

Brother Charles, Feeding Program, Reading project June 2010

This Sunday we're reading Isaiah 37 according to the Bible Companion and there's an MP3 about Hezekiah's faith at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/faithhez.mp3>

FEEDING PROGRAM / RIGA BIBLE CENTRE

Brother Dan has continued the feeding program at the Riga Bible Centre, feeding up to 50 people / day. Most of these are our baptized brothers and sisters and other attenders at our functions. We gave 3 to 4 hour sessions of Bible study each day along with the food.



Some of our brothers and sisters have had quite hard enough lives without being landed at the end of their lives with no family, tiny pensions and nowhere to live apart from the night shelters. Take brother Oleg, who might appear just another old man whom Dan has been feeding:



But if you look closer, you'll see a telltale mark on his left hand just below the thumb- the place where those imprisoned in the Gulag had their name and number engraved- even Solzhenitsyn had this [you can read more about the Gulag system in his "A day in the life of Ivan Denisovich" and "The Gulag Archipelago"):



It's a pleasure to be able to provide some relief to such fine old brethren, and we so appreciate your assistance which enables it.

Since brother Dan has been with us, we've been pleased to baptize NIKOLAJ, OLEG and MIKHAYEL:



You may recall a while ago we invited your prayers for a Jewish woman, Ruta, who quit attending the Riga synagogue and now attends all our meetings, we asked for your prayers that she might see the light of Christ and be baptized into Him. She is well on the way to this so keep up your prayers. But she has been bringing another Jewish man, Mikhayel, and it was a great joy to him, us, and we believe to the Messiah Himself to recently baptize him:



You can see Ruta and Mikhayel on the far right in the picture of the feeding scheme above.

BROTHER CHARLES

Charles is a Christian from northern Nigeria whose brother and mother were murdered by Moslems during one of the anti-Christian riots last year. Moslems took the body of one of their Imams who had been murdered and placed it on Charles' family property, as an excuse to lynch the rest of the family. He, his sister and his wife fled to another town nearby, and Charles then took his brother's passport and got smuggled to Europe, and the smugglers landed him in Latvia. He was put in the refugee camp, and started studying Bible Basics. After some time, the news came through that his wife and sister had also been murdered. He is in a very broken down state. However he recognizes that he came this strange road in order to learn the real truth about the Lord Jesus, and to be baptized- he had never been baptized in his former church. He gave a wonderful set of answers to all the questions in Bible Basics and nobody could have forbidden water to baptize him. The guards let us use a barrel in their own shower area and as he's quite thin we were able to achieve a full immersion, with less than a centimetre of water above his head [these pictures were taken by the guards, they sadly missed the moment of total immersion]:



Carelinks are often asked 'What do these people know whom you baptize?'. We use Bible Basics as our medium of instruction, and below are copies of Charles' answers [you can read the questions online at www.biblebasicsonline.com]:



We truly give thanks for our brother but he does need our prayers for both his nervous health and also that he may be able to get out of the refugee camp and find asylum somewhere.

READING PROJECT

As part of our outreach to the blind and partially sighted, we'd like to make our websites more accessible to them by reading material like Bible Basics onto audio MP3 files. If you'd like to assist in this, please contact us.

Carelinks' treasurer, brother John Thatcher, produces regular accounts for Carelinks work and they can be requested from info@carelinks.net

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks