

February 2016 UK, Latvia

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include 1 Corinthians 3 and there is an MP3 file about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/1cor3.mp3>

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

LATVIA

We've had sisters April Neate and Sarah Bird with us from Forest Hill and Waterside in the **UK**. The work at the feeding scheme is great and worthwhile... do consider coming out next season, which approximately runs from October 2016 to April 2017. Here's Sarah's report:

It is the end of my first week in Riga (April's second). We are preparing to leave for home, and I don't want to go. I am proud to add my name to the long list of volunteers that over the years have, and do work along side the team that set up this amazing venture. So organised, so well thought through, so suited to the need - feeding both the physical and spiritual need. What made it very special, is that those we have met that come for both types of food, are not just people from the street but they are our brothers and sisters. They have heard the same message as us and responded; Christ loves them just as he loves us. It is difficult not to become emotional meeting them and hearing their stories - how sad some of their lives are and how difficult. When I felt like crying I remembered they have hope, they have the kingdom, this life is very hard but they have a future. And they have this amazing little family that first started showing the love of Christ to them, haven't stopped, and with this consistency have given them a bit of comfort for now.

Duncan was hoping that while we were here we may witness a baptism, (we were hoping too). This didn't happen but probably the reason was that most of them are already baptised! Come and join this amazing, and not so challenging work. We may stink of cooked onions, (forever the Latvian smell now) but it's not so hard and it certainly strengthens your faith. Thank you to those who have led the way and to our amazing Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ for blessing this work.

From Sarah and April

Here are Sarah and April in action along with sis Mel Downton; we've been able to introduce the Bible study sessions with music this week thanks to such visitors:



As Sarah's report mentions, there are some very interesting individuals here; one of whom is brother Viktor, one time ice hockey goalkeeper for Dynamo Riga and the USSR, he played in the Olympics twice, including in Montreal. As a result of the subsequent politics against prominent Russians he now walks the streets of Riga and lives in a night shelter; but that is how he came to the Lord and baptism. He fell on the ice and is grateful for a stick, and as an encouragement to him a UK sister kindly printed out some photos of him in the goal in Montreal; here he is gratefully viewing them along with a letter she wrote by Google Translate; and here is the photo in question, with brother Viktor on the right:



Do let us know if you'd like to come over. There's so much to do on every front especially in the Winter- here's brother Andy Downton salting the pavement and sweeping the snow from around the hall:



Regarding Latvia, here's a special appeal from sister Cindy regarding the large housing project we operate in northern Latvia; it has provided temporary accommodation for various ones in need and has permanent residents:

" The house in Northern Latvia continues to be used by sister Liga, brother Raymonds and their large family for Bible classes on a regular basis. It was really a pleasure to visit them recently and see how keen they are to study God's word and discuss Christian living. Liga is always ready to discuss her faith, and Raymonds is often up early in the morning, studying his Bible. Unfortunately, their income is very low and doesn't leave any money over for house repairs once the food and other bills have been paid. The heating system inside really needs attention as it is air based and simply not working; they are really very cold and struggling by all means to just keep warm. It needs replacing with a standard water based system. To buy boiler, radiators and pipes would cost about 3000 Euros. I really hope we'll be able to cover this cost and support Liga, Raymonds and their family. Anyone interested in coming and fitting the system is welcome to contact us. We're hoping to have another women and kids camp here in the Summer, God Willing"

You can donate in the usual ways or PayPal to tiybible@yahoo.com

CARELINKS U.K.

The latest 'Get a free Bible' advert in the UK has produced over 600 replies and they are still flooding in. Please pray for all those people as they receive the *NEV Bible* and *Introducing Bible Basics*. And do come along to the Carelinks Conference in Croydon on Saturday Feb 27 God willing to help stuff packages with the Bibles in them- see <http://carelinks.net/doc/events> . The conference talks start at 10:30 a.m. God willing and the Bible packaging will begin after lunch at around 2 p.m. We're looking forward to a varied program and hopefully some Iranian brethren will be present to share with us their experiences of conversion, their hazardous journeys across Europe etc.

Prayer Points:

- For the work in Riga
- For the housing project in northern Latvia
- Thanksgiving that so much has been graciously made possible by the Lord
- For blessing on all receiving Bibles in the UK
- For more workers to come forward

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks