

## November 2017 UK, Latvia, Australia

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Acts 16 and 17 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/acts1617.mp3>

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

Download the NEV Bible with commentary and Bible Companion bookmarks at <http://n-e-v.info/NEVBIBLE.pdf>

### AUSTRALIA

We're planning on distributing a leaflet advertising the *NEV Bibles* throughout the **Fairfield** area of Sydney, where many migrants live. We're paying for them to be distributed by a company. We ask for your prayers that the Lord leads the right people to us, and of course your donations are welcome towards this.

We'd like to remind you also of our *Carelinks Australia* conference to be held at the **Logan** ecclesia in Brisbane on Sunday 10 December God willing at 1:30 PM, the breaking of bread meeting will be at 11 a.m. All welcome to hear updates of the Lord's hand at work around the world today, and to consider how we might extend His work in Australia.

Logan ecclesia meet in The Library, Mabel Park State High School, 72 Paradise Rd , SLACKS CREEK <http://www.qldmembers.com/logan.html> . More info from Br Ray Wheeler [raywheelermobilemowers@gmail.com](mailto:raywheelermobilemowers@gmail.com) or Br Phil & Sis Miri Worsnop [mworsnop53@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mworsnop53@optusnet.com.au)

### LATVIA

The daily feeding scheme is now in full swing, with very good attendances of between 50 and 90 every day. We begin each session with an hour where the hall is open for coffee and where the visitors can chat and some read *Bible Basics*, copies of which are freely available; and then a one hour Bible study, followed by the meal. Here's Cindy discussing some medical issues with a man reading *Bible Basics*, and sharing a joke:



We're also distributing clothing and firewood and assisting with heating bills:



We've had Norman Stock and Jackie Sprigg with us, and also brother Maxim from Ukraine, and he's now more or less alone coping in the kitchen this next week. It's a lot of work to do and we'd be quite stuck without him. Sister Vanessa arrives next week and then we have the schedule more or less covered until the period Feb 10 - March 10 2018 God willing, and we'd appreciate anyone moved to come over and help then. The work isn't heavy but there's plenty of it. We invested 135 Euro in a wall mounted dicer which is a great help- there's been so much cutting and chopping of vegetables that it's by God's grace that we all have our fingers intact. Here's Maxim [far left] operating it:



No food is ever wasted, any leftovers are all taken away by the visitors in plastic containers to eat later:



Nothing much has changed for the large Russian 'minority'. Even if they worked all their lives, they receive no pension if they worked in Soviet times, and the Soviet idea that the state would provide for you has now ended now that 'the party's over'. So elderly Russian folks with no family to care for them are left living in the dreaded night shelters, where they can stay only about 300 days / year. They must be out by 8 a.m. and only allowed in around 7 or 8 p.m., and have to carry their few belongings with them. It's a sad way to have to end your life, especially if like some of them you have decades of work behind you in your earlier life. But to the poor the Gospel is preached.

The folks who come attend regularly and faithfully and many have already been baptized by us. Hearing one hour of Bible teaching every day they have good exposure to the teachings of the true Gospel. We were pleased this week to baptize MARIS who has been attending for over a year. He was raised as *homo sovieticus*, and was an enthusiastic Communist, going into the Red Army and still has the tattoo of his regiment visible. When burying his mother a few years ago, he says he reflected how the USSR was taught to be one's mother, and how biological mothers were just a physical channel through which we entered the world. He recounts a bit on the video how looking at his mother's dead body he saw how wrong this was, and began searching for God. Like many ex professional soldiers, he feels not much welcome in the new Latvia, and so was glad to attend our meetings and have the Bible explained. Here's Maris being baptized and then greeted as a brother by Norman and Jackie:



There are some wonderful success stories of people whose lives really changed. Soon after we began our present soup kitchen about 8 years ago we encountered Yuri, a hard core, on the street alcoholic. He was baptized, and quit drinking. He then met Rita, who is a German Jewess, born in East Berlin in 1945, a real survivor, and who had been a regular attender at the Riga synagogue. After her husband's suicide she found the Rabbi's explanations not satisfying, and heard there was a group who studied the Bible for an hour every day. So she attended, for the teaching not the food, and was baptized- and married Yuri a few years ago. They are a great example of the radical transformation of human life in practice by the power of God's word and Spirit. Here you can see them after the Sunday meeting- you'd never think Yuri came from where he came from:



We put together a brief video of the food purchase and preparation, brother Maxim using the wonderful dicer, the baptism and clothing distribution

at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqANa1SCjw&t=21s>

We really would appreciate donations for this work, the heating bills for the hall are major, up to 800 euro / month in the coldest parts of Winter, and electricity runs at 250 euro / month in the Winter, not to mention water, breakages, the required hygiene inspections and the roughly 2000 euro / year land tax which is due in January. And of course plenty of other expenses.

Please pray for the great work ongoing.

## **UK**

We're delighted to report the baptism of FELICITY , 15 year old daughter of our brother Francis and sister Jewel and are glad she can fellowship at the Daleside ecclesia in **Yorkshire**.

Our *Carelinks UK Conference* is booked God willing for Saturday 24th February at the usual venue in Selsdon [**Croydon**] from 10:30 - 6 PM, contact Br Steve Gretton if you'd like to attend or for more details- [steve.gretton@gmail.com](mailto:steve.gretton@gmail.com)

## **PRAYER POINTS:**

- For the ongoing work in Latvia
- For more workers and support for the soup kitchen work in Riga
- For the continued spiritual growth of those recently baptized
- For the leaflet distribution in Sydney, Australia

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