

March 2015 China, Carelinks UK, Bible, Arina Report, Support Needed, Gratitude

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Luke 21 and there is an MP3 about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lk21.mp3> .

You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html>

RIGA BIBLE CENTER

The work of *Riga Bible Center* depends upon responsible visitors coming over. All return home very positive about this amazing opportunity for service, where so many are being baptized, the word of God is going forth backed up by love in action, and lives are really being transformed. We're truly praying that some will respond to the need to come over here for 2 or 3 months. Sister Arina from the Toronto, Church Street ecclesia came over for 2 months and has just left- here's her report:

"For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God beforehand prepared that we should walk in them". Such good works are literally being carried out by the Riga Bible Center. Five days a week about 100 needy, poor Russian speaking people of different ages and backgrounds stream to the Center. Are they looking just for hot food or hot drink? Certainly not. Some of them are also hungry for the Scriptures. And so not surprisingly, many baptisms go on at the Bible Center. It's their own desire to open their hearts for Jesus and let Him dwell there. Wonderful things are happening at the Bible Center.

Much effort and love from the many volunteers goes into these good works at the Bible Center. Needy people need physical food. And the Bible Center provides delicious, nourishing hot meals. Almost every day a few of the volunteers do a big food shop at the Maxima Supermarket. We then meet at 2 p.m. in the kitchen. Before entering the kitchen everyone must dress in a net hat, apron and safety shoes. Then, the team begin the cooking process. Green vegetables are peeled. Potatoes, cabbages, carrots and onions are carefully chopped into small pieces to make them easier to be eaten by those with dental problems. The meal preparation is not so easy but is much fun. Chopping extremely dense cabbages develops the arm muscles, chopping the onions clears your nostrils. Don't just believe me, come over and be convinced.

When all the washed vegetables have been chopped, they are put one by one into three big pots. The entire cooking process takes three hours, and at 5 p.m. the stove is turned off. But meantime at 4 p.m. the doors of the Bible Center are opened. Maxim stands at the door and checks those coming in for alcohol on their breath. People are happy that we have these strict rules. Then for one hour they can enjoy hot tea and coffee. After coffee and tea time is over, then it's time for spiritual food. All of them then move to another hall. At this time they pray and hear exhortations given by Andy, Maxim or Duncan or some other volunteer speakers. They listen well to the Bible reading.

6 p.m. is dinner time. We are rewarded with smiling faces saying "spasibo" [thankyou]. There is so much food that they come back for second or third times, and also take food out in containers. The three big pots are empty, all volunteers go back to work as the people are leaving filled both with spiritual and physical food. The team cleans the dining tables, and the dishes and utensils are sanitized. Carpets are vacuumed, floors are brushed and mopped. Everything is spotless. We can get the highest grade from health inspectors. We are tired but at the same time we are happy. We did good works for "one of the least of these my brethren, you

have done it to me".

This week at the Bible Center we were delighted to baptize IRINA , wife of Vova; and also VLADIMIR. Here you can see Vova helping sister Irina out of the water, with our amazing brother Maxim looking on; and then sister Arina joining in the personal encouragement given to Vladimir at his baptism:



SUPPORT NEEDED

We plan for the Bible Center will continue operating as usual over the Summer period, God willing. We do need your ongoing donations to enable this.

GRATITUDE

We all really appreciate your response in assisting our young sister Ieva with her medical issues. Tests are still inconclusive although she is having major iron injections. So the process of testing continues. She continues to struggle with her issues but remains positive and strong in faith and devotion to service at the Bible Center. Without any prompting she wrote this letter of gratitude:

Dear, Carelinks

I would like to thank you for your kindness and help to me.

God bless you everyone!

I will keep you in my prayers!

With love,

Ieva

CHINA

Br Donald reports: "I baptized brothers ZHANG and CUI this month. Br Zhang is just married and works in a factory in Shanghai , his wife works in Fuyang city, originally from Christian family. So br Zhang requested Chinese Bible from our advertisement and decided to read the Bible during his spare time. Br Cui is a repair man, he was baptized also as a result of Bible distribution, He is keen in asking Bible questions each time we make phone contacting. God bless"



Again this work is due, humanly speaking, to our policy of providing Bibles and *Bible Basics* free, both in hard and soft copy- please do continue donating so that this great work can continue, as it's clearly being blessed by the Father and His dear Son.

BIBLE

Brother Robert Frisby, an American truck driver baptized fairly recently, has spent a huge amount of time in producing a PDF file of the *NEV Bible with commentary*. It has over 2000 bookmarks, enabling every chapter of the Bible to be accessed very easily. It also has bookmarked the *Bible Companion* readings. This is an extremely useful resource for all who like to read and study their Bibles from tablets or handheld devices. You can download the file (9

meg) from <http://n-e-v.info/NEVBIBLE.pdf> . We can't recommend this resource enough and are grateful to our brother for all his work; and we believe many will be in our century of handheld reading.

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks