

## November 2018 Finland, Latvia, UK, Mayotte

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include 1 Timothy 6 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/1tim6.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>

Helps for the *Bible Companion* readings this week:

**Esther** <http://n-e-v.info/NEVEsther.pdf>

**Jonah** <http://n-e-v.info/jonahnevcom.pdf>

**2 Timothy** <http://n-e-v.info/NEV2TimothyCommentary.pdf>

### FINLAND

We mentioned last mail the wonderful contact in Finland called Tommi. He not only knows all doctrines of the Truth, but is really coming to the Lord Jesus in spirit and truth. And to have the spirit of Christ is what's so important. Without that, we "are none of His" despite all purity of doctrine. We had some wonderful exchanges. Things like: "I have already started to do my best to change as a person, i am now more aware what i watch and ow i act and what i let out of my mouth. I am beginning to understand how much my mind has been corrupted by the media and bad influences. Now the thought of becoming closer to Jesus, trying to do my best to be like him and praise God in my daily life sounds just wonderful to me. It's just quite hard to believe that i have received this another chance, i have failed as a Christian and failed as an person so badly and so many times that sometimes it's hard to understand how one could be forgiven after being sinned so much".

Tommi was indeed as good as he sounded. He had told his whole family about his baptism, his sister, niece, mother and step father. They came and watched the baptism, at -5 C in a frozen river which winds through their small town in rural Finland. He explains in the video how he wanted to do this to feel something of the sufferings and death of Jesus as he united himself with Him, and also to show his family that he was serious and was no longer as he put it, an "on / off Christian". So we drove to the riverbank, warmed the car up and left the engine running so we could get back inside it straight away after coming out of the water. It was truly a cold northern night, with an unusually clear moon that appeared to be shining directly upon us in blessing (see the photos). And so Tommi was baptized into the Lord Jesus. We warmed up and dried off and then went to a pizza place for something to eat, and we recorded a wonderful testimony from Tommi as to how he came to the truth, having left the Lutherans and then the JW's. He found our belief in the human nature of the Lord Jesus particularly attractive; it beckons us towards identity with Jesus , knowing He had our nature. You can view the quite amazing baptism and Tommi's wonderful testimony at <https://youtu.be/pwinXo8oJIA> . He wrote afterwards "Greetings my new brother. Yesterday was honestly the best day of my life". And he comments on the video: "I get cold again just by watching this. That water was freezing! Still, it was the best decision of my life and i could not be any happier".

If any of you have any Finnish contacts, Tommi's testimony in Finnish is at <https://youtu.be/cjckGO5TlQ>

He's working on translating our material in Finnish so his mum can also understand the truth and be baptized. We're hoping they might be able to come over to the Carelinks Conference in UK on the last Saturday of February God willing. You can see his mum with him in the photos

below:



UK

The 2019 Creation Calendars, with their clear statement of faith on the last page as well as a powerful argument for creationism, are proving really popular with UK prison chaplains. One chaplain wrote this week:

"Dear Marcus, Thank you for your recent letter and 'sample' calendar. HMP [ ] is an open prison and so many men are pleased to pick up a calendar that is particularly colourful - but with a message! I can easily foresee at least 50 -70 being taken, so if that is possible please send them to the address below. Thank you for your support

[later]

Dear Marcus, Thank you for the calendars, they were 'snapped up'! I can easily use another 100/150 being used, if you still have some to spare. We are an open prison, so men are in and out of the Chapel all the time, and it certainly gets the message into their rooms! Thank you for this service"

This is a wonderful way of getting the true Gospel out to people. Let's pray there is more response from the prisoners.

### **MAYOTTE**

Our Congolese brethren who are stranded on the tiny islet of Mayotte are continuing strong in faith. Brother Phil arranges an exhortation for them every Sunday in French, which we send to them by WhatsApp. We spoke of the tragic situation of sister Diane, who was raped on the Comoros Islands and then fled with the others by dug out canoe from there over the sea to Mayotte. She has been so traumatized that she can't produce her own milk for the child. She will have a long term problem as well once the child is old enough for cow's milk, as there are now cows on Mayotte. So we asked you to send baby milk powder to her, and she has received it.

One of the brethren recorded a short message from her on his phone and sent it to us. This is tear jerking testimony really, if you know French anyway... but surely any English speaker can pick up the gist, and sense this is absolutely from the heart gratitude.

You can hear it at <https://youtu.be/RZqQ4GOA590>

### **LATVIA**

We continue our daily feeding program and Bible teaching, with Daniel Aldersley doing a great job supporting Duncan in the teaching and Mike & Vanessa now replacing Rob & Debbie in the kitchen. We're so pleased to report the baptism of ALEKSANDR. He was given an NEV Russian Bible last year and has decided firmly for the Lord Jesus. We recorded the baptism and his personal testimony at [https://youtu.be/6\\_ZUeUNGuWo](https://youtu.be/6_ZUeUNGuWo) . Audio is poor but worth following, in Russian & English. He explains how he was a Soviet soldier in Afghanistan, working as a sapper, laying mines. Their whole group of around 30 soldiers were ambushed and only 2 of them survived. That, along with his experience with mines, led him to feel he had a guardian Angel who was leading him somewhere, but he wasn't sure where. Until he attended our meetings, got our Bible and saw the possibility of forgiveness, the future Kingdom and present relationship

with Jesus. Yet again, God's truth triumphs in human life, and to Him be the glory.



### **PRAYER POINTS**

- For those recently baptized
- For the brethren in Mayotte to be able to get away from there
- For the continued real spiritual transformation of those baptized
- For Tommi's outreach in Finland and for his mum to be baptized
- For the ongoing feeding and teaching work in Latvia

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