

July 2012 Missionary Training Program

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Matthew 23, and there's an MP3 on this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/mt23.mp3>

Many in the Carelinks team are totally busy at the moment running the two week Missionary Training Program in Latvia; they've been at it all last week and will be next week too, God willing. The idea was to gather together from all over the world those who are eager to take more responsibility in preaching and pastoral care of those being baptized, so that we may work faster towards our aim of developing freestanding, spiritually self-supporting ecclesias and groups worldwide.

It's been a wonderful week. You can see the full program at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/ww/a8-1.htm> ; as many couldn't attend because of visa problems, we're professionally recording the sessions as videos which can then form the basis for training by distance:



It's been an amazing meeting of minds- Donald and Rita from China, Kevin from Brazil, Sonia from France, Charles from Nigeria, Robert from Sierra Leone, Josh & Heidi from America, not to mention three New Zealanders and others... The conversation about spiritual and preaching / pastoral related matters continues around the clock, as many are sleeping at the Riga Bible Center on the floor, or in nearby appartments. Here you can see Josh from America, Donald from China and Kevin from Brazil in one of many such conversations; and then Steve from England, Guy from New Zealand and Josh from America talking Scripture over lunch:



The cross fertilization of ideas and thinking over an extended period has produced a lot of fresh ideas and initiatives for the Lord's work. Let's pray they work out, to His glory. There's also been a wonderful Bible study and devotional aspect to our time together, with lots of notes being taken and with a brief breaking of bread meeting every evening. Many of our brethren are isolated and it's been so wonderful to be together, so we figured it was better to break bread daily as did the early church, whilst we're all together:



The aim of the two week program is to produce a Personal Action Plan for each participant and for Carelinks as a whole. So there's been both personal reflection and some quite amazing group discussions:



Practically, the whole gathering has been facilitated by the selfless efforts of sisters Janet Aldersley [New Zealand] and Sonia Hemingray [France] who took upon themselves to cook for the group so we could focus entirely upon the huge work in hand; we are so so grateful to our sisters for this:



As we have a group comprised of mostly first generation converts to the Truth, we thought we'd make a documentary film to accompany the book "*The Real Devil*" at www.realdevil.info, focussed around the personal testimony of so many from all over the world who have rejected the common ideas and come to the Truth on this subject . So we spent a lot of effort producing and filming a movie seeking to demonstrate the non-existence of a personal, cosmic satan. We sought to avoid merely having a "talking head", so we filmed multiple scenes and interviews to get the message over more powerfully. Hopefully we'll soon be able to share with you the movie but it'll take some time to edit. We all had a lot of fun interviewing and being interviewed in various locations:



Upwards of 30 movies and other resources will have come out of our intense time together and we look forward to sharing them with you in due course.

With love and joy from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks