

## October 2018 Italy, Mayotte, Latvia, UK

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include John 15,16 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.christadelphia.net/audio/jn1516.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:

**2 Chronicles:** <http://n-e-v.info/2chroncomm.pdf>

**Ezekiel:** <http://n-e-v.info/EzekielNEVCommentary.pdf>

**John:** <http://n-e-v.info/NEVJohnCommentary.pdf>

### UK

Marcus continues getting lots of requests from UK prison chaplains for the 2019 creation calendars. The way he's going, a large % of UK prisoners are going to be getting the calendar. He therefore needs to reprint them and we mentioned last mail that we're open to donations towards this and also for the cost of postage and the additional Bible requests which this work will generate. Lot of responses like the following from the chaplain of Maidstone jail:

"Hello Marcus,

This is to say a big thank you for the lovely Calendars we received. Those who attended service yesterday got a copy each and they absolutely loved it. They commended the print quality and the wonderful pictures and explanation on each page. I am not Oliver Twist, but will definitely be asking for more because am sure the 150 copies will be gone in a few weeks. God bless you for the wonderful support you are giving to our ministry in the prison".

Distribution of *NEV Bibles* and calendars on the streets continues, and br Charles Abel reports:

"Although it was sunny in Worthing we failed to take any photos - oops. We gave out 250 Calendars, all with literature flyers inside, and a number of complete Bibles, and had a number of short conversations with people, and some street praying too. It was a really joyous afternoon, so uplifting, and all completed in little over an hour, which just shows what is possible. We're planning to do more in Horsham and maybe Horley next weekend".

And a reminder that the *Carelinks UK Conference* will God willing be held in Croydon , Saturday 23 February. See <http://carelinks.net/doc/events>

### ITALY

Br Peter and Sis Dae Ventresca from Canada have spent a very useful three weeks in Italy, holding multiple pastoral follow up meetings, Bible studies etc. with the African brethren baptized there and also brother Dario; and also distributing leaflets in English & Italian. Always great to see spiritual growth in those baptized.



## MAYOTTE

The group of Congolese refugees stranded on this tiny islet are beginning to make real progress in baby steps towards getting documents which allow them to get out of that terrible situation to France proper ["metropole"]. We plan a trip there this week and ask for your prayers for wisdom and the softening of hearts and greater efficiency in dealing with their case. They really have very little food and it's so hard to get any work there, in such a tiny islet with much discrimination. They are going to probably need major support in due course when it comes to actually getting them from Mayotte to Paris. And we will be providing ongoing support when we visit, so please do donate what you can.

## LATVIA

The Winter feeding program and daily Bible teaching sessions are in full flow. We also distributed reading glasses to the visitors, many of them have no income because they are Russians, and get just 10 Euros / month and a place in a night shelter for about 300 days / 365 per year. Medical stuff, clothes etc. are all a big problem for them. So we continue giving warmth, clothes and solid food to them. We have had lots of donations of clothes from local people around the hall. The reading glasses were a great hit, producing a lot of joy and genuine appreciation from the elderly folks who otherwise just can't afford glasses:.



You can see a video of the distribution at <https://youtu.be/swVv7JMIOMA>

We're also distributing firewood and providing other assistance with heating issues. Those without places in the night shelters are in a very bad situation. On the last day of the Indian Summer here, we went out into the forest to take sleeping bags and a tent to a married couple who are living literally under the trees, dug in as best they can, but at the mercy of the elements- not only the rain, but also the heavy dew which characterizes the Bay of Riga area. And now the temperatures have fallen below zero [freezing] at night. They say the worst problems are wild dogs coming up to them at night, and attacks from drug addicts and other homeless people roaming the forests near Riga.

We have given them assistance and hopefully they will only have to endure this a bit longer before getting under a roof in a night shelter. What is so bizarre is that they have phones, which they charge at the hall, and are working as plasterers on and off. But sleeping absolutely in the open air.



We're also making a special push to advertise our weekly English language meetings. We've been targetting university students at bus stops near the universities, and here we are out on the streets, now below freezing, with English NEV New Testaments, engaging with the many English speakers in the historic old town area of Riga:



With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks

**PRAYER POINTS**

- For the brethren in Mayotte and wisdom as to how to help them
- For the brethren in Italy
- For all those homeless
- For the many UK prisoners now reading the creation calendar