

September 2014 France, South Africa, Riga

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Luke 21 and there is an MP3 about this chapter at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lk21.mp3> . You can see the archives of our MP3 files at <http://aletheiacollege.net/archives.html> ; *Carelinks Bible Radio* is at <http://r-b-c.org/listen.php>

FRANCE

Br Steve & Sis Sue Gretton from the UK joined Duncan & Cindy from Latvia in conducting several full days of preaching and pastoral work in a rented facility in Paris. A good number of contacts and already baptized brethren attended, and we also visited Br Edgar and Sister Ani just south of **Paris**. Truly the Gospel of Truth is going out to all nations- our lands of birth included Armenia, Latvia, England, Australia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Iran and Cameroon. We're delighted to report the baptisms of a married couple from Iran, A & N; they gave powerful testimony to the attraction of the Lord Jesus Christ over the Islamic culture in which they had been raised, and expressed a fearless desire to follow Him to the end despite the difficult consequences faced by Moslems converting from Islam. They had studied *Bible Basics* over the internet and it was a pleasure to put hard paper copies of the Bible and *Bible Basics* into their hands for the first time:

We also baptized VIKTOR and FATMATA [seen in the photo below with baby David], the latter also converting from Islam to Christ. We conducted three breaking of bread services over the period, and had wonderful discussions and Bible study sessions together. Topics ranged from questions about 'difficult passages' such as Job's satan, through to the significance of ISIS in Bible prophecy. There was a wonderful spirit of humility to God's word, with sister Fatmata taking extensive notes. Steve distributed a box of *NEV Bibles* to the African visitors, who were eager to post some copies back to their relatives in Africa.



We provided welfare support as appropriate as many of our visitors are really living very difficult lives, on the edge of the opulence of Paris. This was brought home to us when we visited Br Edgar and Sis Ani, originally from Armenia. They live with their two young boys aged 3 and 5 in a tiny room with one small sink, no real kitchen, and one bunk bed on which they all manage to sleep. They have a suitcase for their clothes and have been living like this for over three years. We made a brief movie of their situation, which you can see at http://youtu.be/oN_xFJ5MdUA

We really encourage you to have a look.

This really is poverty, but despite the very limited environment, they have done a huge amount in producing many preaching videos for *Carelinks*, which have now had many thousands of views. The take home lesson was that a nice environment is not actually required in order to serve God and His Son. They too are thrilled to hold the *NEV Bibles* [in Russian], and in the photo [taken

after the breaking of bread] you can see their entire room:



SOUTH AFRICA

Many people are reading our material and viewing our videos, and becoming deeply persuaded of the truths they learn- without contacting us. We had an approach from a man in Kroonstad, South Africa, who last Saturday wrote to us:

"I'm humbly Writing to You in Need of Baptism and fellowship with my Dear Brothers and sisters that are in One Faith. I've been reading your books online and they have greatly answered all my unanswered Question. I was in a Pentecostal church and thought I was truly Born again not until I Realised the truth because I always had doubts bt never had answers and now that I've studied the Bible Basics and other books of yours I can now say I know sum truths and I would like to know more and grow more spiritually I'm from south africa free state @ a town called Kroonstad I've been preaching the Good News and been having the breaking of bread but the mayor problem is I would love to meet my other brothers and sisters to learn more ...I Love Our Lord and Saviour with all my heart and Soul and I RealI reali wanna learn more and keep on Preaching the True Gospel Of Christ"

We put our brother in touch with our friends Br Paul & Sis Leonie Verster of the Soweto ecclesia, and on the Wednesday they travelled along with brother Azwi to meet this interested person, BONGANI . On arrival they found he knew the Truth very well and they baptized him.



Sister Leonie commented: "We've just returned from a truly amazing day- we went to visit Bongani in Kroonstad with Lucky Azwi and Precious. Being a young guy we didn't want him to groan inwardly when he saw just two old fogies!! Well he is quite extraordinary as we had thought he might be from the phone calls and emails. To say he is on fire is an understatement! He has soaked up *Bible Basics* and has been preaching to all his friends as he has been reading it online. He is ever so likeable, very much the enthusiastic extrovert without being in any way arrogant or self centred. We had a fabulous morning with him fielding his questions and it didn't take long to see he was very switched on and had grasped the "truth" with a tremendous conviction. To our joy Bongani was immersed. He was just thrilled. God has really been at work. We broke bread together after his baptism and so ended a day with our cup running over".

But the difficulty had been that our new brother works 7 days / week, and was not supposed to be free on Wednesday for his baptism. But he was falsely accused of an incident at work on the Tuesday, and was suspended from work with immediate effect. Which meant he was free on the Wednesday. Sister Leonie continues the story:

"This is from Bro Bongani- he had been suspended from work on Tues and told that his "hearing" would be on Thurs, so that gave him Wed free. God clearly made it possible for him to be baptised and appreciate that He is at work in his life. He said the incident was over a fridge that

had broken and he was blamed though he had told his supervisor three times that the fridge was dicey and needed attention:

Wow you not gonna believe this they totally found me not Guilty and I'm returning to work tomorrow all the Glory be to God and His Amazing Son..can you please forward me some of the pictures I really thank you all for being my Family I Love you all and I might not be there with you all but I know I'm with you all in spirit my lil sis and mother are starting to read with me and tomorrow I'm continuing my missionary work keep me in prayers I'll be visiting as soon as my car gets fixed greet my sisters and brothers".

Let us know if you'd like our brother's email so you can congratulate and encourage him. Our websites and YouTube videos get thousands of hits each day... so there likely are others out there becoming likewise persuaded of the Truth of the Lord Jesus.

RIGA

Brother Dennis Leverett has excelled himself this week, completing the building of the new baptismal bath, as well as helping in the feeding scheme. It was appropriate that at the end of his work, there was a candidate for baptism, and Dennis was able to help baptize KLAVDIJA in the new bath he had completed. Our new sister lives in the same night shelter as sister Nina, who in Soviet times was active in the underground church and secretly typed out copies of the Gospels on a typewriter using four layers of carbon paper. She has retained her love of God's word and is so thrilled we have the *NEV Bibles* which we can now distribute freely.



With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks