

September 2011 Refugee Brethren, Riga Bible Centre, Brazil

This Sunday's *Bible Companion* readings include Luke 18 and there's an MP3 on this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lk18.mp3>

BRAZIL

For some time we've been in contact with some very interested contacts in the deep interior of Brazil. We're planning a trip to them, which aims to also take in the ecclesia at Fortaleza. Anyone with any contacts in Brazil is welcome to contact us and we'll try and follow up on them; we're also happy to send Portuguese *Bible Basics* to any interested.

WINTER HEATING APPEAL

A British sister suggests, at least in the context of British readers: "Why not ask those brethren and sisters who receive a winter fuel allowance from the government and do not financially need it, to donate to those who do?"

CARELINKS USA

We're pleased to report the following good news from one of the *Bible Basics* contacts: "Just to let you know I had my interview at the Ann Arbor Michigan Ecclesia last night, and am happy to report God willing my Baptism is scheduled for Sept 25. Thank you for your prayers! Jerry"

BROTHER ABDULLAH

Pleased to say that one more former Moslem from the asylum seekers centre in the forest outside Riga was baptized yesterday, ABDULLAH. He was so, so happy to be baptized. From Kurdistan, on the Turkish-Syria border, our brother came into contact with us from a *Bible Basics* which was being read by a contact in Turkey. After settling in at the asylum seekers centre in Latvia he began to pray that God would lead him to the people who could baptize him according to what he had read there. And so he asked his neighbour at the asylum seekers centre if he knew how he could contact with the publishers of a book called *Bible Basics*. It turned out that that neighbour was brother Sherwin who has been baptized two years already and actually had a copy of the book in Farsi on his shelf! Now how is that for the hand of providence! It was therefore a great moment of joy to baptize our brother at the Riga Bible Centre. You can see brother Sherwin, awed by the sense of God at work, giving him the right hand of fellowship. Things like this make us realize that God is really so actively at work in this world today. Whilst dramatic miracles of 1st century proportions appear not to happen in this dispensation, it's clear that God is just as powerfully at work for those who are willing and eager to work with Him and follow where He leads. The night before his baptism, our brother had shared with other Moslems at the centre that he had rejected Islam, and received some strong opposition and rejection from them.



You'll see in the above photo that brother Vlad has had the first haircut with the new electric clippers we mentioned previously. He's looking forward to assisting many brethren with their hair cuts.

REFUGEES

Our Iranian and African brethren continue preaching. There are now large numbers of refugees

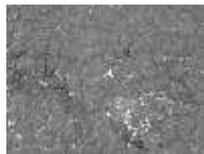
arriving in Latvia, many by boat. We're pleased to tell you of the baptism and receiving into fellowship at a joyful meal of F and P. We recently visited the refugee centre unannounced and found sister P reading her Bible in the communal kitchen. Two of our refugee brethren have their appeal decisions this week and we ask for your prayers concerning their decisions. We continue supporting our African and middle Eastern brethren with food and transport support.

RIGA BIBLE CENTRE

We're pleased to have Br Steve & Sis Robin Jones from the Hurstville, Australia ecclesia along with Sis Linda Jamieson from the Campsie ecclesia with us. They've assisted with many things including the growing mothers group:



We previously repaired one third of the roof at the Bible Centre, but the rest of it really needs doing. As you can see from the photos below, the unrepaired section is breaking up; we need to buy more rolls of ruberoid and bitumastic paint to do the whole roof, either before the snow comes down or next year. The cost of the materials will likely be around 1000 pounds, and anyone willing to come over and assist is welcome.



Our partially sighted brother Vlad zealously assisted brother Steve Jones in trying to fix up some of the worst areas:



Vlad is now giving a Friday evening Bible study at the hall, expounding the Hebrew text of Genesis 1 and 2 and the allusions to it in the New Testament. This week he expounded upon how the Spirit of God fluttering over the waters in Gen. 1 is alluded to in the New Testament reference to the Holy Spirit 'overshadowing' Mary in Luke 1. We have an increasingly wide range of folks attending our meetings and this is as it were providing for the more advanced end of the spectrum.

NEW EUROPEAN VERSION BIBLE

The final proofs are now arriving from the printers and anyone willing to give them a final read through should let us know.

Please pray for blessing and wisdom on the wonderful things God is doing in these last days

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks