

October 2016 Italy, Australia, USA, China

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Galatians 1 and 2 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/gal12.mp3>

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

ITALY

We continued the feeding scheme and outreach this week, supporting brother Joseph and his amazing house group of genuinely interested folks. We had a great team from the **UK**, and it was truly a spiritual experience to work together in catering, food and clothing distribution, as well as Bible distribution and reading those Bibles together and with others.

The migrants are kept in "camps", such as disused schools, they are taken from the beaches they arrive on to the camps where they can stay for 6 months. But food and clothing are not provided, although local organizations provide some camps with these things. The camps therefore vary immensely.

Muslim organizations take food for the Muslims, who are the majority in the camps; some say that the Christians can also have the food, but there are complaints that this doesn't happen, or that the rice for the Christians is urinated on by Muslim extremists.

Our association with brother Joseph, who is a long term resident of Italy with a car, job and apartment, was based around his interest in our doctrinal positions; he accepted these and was baptized earlier this year. But his passion is to take both the Truth and also material aid to these camps.

So we rented a house in the mountains near his town, and from there prepared hot food which we took down to the camps for breakfast and supper each day. We also fed folks in the open air on a beach, at Joseph's house church [about 20 packed in to his apartment] and at our rental property. This property was providentially situated close to a camp in a disused school high in the mountains. The folks there are stranded as there is no bus service into town, and it will soon get quite cold there.

We encountered Muslim opposition at one of the camps. We wrapped our rice and stew in blankets to keep it warm and distributed from the car boot, in disposable dishes, after gathering the migrants around the car for a prayer of thanks for the food. After feeding them they then filed back inside, as we were not allowed into the buildings because of Muslim tensions.

We also distributed Bibles along with the food. The folks have little to do all day. Some of the Muslims study the teachings of Islamist extremists all day and become radicalized by them; whereas our folks spend their days reading the Bibles and *Bible Basics* which Joseph has already given them. It was a pleasure to see them with those Bibles, and at the feeding sessions at our rental home and Joseph's place there were Bibles on the table as we fed and taught them further.

It was a great mesh of providing both spiritual and physical food. Many thanks to those in the East Anglian ecclesias who donated clothes which Roy brought over with him.

Joseph has a great pastoral responsibility now, which he takes very seriously. We would like to repeat this program, but there is real potential here for some to go live there for a few months and do great things. We are praying the Lord will raise up someone.

We drove to the beach one day with our contacts, and held an open air baptism service at a cafe and then baptized AUGUSTIN, MICHAEL, WISDOM, VICTOR, TERRY and PETER. Brother Wisdom was a great help teaching us how to prepare and cook yams and platane.

They all have amazing stories of their journeys across the Sahara, the nightmare of life in Libya and the migrant prisons there, and then the equally nightmare journey across the Mediterranean to Sicily or Lampedusa.

Brother Wisdom's boat capsized and he was rescued actually by a British boat, who then passed him over to the Italian coastguard. His testimony is recorded at https://youtu.be/eOx3zpnco_g

There were many genuine expressions of thanks for all the meals and support. Thank you all so much for enabling this and for your prayers.

Clearly the Lord's hand is active in all these lives. There we were on a mountain top in rural Italy with fantastic views, cooking yams and fellowshiping together with a group of 17 or so Africans.

We put together a video of the Lord's work this week at https://youtu.be/hgXfm_kz75Y
We really recommend you have a look and share this and try to drum up support for what is really a very effective way of both caring and preaching.

Here are some stills from it, showing the baptisms, food and clothing distribution, and house meetings:



AUSTRALIA

We're hoping to catch up with a number of folks interested in baptism over the next couple of weeks, God willing; and we remind you of our Carelinks get together at the *Pine Rivers ecclesia* in **Brisbane** after meeting on Sunday 16 October- let Ruth Stibbs know if you'd like to come or for more details john.ruth.stibbs@gmail.com

CHINA

Brother Donald reports as follows:

"I baptized brother YUAN in a swimming pool. He grew up in a single parent family, his parents divorced when he was very young so he spent lots of time with his grandmother going to church

in his Childhood.Those experience influenced him later. He is rich in material things as his father fought for wealth in the city for many years,and compensated him for lack of love. But Brother Yuan was very poor in spiritual life. During weekends he has nothing to do but sleep,playing games and watch TV,this is not the life he wanted.So he searched spiritual life on the internet and got in contact with us.Now he is studing Bible with me online every Sunday morning, we watch Bible related movies,answer Bible multiple questions and reading Bible Basics.5.2 The Kingdom Is Not Now Established is one of brother Yuan's favourite chapter,He said Jesus is not yet come to establish his kingdon as violence grief,these bad things still happens.There will be only happiness when the kingdom is establish,no more death etc.Please pray for us. God bless"



USA

Brother Jason continues inspiring us all to get out there and distribute literature; let us know if you would like too have copies of NEV Bibles and Bible Basics to distribute. Here's more of them being offered in a college by sister Trudy Stuchlik from Michigan:



PRAYER POINTS:

- For those recently baptized
- For the work in Italy and for brother Joseph especially
- For the outreach of brother Jason and others with NEV Bibles and **Bible Basics**
- For the contacts in Australia

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks