 | 1.7 | 0.64 |
| New South Wales | 27.0 | 33.9 | 0.79 |
| Northern Territory | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.00 |
| Queensland | 22.7 | 18.3 | 1.24 |
| South Australia | 9.2 | 7.9 | 1.16 |
| Tasmania | 4.4 | 2.6 | 1.69 |
| Victoria | 29.9 | 24.9 | 1.20 |
| Western Australia | 5.7 | 9.7 | 0.58 |

[apologies if the table won't line up!!]

These figures may be slightly skewed by the fact that it is mainly people who are online who are requesting the book. A few conclusions are apparent:

Residents of Tasmania are far more responsive to offers of free Bible literature than anywhere else in Australia. Residents of Western Australia, followed by ACT and NSW, are the least responsive.

A glance through the actual requests also indicates [although we've not counted the figures] that generally, residents of small towns and villages over 60 km. from the main Australian cities are by far more responsive to our offers of Bible literature than big city dwellers. And yet the majority of Australian Christadelphians are big city dwellers, and understandably focus their efforts there, on their doorsteps.

The conclusions might be:

- To double up preaching efforts in Tasmania
- To realize that our Western Australian brethren especially are up against a real battle against disinterest in offers of Bible literature
- To specifically focus efforts upon rural areas and small towns in Australia.

The Bible Basics Follow Up Fund would like to continue advertising in small, rural Australian newspapers and we invite your support in whatever way, and also in following up contacts, via Robin & Steve Jones, robinthered@hotmail.com or gospelbasics@telstra.com.

Above all, please continue to pray for these efforts, and for those who have responded to truly come to the Lord Jesus Christ, to the Father's glory. A series of visits are planned in July, God willing, to follow up interested contacts, and we seek the Father's blessing upon these efforts at this time. You can view more statistics about preaching in Australia at **Preaching in Australia** (web address <http://www.carelinks.net/books/dh/ww/a2.htm>).

The Bible Basics Follow Up Team



Photo: "Now for the next one!"- baptism of Bible Basics contacts in Queensland