

## November 2011 Practical Requests, Baptisms, Followup

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Acts 18,19, and there's an MP3 on these chapters at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/acts1819.mp3>

The **Riga Bible Center** reports another three baptisms in the last week, and another baptism at the refugee centre. ALGIMANTAS is a Lithuanian engineer living in Riga and ALEXEI lives in a night shelter. Two very different men were baptized in the same bath and we give thanks for how God is so powerfully at work. Here's Algimantas reading the Russian version of the NEV New Testament with commentary; and Alexei being congratulated after baptism:



Our work with refugees and asylum seekers in Latvia continues, and we're pleased to tell you of the baptism of a Kurdish man ELDAR. Our brethren have a plan for a website especially for asylum seekers in Latvia, with all the info they need in Farsi, Arabic etc. , and saying we are Christians and can speak their language and would love to visit them and provide spiritual support.

***Here are a few practical things you could consider doing:***

### **SEND EDUCATIONAL TOYS or PUPPETS TO LATVIA**

Cindy's mums and toddlers church is going great. They meet two or three times / week. Here's Cindy giving a presentation about the promises to Abraham [juggling her own toddlers whilst she did part of it]. Attendance varies from five to twenty. You can see the child-level illustrations of the promises to Abraham on the screen:



She's put a huge effort into producing a "service" comprised of 5 minute segments, so kids can run around and be cared for, based around a Bible character like Abraham.

The women want to put on a puppet show for local people in the housing estate round the hall...there are several thousand people living within 10 minutes walk of the hall. Does anyone have any puppets illustrating Bible stories? No need to buy or order them but maybe someone somewhere has a drawer full of them.

Cindy also wants to open a toy library, whereby mothers can take home an educational toy [i.e. not just a stuffed soft animal] at one meeting and return it at the next meeting. Let us know if you have anything lightweight you could send over.

### **CHESS SETS**

Also we want to have a *chess championship*... open initially only to our own members for reason of numbers but maybe inviting in the public in due course... anyone have chess sets laying around? There's a brother of 71 who comes to the meetings and has been baptized, Gennady, his wife was much younger than him and she died, he has a 13 year old son who comes to the meetings and is a very serious young guy, who he does his best to raise on very limited resources living in one small room. They really have no money. Gennady comes on

Mondays to Bible class with a container to take soup back home to Adrian for when he returns from school. Adrian is the chess champion of his school and Gennady encourages him to keep away from the ways of the world and wants to encourage him in his chess. Most of our brethren are into chess and all are keen for a championship... So we need a load of chess boards. Maybe 20 or 30. It all can sound a bit not exactly preaching the Gospel, but creating an environment where people like going to meeting and there's a harmless social aspect to it seems to us a good thing ...

### **SEND AN SMS TO VIKTOR**

Brother Viktor is doing well in recovering from a stroke which nearly killed him, and has gone up quite a rung of the ladder with his speech. He can dress himself with difficulty and can walk with a frame. He is sitting all day long in his room, exercising by walking up and down a corridor. It's a rather limited existence. He will it seems never regain much use of one arm, and he has problems reading for long periods. But he is very interested in how everyone's doing in the meeting. We got him a mobile phone and he can receive messages by SMS. He doesn't know English but perhaps simple messages could be sent to him in Russian or Latvian. They need only be the length of an SMS, a sentence to say you are with him, and no need for him to worry about replying. You can translate from English to Russian through <http://translate.google.com/#en|ru> . However, presumably you won't have Cyrillic letters on your phone, so to turn the Cyrillic [i.e. Russian] letters into Latin ['English'] letters, on the right hand screen of the Google translate page, where the Russian is displayed, press on the "A" button, which when hovered over says "Read phonetically". Then underneath that right hand box, in grey letters, will be the best in Latin letters which you can type in as an SMS. Send us an email and we'll send you his mobile number. This very small act will have huge meaning for our brother, who is stuck there in the care home in his room most of the day. Here's a picture of our brother with his phone, which is a lifeline for him really:



### **PRAY FOR ONALDO**

Our brother Onaldo in **Brazil** whom we spoke of in a previous mailing is really very sick at the moment. Please pray for him. He writes:

"I am not well and will have to go to a doctor in São Paulo as soon as I can. Because of my health situation I rarely come to town and to the internet. I am mostly bedfast and in pain. Please pray for me. I am really not well these days and also kind of depressed and tired of living. PLEASE pray to God in my behalf. God Bless you! Onaldo".

### **SPANISH BIBLES**

Anyone who has any Spanish Bibles laying around can send them over to **Chile**. And anyone interested in receiving emailed exhortations in Spanish can contact our sister. Sister Gisella writes from Chile:

"I really appreciate what you did some years ago when you came and baptize me as the first cristadelphian in Chile, I am convinced that it was only God's purpose. Do you have spanish bible available??? there are some people who needs bible and because of their poor situation they are not able to buy a bible, or is there another brother or sister who can help with that??? please let me know... I would like to translate your exhortations because I think that

everybody must share what God puts in your mind and heart. I would like to publish comments or exhortations especially for isolated brothers and sisters so if you do not mind I will really happy to send the translation to those brothers and sisters who do not speak english".

**With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks**