

* CRACKEN MEMO *

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Russians came to Christ in Athens and returned to Russia.
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Teamie leads Greek woman to Christ after "stealing" her from the Mormons.

Gospel Presentation Has "Domino Effect"

While Scott shared the Gospel with some Kurdish men at the soup kitchen in May, a Russian man listened curiously. Teamie Caleb Burton struck up conversation with Yuri and later showed him the "Jesus" video in Russian which led him to trust in Christ. He brought another "Yuri" to see the film and he put his trust in Jesus! To make a long story short...BOTH Yuris are back in Russian leading evangelistic Bible studies!

Meanwhile, they continue to call Caleb and insist that he visit them and bring Bibles and the Jesus video in Russian so they can share Christ with others!

Woman Finds Two Kinds of Freedom

In a previous letter we mentioned that Scott baptized 5 women at the Prison Easter Service. Teamie Jennifer Roemhildt disciplined these and other women prisoners, one of whom was released this summer.

She immediately contacted our team and helped serve at our soup kitchen before returning to Australia. Two days ago we received an e-mail from the director of I.T./Australia saying that she had contacted them trying to get information on a good church to join.

Please pray for Julie as she continues to grow in her faith and she searches for a church home.

From J.S. (Joseph Smith) to J.C. (Jesus Christ)...

She didn't usually take that bus downtown but a construction detour made it necessary, and when Teamie Debbie Clark saw the two Mormon missionaries talking with the Greek woman she began to pray. As Debbie and the Greek woman each got off at the same stop, Debbie approached her and said (in Greek), "Excuse me, Ma'am, but that is not the Truth." The lady (named Reah) responded with, "Why not?" and after a couple of Bible studies with Debbie and a Christian Greek friend, Reah's spiritual eyes were opened.

After 6 months in the Mormon church, she came to understand for the first time that salvation only

comes by trusting in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. She prayed last weekend to put her trust in Jesus as her Lord and Savior and she will meet next week with two members of our team and the Greek friend to share the Gospel with two Mormon missionaries.

Serbian Refugee finds Jesus, husband, and immigration miracle while in Athens...

Yellena accepted Jesus at one of our International Believers Fellowship meetings and while the Lord immediately began changing her internal life and drawing her closer to Himself, her external circumstances were still quite bleak and offered little or no hope for a "normal" life.

However, last year she was informed that she had won the U.S. "visa lottery", allowing her the possibility to live in America if she provided all the necessary documentation within 12 months. Unfortunately, it appeared as though she would not be able to obtain all the papers they were requesting. Meanwhile, one of our dear Nigerian brothers here asked Yellena to marry him, and after praying about it for a long time she agreed. Thinking this would negate her chances for the U.S. visa she informed them of her plans, expecting them to withdraw her application. However, they told her it did not matter and if she would only provide the remaining documentation of her educational accomplishments (impossible for her to get), she could go and her new husband could accompany her. James and Yellena were married in May, the day before the

McCrackens went to the States for summer furlough. The week of their return to Athens, **on the very day of Yellena's spiritual birthday, just 5 days before her 12 months would be completely up, the U.S. embassy informed Yellena that her visa had been granted and that she and James would be leaving in just 4 days!!!!**

As of September 13th, they are residing in the Dallas, Texas area. They are being sponsored by the man who was James' former pastor at the Nigerian Fellowship in Athens!!

These are truly blessings for which we can thank our Heavenly Father!

HELPING HANDS Opens New Facility

Exercising faith in God's ability to provide, **HELPING HANDS** (our Greek non-profit volunteer organization) signed a 3-year contract to rent the 7th floor of a 10-story building in downtown Athens.

We are working hard to have it opened by October 18th, when we will begin English/Greek classes, as well as a weekly soup kitchen on Saturdays. We also plan to have office space, a "Coffee Bar" ministry, special events, and Bible studies beginning immediately in this facility.

Approximately \$4,000 of the \$5,000 total is still needed to prepare the place for use by the 18th, but we are praying and trusting that God will provide.

We eventually hope to increase the number of times each week that we offer people meals, but the current supply of funds won't allow us to go beyond once a week.

The rent alone is about \$500/month and we have yet to discover what the utilities will cost. But we believe that where God guides, God provides. He loves these dear people so much more than we do and desires to meet their every NEED.

Polish Convert Returns Investment

In 1991, after we showed the Jesus video in Polish, a young man named Gregorscz prayed to receive Christ. We immediately referred him to the only church in the city which had a Polish fellowship and trusted the Lord to grow him up in the church.

In the Spring of 1995, when the soup kitchen ministry began, Gregorscz showed up to help serve and translate. He had continued on in active membership in the church, and in his walk with Jesus. But after the soup kitchen ended for the summer that year, we lost contact with him again.

Recently, a recommendation was given to us for a carpenter/plumber to contact for work at our new facility, and who should show up for the estimate appointment we had made over the phone but Gregorscz! He is still walking with Jesus, and now he is giving of his time and energy to help us get this place ready for ministry to people like himself!!!

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