

A company of God's people Praying for Kos

October 2007

Dear Friends

We must start as usual with the thanks for all the prayers, the encouragement and support that we continue to receive from the UK and the countries of Europe.

Individually it may seem small, but collectively it is the power of God.

As you read this letter we are nearing the end of the tourist holiday season here, this means that slowly but surely the island is closing down and returning to the type of place it was 40 years ago, of course, without the empty hotels and bars etc.

One of the marks of the closed season is the darkness of the nights, and how few people there are around in the towns and villages. However, this is a good time for study, reading, trying to learn Greek and spending time with those willing to talk and share.

Church work – The hotel will effectively close on Wednesday the 31st October so Sunday 28th should be our last service this year.

Tracting. – This work to the tourists, of course, is now coming to an end. However, we are planning to erect our board in the town centre once a week and try to give out tracts and literature to the Greeks; this may also bring us into contact with others of the ex-pat community. It may also arouse resistance from the Orthodox Church.

Mission Board work – As with recent months this has proved to be most fruitful. With distribution of many, many contacts, the cruise ships continue to arrive. One interesting cruise ship was the **large Regency ship**, this ship cruises the whole Mediterranean, when it visited Kos it had a large number of Americans on board most appeared quite wealthy, this being typical of the prosperous man. The result was that few tracts were accepted with comments such as: **'we have moved on from Christianity'** or **'we have enough ourselves without God', HOW SAD.**

A summary of some of the contacts we have had, and the numbers and type of literature given:

A letter for You. Hebrew 5, French 2, Dutch 1, Albanian 1.

Sure of Heaven. French 1, Greek 1, Swiss 1, Dutch 1, German 1, Danish 1, UK 4.

Ultimate Questions. Greek 1, German 2, Albanian 2, Bulgarian 1.

Unique Jesus. Swiss 1, Bulgarian 1, Sweden 1, Dutch 1.

Some of the more notable contacts humanly speaking: **Wolfgang came from Munich** spoke good English, a single man, thought that God was everything, so God must be good as well as bad, this conversation developed into a good opportunity to share the gospel. Wolfgang had no idea of the vastness of God's plan of redemption; **he took a 'Sure of Heaven'.**

An Albanian family, came round the board, they spoke a good amount of English, it gave me an opportunity to explain the reason for the board and the work in Kos. They left with a **'Letter for You, and some Albanian tracts'**.

Another day, **two Jews on a day trip from Turkey who lived in Nazareth**, I explained to them how wonderful it must be to live in the actual town where Jesus grew up, and that God walked on the same streets that they do. **They took a 'Letter for You' in Hebrew.**

A Swiss family from Zurich, mum, dad and five children, came and had a long conversation said they were Christians, however, the father had a weak testimony and the eldest girl told me she was a Christian because she was born into a Christian family. ('It was like preaching to a congregation that is like one family') **They left with a German Ultimate Questions, Why believe the Bible, a Sure of Heaven and a Unique Jesus CD.**

An elderly German lady dressed in exotic eastern attire, her name was **Bernadette**, and to my amazement she pointed to a boat and told me that she was captain of this large sailing ship. This seemed true, as two young men came by and acknowledged her, she appeared to have had much tragedy in her life, she told me that her boyfriend of many years had died at sea, the loss still hurt, she was clearly in her late 60's and that life had far to many unanswered questions. We had a long talk as she came back a second time. She eventually left with a **German Ultimate Questions, along with four talks on Salvation by Andy Banton.** She said that she would play them on her CD when she returned to her boat.

Elena came from Thessalonica in Northern Greece, he enquired the meaning of the board, and he said that he had been searching many religions of the world, only true religion had peace. We discussed the difference of a Christian Church and Orthodoxy; he took a **Greek Ultimate Questions, a Sure of Heaven and some tracts.**

A Bulgarian family came to the board, a broken conversation left with a **'Letter for you and an Ultimate Questions' in Bulgarian.**

Alicia was Turkish came and sat by the board, and introduced herself, married to a man from Kos, and lived not far away. She had limited English, appeared to be very open to the gospel. **Alicia took an 'Ultimate Questions' in Turkish and a Sure of Heaven.**

When I arrived one morning at the board, there was a Greek couple sitting on the seat her bicycle was situated where I always put my board, in asking if she could move it, I came into a discussion with them, their **names were Maria and Pedro**, we had a long talk about the church, Jesus Christ and who he was, limited English dialogue but they received **two different Greek tracts and then a Greek Ultimate Questions**, which Pedro sat and read and discussed with Maria. He then allowed me to take a photograph of them reading it. (Probably posed a bit)

Many other contacts that have taken literature are included in the list above.

Again this month, it has been encouraging to meet so many Christians from around Europe of which some have come to the service on Sundays.



Maria and Pedro

Beaches – As we send you this prayer letter, the sun beds are being removed from most of the beaches, and are effectively closing, soon they will be deserted.

Ministry/Preaching – As above.

Greek Newspapers – This work has got under way now, and should continue into November, we have started with 4,500 of the autumn issue of the Winners. We are hoping that this will bring more of a response as we return to the same people and same houses.

Friendship Evangelism – This continues in the café's and bars they can often be a place where you can meet people. For instance, a few days ago Hussains bar in Kos town is a place where many of the Albanian's meet, a casual 'Yashoo' (Hello) in English they ask 'Why are you living in Kos'. **Gretan and Alex both spoke English** this resulted in a good conversation, so that we could leave them with a Greek Newspaper '**The Winners**' and an Albanian Ultimate Questions each. We have since seen them again, and had an opportunity to continue the debate.

Last week, the house which has been empty here for a long time has recently been sold to a couple called **Lynn and Pete from Wakefield**; we had the joy of greeting them just after they had arrived a few days ago. Lynn it would appear had a Christian upbringing but had long since fallen away from the Lord; it was an interesting conversation to hear that she is starting back on the pathway towards God.

Prison– This has been a disappointment, as we went to the jail gate with Olga on Thursday, only to be told that one of the prisoner's who was Orthodox had complained that it was not good Christian literature we were giving out. The only

way we could continue, was to go to the Authorities in Athens and have written permission.

Helpers – At present until next year we expect to be on our own, unless the Sovereign Lord should send somebody.

PRAYER POINTS

1. **Greek Newspapers** that the Lord will continue to challenge those that read them, as we start to distribute the next 4,500.
2. **Friendship** – Pray for the Greek contacts, Stephos and Poppy, for Jimmy, Katrina, Nick, Ahileas, George, Hassin, Poppy, Madeline, Vula, Alex, Raphael and the local Christians, Joyce, Michaela, Jenny, Roger, Fliss, Dave, that we meet regularly, also the following that they may come to the Lord, Dino, Yvonne, Trevor, Tony, Kelvin.
Also the couple from Wakefield as mentioned above Lynn and Pete.
3. **Tracting** – The new tract postcard from Kos has been greatly accepted, perhaps as a souvenir and that the holiday makers will take them home. Also that the book marks will be used by the Lord.
4. **Church work** – Pray for Mr Samaris and the Hotel Staff, and the owner Constantin that the Lord will move in their lives. Interestingly John the waiter lives in Kefalos in the winter and we are hoping to meet him.
5. **Mission Board work** – for protection and openness of the Greek's as the board is erected in Kos Town Centre.
6. **Beaches** – Closed.
7. **Preaching/Ministry** – Closed.
8. **Helpers** – This month we have none, but that the Lord may speak to some for next year.
9. **Olga** – that the Lord will continue to sustain her, and that all the contacts that she has made will bear fruit. That the Lord will give her safe travel as she returns to South Africa via the UK.
10. **Prison** – that the Lord will see fit to open up a way in which we can again bring bibles to the Prison.
11. **Future** – As we come to the end of the season and with the change of Ministry there are many questions that we are asking of the Lord. Such as, where to live, where to have the service next year, where should the focus of our Ministry be upon and above all that the Lord will save Greeks.
12. **Glyn** – Special prayers for Glyn as she has had several bouts of Homesickness in the last few weeks.

As you read this prayer letter, we are preparing a Power Point Presentation of the work this year. If your church or Mission Group would like to have us attend over the Christmas and New Year, please give us a call, we would love to come with the Presentation. We are sure that this will make the work come alive.

Our telephone number is 0030 22420 72301 or in the UK I am sure Richard Taylor our Church Secretary would be more than happy to pass on any information, his telephone number is: 01638 715255. Our email address is:
alecmolton@btinternet.com

God bless you all, and thank you for your encouragement, especially those that telephone.

Alec, Glyn and Olga