

September 2016 Fiji, Greece, USA, Australia

The *Bible Companion* readings for this Sunday include Luke 10 and there is an MP3 file about this at <http://www.aletheiacollege.net/audio/lk10.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>

GREECE

We spent a most encouraging time this week with the group in Athens. It was a pleasure to baptize an extended family- they are Iranians but have been in Greece about 15 years and are established there. The mother ZOHREH [far right in the photo], a former Muslim who has never eaten pork nor tasted alcohol in her life; her son HADI, her daughter DIBA and her husband FARHAD; and her other son MEHDI and his wife BAHAREH . They were initially attracted to the Gospel by our simple presentation of the Lord Jesus, without all the theology which they had encountered elsewhere which made it so hard for them to clearly grasp what Christianity was all about.

Here we are enjoying Greek coffees together afterwards. Several were in tears after the baptisms. The real Christ was the One they had searched for for several years now- and had found. So many prefer to spend a lifetime searching, but others know the truth they are looking for when they find it and are unashamed to say they have found it.



FIJI

It's so encouraging to see two Western businessmen, brothers John and Guy, taking time out from their work in New Zealand to get out to Fiji and preach. Both John and Guy participated in the *Carelinks Missionary Training Program* a few years ago; great to see the ideas put into practice. Here's an extract from the diary of their recent visit:

John and Guy travelled to Fiji again for 10 days earlier this month to conduct Bible training for previous contacts and to further the truth in Fiji.

They spent time on the streets in the town square central area of Suva handing out hundreds of *NEV Bibles* and *Bible Basics* and Booklets on Biblical baptism.

Before handing out the literature, we asked 2 provocative questions which led into many deeper and important conversations.

1) Where are you going when you die? Most Fijians profess Christ and so the normal answer is: "heaven". We would then show them John 3 v 13 that no man has gone to heaven. The stunned looks are always priceless and then we continue to explain the true gospel of the Kingdom on earth at Jesus' return.

2) Have you been baptised? Many in Fiji have only been sprinkled as babies so we were able to teach about the need for true belief, repentance and baptism.

It is easy everywhere to have conversations about the Bible as most are Christians and are happy to chat. We chatted to a school, service station attendants, taxi drivers, bakery workers, shop workers etc.

It is actually very refreshing to be in such an open place to the gospel.

We also conducted a Bible study 1 night and our 2 main contacts Steven and Sikeli attended as well as 3 others. Steven has had some 25 years in other churches in pastoral and teaching roles, and is overjoyed to finally be hearing the truth and connecting all of the things in scripture he never understood. He is a humble person and also arranged for us to conduct a second Bible study with about 12 adults from his extended family - most of whom have been disillusioned by Pentecostal experience.

Sikeli is also increasing in his zeal to know more truth and skypes us regularly with further questions that he wishes to understand.

God willing, we are planning to get them both across to us here in New Zealand for a 1 to 2 week concentrated Bible study seminar. They are both so keen they volunteered to pay their own fares.

We baptised JOVILISI near Rakiraki. Jo (as he is known as) recounted how his Father was head superintendent of the Methodist church in Fiji but has passed away 6 years ago. His passing very much unsettled Jo, and he has been drifting ever since. Jo sought help on how to get back on track with the Lord. He was convicted to be baptised the next day.

At the accommodation where we stayed, Guy had been very open about telling the staff that we were here for Bible teaching and invited any to come and talk to us.



USA

Brother Jay baptized himself after an extensive study of our material, and was accepted as a member of the Toledo, OH ecclesia. Our brother manages a gas station but in his spare time is distributing our literature and **NEV Bibles** and trying to start a Bible study group where he is. It's just wonderful to see that the Gospel is attractive to ordinary folks in Western society; our brother reports:

"I set up a table at Owens Community College (Toledo Area Campus, Ohio). I'm passing out flyers, Bibles, pocket New Testaments, *Bible Basics* Books, and talking with students".



It's pretty hard to do this kind of thing alone and to be so self-motivated; may our brother inspire us all to witness the more. And a big thank you to all who donate to enable us to print this literature and get the Word out there for free.

AUSTRALIA

We're holding a Carelinks publicity talk at the **Pine Rivers** ecclesia in **Brisbane** after the Sunday meeting on Sunday 16 October- let Ruth Stibbs know if you'd like to come or for more details john.ruth.stibbs@gmail.com

PRAYER POINTS:

- For the outreach of brother Jay and others like him
- For those recently baptized
- For the migrant feeding and preaching program in Italy which begins next weekend God willing

With love from your brothers and sisters of Carelinks