

March 2013 Deaf and Sick People, China, Belgium

We have MP3 audio talks for the *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday:

Leviticus 25 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lev25.mp3>

Psalms 135, 136 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/ps135136.mp3>

Luke 8 <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lk8.mp3>

The archives of our chapter-by-chapter MP3 talks are at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html>

Note from Carelinks UK: Carelinks UK isn't a registered charity and we can't accept cheques from CAF accounts. Please contact us for options if you'd like to donate to us in a tax efficient way.

DEAF and SICK PEOPLE

"To the poor the Gospel is preached", not only the materially poor, but those poor in spirit who perceive their urgent need for the Good News of the Kingdom and of the Lord Jesus who was our representative. For over 15 years we have occasionally reported on our work with a deaf family in Latvia, who are now all baptized. Sister Cindy is one of the few non-Latvians to have a certificate in Latvian deaf sign language, which she got to facilitate our work with them. We're now so pleased to tell you of the baptisms of another deaf married couple, ANDIS and RIMMA, he is Latvian and she is Russian, neither of them understand each others' language and so they have developed their own sign language in which they communicate with each other. They live with his parents, who are also deaf. Entering their home and to some extent their lives was rather like entering a secret garden and we felt honoured to have as it were been allowed just a little bit into their world. All prayers had to be written out in both Russian and Latvian. We have now had over 2000 views of our sign language movie outlining the basic doctrines of the Gospel. The internet has been a huge blessing for such folk.

Photo: *Our new deaf brother and sister; their Bible Basics in both Latvian and Russian*



We have made a number of visits recently to a 'Pansionat', a kind of care home in the deep countryside, where folk are sent, often to die. Some have terminal cancer, others have had strokes, others have cerebral palsy etc. The break up of the family under the Soviet system means that most of them have nobody who visits them. We previously distributed *Bible Basics* and Bibles there. Over several visits we are now pleased to report the baptisms of brothers SERGEJ, VLADIMIR, EDUARDS, ILYA, RIKHARD and OLEG; and sisters ZOYA, ILZE, OLGA, INTA, NATASHA, TANJA, ILZE, DZILMA, NATALY, ANTONINA, IRA, VIJA, INGA and NATALIJA. Some will not live long, humanly speaking, and others live a very low quality of life. This particular facility is in a grand old building, and the brothers and sisters assemble in the library - you can see a *Bible Basics* on the table:



There is no spiritual care provided for them, as most churches are only interested in having

members who will pay a tithe, and the place is quite remote. The staff were extremely helpful- without them we couldn't have done this. They are very touched that we bother with such people. There will be many challenges ahead of us in caring for these dear brothers and sisters. The backbone of much of our work is the distribution of literature and Bibles, and we are so grateful for those whose donations over the years have enabled us to print and distribute so much literature.

One very touching case was of brother Vladimir. He has cerebral palsy but has no wheelchair. To get to the library where the meetings are held he has to shuffle along the corridors and somehow up stairs- on his knees. He has no use of his legs below his kneecaps. As he has no wheelchair he has been provided with plastic shields for his knee caps:



It seemed inappropriate to point a camera and shoot pictures of him shuffling along the floor, but it was a moving sight. Some of these new converts have read not only our literature but the entire Bibles we gave them right through- several times.

CHINA

We mentioned previously an appeal for funds to print a volume of the Chinese New Testament with our commentary and a reduced *Bible Basics* at the back of it, and there is still plenty of space to support the appeal! The volumes cost around \$3.50 / Bible . Donations can be made to the addresses on our website or at the end of this newsletter. Brother Donald reports another baptism trip as follows:

"I baptized JING in a swimming pool and stayed with him at the hotel reading IBB together. Br Jing read our Chinese Bible Basics powerpoint carefully, answered each chapter's question and raised many question.

For a new believer, I told him some Bible story, quoted some verse ,encouraged him to keep faithful on the road to the kingdom of God. There are many miracle in the Bible, personally, I also experienced small miracle through prayer . God sent me to go and baptize people in the winter ,it snowed and icy on the road, I prayed to God to keep me safe on the road and bring this man to your kingdom, God promised, a car just right in front us had a serious accident, but the car I took is okay, and I think it is a miracle through prayer. God chose the nation of Israel as a representative of and to the world, just like God chose us to preach among nations".



Photo: Bro. Jing

BELGIUM

The lively group of Iranian and Afghani brethren here continue their spreading of the true Gospel, and response continues from those formerly associated with the Jehovah's Witnesses. We were pleased to baptize brother M, who had completed *Farsi Bible Basics* and who gave clear testimony to his conversion to the real Christ after jettisoning the wrong thinking of the JW's :



We also spent a very sobering but spiritual and encouraging time visiting an Iranian brother currently in prison near Brussels. Please pray for him. It really was a case of going to exhort someone, but coming away exhorted.

The tempo of activity the Lord is using in His work is increasing- please do get involved as far as you can and join us in prayer for all these dear ones, and for wisdom in how we seek to serve His great people.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks