

## **Report for OL 2 - Olympic Games Gospel Trips**

### **31 July - 9 August Bible distribution days**

As we are entering into the last 30 days of our consecutive 50 days of gospel trips, we are seeing baptisms and the continued contact with ones we have met. These ones are coming to gatherings with the saints in the church life. In some places, the emphasis is already beginning to turn from Bible distributions to the shepherding care, follow-up, and the building up with these ones. This gives us confidence that after the Bible distributions are finished, there will be remaining fruit in each of the places where we have been laboring! As we approach the end of this phase and the beginning of the crucial next phase of strengthening and raising up churches, may the Lord call those who will migrate for the shepherding and the raising up of churches in French-speaking Europe. We fully expect the Lord to bless the migration for the establishment of new churches. We see that the fields indeed are white! May He thrust out the workers to labor one with Him! May all our hearts be opened to hear His call in these days. May we respond, "There I will give you my love" (S. S. 7:12) in joining with Him to migrate to the French-speaking places in Europe.

### **Prayer Burden for the Lord's Work in France:**

Pray that all those who have applied to serve full-time in France would get their visas approved in a timely manner. Pray that by mid-October these ones will join with the Lord for His shepherding care for all the ones saved and baptized since the beginning of the Torch Relay Gospel Trips, which began in May and are continuing with the Olympic gospel trips, which are currently going on.

### **Here are the Highlights from the Gospel Teams**

#### **Paris-Palaiseau**

We began on July 11th to have distributions in the Paris Palaiseau area. What is unique about the teams coming here is that we live, coordinate, and eat together in the new Paris meeting hall. This has been a real blessing! It also has blended the saints together. From the start the young people and the university students we have met have been so open to the gospel! We are able to invite ones to dinner with us, and afterwards we have a short Bible study. So far 4 from previous trips and 5 from OL2 have joined us for these times.

Another blessing is that the young people from the church in Paris join us! It is so marvelous to see them introduce people to the free Bible and use the Mystery of Human Life, MHL, when sharing. They are also good at helping translate for those of us who don't speak French. How we thank the Lord for these young people and their participation!

#### **Here are some highlights:**

One of the Bible recipients we met yesterday and a friend of a college student in Palaiseau attended the Bible study. We had a rich fellowship on John 7 about what it means for "the Spirit to be not yet." The Bible recipient was really touched that everyone has a chance to share their portion. He wants to join our Bible distribution/gospel preaching time.

We had a good Bible study time with eight new ones reading John 11. One Bible recipient came to the Bible study in the evening on John 5. She was happy to join us and is hoping to come again. In the evening eight Bible recipients joined the Bible study. Three were from previous trips and five from OL2. One we met during yesterday's distribution time, who called on the name of the Lord and came to our Bible study group in the evening. Instead of joining the larger meeting, saints spent time with her in a small group setting to cover baptism. Initially she had a lot of questions about baptism, and she shared that during the past 20 years of her searching through different religions,

people always told her that she would become prosperous if she joined them. This didn't impress her. We shared with her Matthew 16:20: "If anyone wants to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." That really became the turning point of our conversation. In the end she made the decision to be baptized today! She is now our sister. Praise the Lord!

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 166 Bibles, 12 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 118. There was 1 appointment with a new one, 10 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, 12 came to gatherings, and 1 baptism.

#### **Paris - Versailles**

A few families have been living in Versailles for some years. The burden during these trips has been to raise up the church in Versailles. The teams began laboring here July 11th during the last Torch Relay trip. It has not been hard to contact university students and young adults during our Bible distributions. Versailles is a very Catholic area, and we have met genuine serious believers. This is the first time the teams had appointments and follow-up appointments with ones met during the distributions. We are so very encouraged by this!

#### **Here are some highlights:**

At night we had dinner and a Bible study with a new one that the saints met during OL1. She is very open and enjoys our time getting into John.

We had two that we have met join us (one who had come before and a one new one). That night for our Bible study dinner a new sister joined us. She was previously contacted during OL1 and shared with us how she had prayed for the Lord to lead her to a group of genuine believers to fellowship with. We had a sweet time sharing our testimonies regarding how the Lord became real to us.

In the evening, one who met us during OL1 again joined the Bible study. We touched on consecration and the Lord's loving us and our loving the Lord being the content of the gospel. This one enjoyed the time and even lingered afterwards, walking with the sisters back to where they were staying. She stayed with the sisters while waiting for her bus, and eventually she missed her bus to continue fellowshiping with the sisters

At the Lord's table one that we met during the OL1 trip came, and a family of four who are gospel friends of the local saints also came.

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 93 Bibles, 8 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 31. There were 4 appointments with ones from previous gospel trips, and 7 came to gatherings.

#### **Paris**

The Paris team has been laboring in central Paris since July 21. Since our burden was to meet the people living in Paris, we did not set up anywhere close to the Olympic venues. But sometimes we could not distribute because the area was closed off due to Olympic activities. We expected to meet many people living here in Paris, but this was not the case. Many Parisians opted to leave the city just as the games began. Nonetheless, the Lord granted us a way to meet new ones! Thank You, Lord! The team now meets for coordination in two places according to where they are staying. The two groups meet up at the distribution site and then go to one location to debrief, have dinner, and have Bible studies with new ones. We also had young people and older French-speaking sisters join us at some of our distributions. They add so much in their zeal for the gospel!

### **Here are some highlights:**

Today I was paired up with a young person. We were praying for at least one person for her to share the MHL with. After a while, she said that the Lord did not answer our prayer. We again prayed, "Lord within these 50 minutes left, bring one seeking person." Close to the end of the distribution, a lady came straight to us, and she was hungry for the gospel. The young sister started to preach God's economy using the diagrams of the MHL tract. When the person got her Bible and agreed that God created us for a purpose, my young companion's face was beaming with the joy of our Lord Jesus!

We were out at our table distributing Bibles and ran into one we had met before. She invited us for coffee, which eventually turned into lunch. We shared sweet fellowship together and look forward to more appointments.

Sisters had two appointments today. The first was with a young woman whom they had prayed with to receive the Lord yesterday! She was very open to meet. Actually, she didn't wake up in time for our appointment. We suggested meeting the next day instead, but she asked if we could video call so they could still read the Bible together. Her desire to meet was a great encouragement to us. The second appointment was with one we had met during OL1. This was the second appointment with this one. We have been enjoying pray-reading the Word together. At the end of the appointment we agreed to set up a weekly Bible reading time, so today we started the book of John. We pray-read many of the verses together and really exercised our spirit!

A family joined us for a Bible study in the evening. They have been joining our meetings since the harvest meeting at the end of OL1. We sang two hymns before getting into the Word, and the parents declared many of the stanzas with us. We then read the second half of John 2, and also found many verses that show us that we are the temple of God! The Spirit was truly flowing, and after the Bible study, when asked about their plans the next evening, the father simply said, "We'll be here."

About eight new ones joined our harvest meeting tonight. During the group time a group of sisters enjoyed pray-reading Ephesians 2:22 together with a new one. Afterward, one of the sisters set up an appointment with this new one. The family who has been joining the Bible studies for the past three days also joined us. At the end the father said, "We will be staying here and meeting with you all. We have the peace to stay here."

### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 345 Bibles, 48 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 124. There were 2 appointments, 9 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, and 8 came to a gathering.

### **Paris-Nanterre**

The Lord has given the teams an excellent location for our distributions in the Nanterre area. It is by a famous arch in a La Défense plaza, where large amounts of people pass through every day. The teams easily talk with people, distribute Bibles, and exchange contact information with many young people and young adults. Now they are getting appointments and follow-up times with the ones they have met.

### **Here are some highlights:**

Three out of the twelve that we met during yesterday's distribution have replied positively to invitations for follow-ups. Although they won't be available for the next few weeks because of summer vacations with their families, they are very open to read the Bible and be invited for the Bible seminars in September. Hallelujah!

A teenager was walking with her friend when she suddenly stopped and asked her friend to wait for her. She came over to the table to ask for a Bible. When I asked her if she had already read it

before, she said "No". But she told us that she had recently had the feeling to start knowing God more! It was timely that she saw the table. She is very open to read the Bible together with us. A brother, a believer we had met, came to our evening session and enjoyed the time of fellowship. The testimonies of all the saints were encouraging to him.

Six new ones came to tonight's harvest meeting. It was a glorious time covering the divine romance in the Bible! For one of them it was her second time coming. Another one came whom we had met at the table earlier that day. He originally came to the table to get a Bible for his girlfriend, who is a Christian and was invited to the seminar. His response was "Why not?" and he came! He is not a believer, but he is interested in learning about different religions. In the small group fellowship he told us how much he enjoyed hearing about the divine romance. He was touched by the kindness of the saints. We encouraged him to invite his girlfriend next time. His response was again "Why not?" Another one who came told us that she had read Watchman Nee in the past and asked a question about "What is God's economy?" She enjoyed the fellowship with the saints. A mother we had met at the table brought her three children to the seminar. Her children happily played with the children of the saints as the mother joined in the fellowship. May the Lord continue to gain with all these ones for His Body!

### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 310 Bibles, 8 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 81. There were 2 new appointments, 2 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, and 12 came to gatherings.

### **Lille**

Saints have been laboring in Lille since April, when a few French saints were able to join trainees from FTTM-WA. What a marvelous beginning and blending! The teams have been full of joy, rejoicing, and singing.

There are many young people and young adults in the city center area, so Bibles are easily distributed, contact information is easily given, and people are saved! Currently, we are having times with new ones whom we met in our current OL2 distribution and ones whom we met during previous gospel trips. Our goal is to labor so that we have continued contact with these ones and they will be added to the day-by-day church life in Lille. Lord, raise up a lampstand in Lille!

### **Here are a some highlights:**

We had an appointment today with one whom we met during OL1. We read regarding the assurance of salvation. She was really impressed that the absolute assurance is based on the Word of God, Numbers 23:19. She liked that there are three witnesses: the Word, the Spirit, and our love for the brothers.

An 18-year-old girl came to us for a Bible today. We read verses with footnotes and the MHL with her. She was so open and received everything we shared. She told us that she had received the Lord through her friend's preaching but had not been baptized yet. When we met her, she was on her way to take the train, so we were not able to spend more time with her. But she said she would like to be baptized when she's back from vacation in September! O Lord, keep her and release her baptism!

Today a few of us met with a young couple for coffee, and they shared that even though they had been going to a big church, they still felt very empty. They had prayed for a Christian community of like-minded people. Last week they met the us while we were distributing Bibles, and they attended the gospel meeting. Today they came again and were so grateful to have met the saints and such a loving community of Christians. They are looking forward to meeting with the saints again soon.

In our time today with one whom we had met during OL1, she expressed how it's not a coincidence that she met us. During OL1 she came to get a free Bible for her friend. But when the saints began reading the footnotes, she called her friend and told him where he could get a free Bible because she was not giving him this one. We read concerning the joy of our salvation with her. She said that she had lost her joy but realized the reality of her joy came from reading the Bible.

Two of us met up with a man who just moved to the area six months ago. He said he had not gotten that much into his faith before. But after he got a Bible, he immediately started reading it. He was curious and wanted to meet up. We read through the first chapter of Basic Elements of the Christian Life, and he prayed the prayer in MHL. He is open to keep meeting week by week.

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 769 Bibles, 24 prayed to receive the Lord, we exchanged contact information with 122. There were 9 appointments, 17 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, and 6 came to a gathering.

### **Rouen and Dieppe**

The teams in Rouen and Dieppe joined together for orientation and their first Bible distribution, followed by a wonderful blending love feast with the saints in Rouen, Dieppe, Paris, and visiting saints (mostly young people) from Montréal, Canada! The saints from Rouen and Dieppe also came together for their harvest meeting and Lord's table. The fellowship and blending was so sweet; very refreshing and encouraging. The Lords blessing was amongst us! There has been a small church life in Dieppe for a number of years. Rouen is the closest large city to Dieppe in the Normandy area. Many young people from the region end up going to Rouen to attend University. This is why there is a burden to labor in Rouen.

#### **Here are a some highlights:**

The team went out with the local saints to contact people. Three people were saved. We also met two Christian couples who were invited to the Lord's Day meeting and a meal time together afterward.

A young girl received a Bible today, and she is a native of Rouen. She came with her mother and grandmother. Once they were clear that we were Christians, they warmed up to us and we had a pleasant conversation. The young girl received a Bible and gave her contact information.

A middle-aged man came and received tracts. As he was speaking with us, a young man he knew came by the table to greet him and then started talking to us. This young man received a tract and prayed with us at the table to receive the Lord. He obtained two Bibles, one for himself and one for his mother. He would like to be contacted in the future by the saints.

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings in Rouen:**

We passed out a total of 55 Bibles, 5 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 18. There were 5 appointments and 2 came to gatherings.

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings in Dieppe:**

We passed out a total of 67 Bibles, 7 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 7. There were 3 appointments, 1 appointment with one from a previous gospel trip, and 2 came to a gathering.

### **Strasbourg**

Bible distribution began in Strasbourg during the Olympic Torch Relay on 24 June, when the team joined the church in Strasbourg for the Bible distribution. During this time the team found that there were many young people that had an unprecedented openness to the Bible and a genuine interest in the seminars. Strasbourg is located close to the German border. You find both French and German people here. The saints in Strasbourg are fully burdened and hope that the younger generation will fully participate in the Lord's recovery.

Currently during the OL2 Bible distribution, the team again found the younger generation very warm towards the saints, very open to receive Bibles, excited to read the footnotes, interested in the seminars, and willing to have continued contact with the saints.

### **Here are some highlights:**

Toward the end of our distribution for today, we prayed that the Lord would send one more seeking one to us. A French young person stopped to talk with us. We spoke with her about the MHL. She wanted to hear everything we had to say. She was extremely warm and open to us. She prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information to follow up with her.

A young French girl said she saw us at the table the day before but didn't have time to stop by, so she felt bad and decided to come and talk to us today. She has a Jewish background but wants to learn more. She felt that religion was so complicated. We told her that Jesus is simple. We went through the MHL, and she prayed to receive the Lord. She was like a little lamb. She wants to come to the seminar tomorrow.

A young Venezuelan student was happy to receive a Bible in French. We had a very good conversation in Spanish. She had just arrived in Strasbourg a few months before as a violinist studying in the conservatory here. She is a Christian and afterward she wrote me and said, "Thank you for the Bible! For a long time, I was looking for one. I will be at the seminar!"

### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 790 Bibles, 8 prayed to receive the Lord, we exchanged contact information with 49. There was 1 appointment, 1 appointment with one from a previous gospel trip, and 22 came to gatherings.

### **Geneva (Switzerland)**

Bible distributions began in Geneva on July 11, and from the beginning many came who were open to receiving a Bible, were seeking for the meaning of life, read the MHL and prayed to receive the Lord. We met many Christians who were very impressed with the Recovery Version Bible and desired to meet with other Christians.

Geneva is a very international and diverse city. It is the largest city in French-speaking Switzerland. There has been a strong burden that the Lord would raise up a church here. It would be the fifth church in Switzerland.

We've had a chance to speak to many in different languages. Switzerland has 4 official languages: German, French, Italian, and Romansh. However, we have encountered many who also speak Spanish, Portuguese, and other languages and who are open and interested in receiving a Bible and meeting with other believers.

### **Here are a some highlights:**

A young person on a tram was looking out the window. Her face lit up when she saw our sign for free Bibles. She came off the tram, ran to us and happily took a Bible and prayed to receive the Lord. She currently lives in France. A sister and her exchanged contact information.

We met a young student who was very eager to receive a Bible. We talked with him, and he read the prayer from the MHL. He was like a sponge soaking up the truth. He had a little experience of starting to pray to the Lord when his dog died, and he said he took it as from the Lord. Since then, he had been praying for his family and friends and said he had been happy since he started praying. We took him out for coffee and answered his questions, and we stressed the importance of reading the Word and being with other believers. Later he met with his friends and shared with them and sent us a picture of his friends holding the Bible and The Basic Elements book.

We met a young man from Copenhagen. We asked him if he knew what the Bible was all about. He said that there are two books, the New Testament and the Old Testament. We told him that the Bible is a divine romance and that God is the Husband, and the believers are the bride. We quoted some verses, and he was amazed. Then we asked him if he wanted to become a part of the bride? He said, "I must!" We told him that to become a part of the bride, since he was a sinner (he agreed), he needed to repent and receive the divine life by praying with us. He prayed with us. We told him

that God brought him to Geneva to make him a part of the bride. After that his face was beaming! We exchanged contact information.

We met a young student from Geneva who was studying management. We shared with him that man was made of three parts, and we asked him to read 1 Thessalonians 5:23. We felt that he was open and asked him if we could sit with him. We told him about God's purpose in creating man and the process He went through to become the life-giving Spirit to enter into his spirit to regenerate him. Then we asked if he wanted to become a child of God; he said yes, and he followed us in prayer. His countenance changed! We exchanged contact information, and he took a French New Testament and scanned the Courant de Vie WhatsApp channel.

Today was our last gospel meeting for OL2. We prayed that the Lord would bring at least 10 new ones. The meeting was scheduled for 6:30pm. Starting at 6:15pm (15 minutes before our scheduled start time!), 4 new ones had already come. And they just kept coming! In the end we had 20 adults and 3 children. Praise the Lord! He really does above all that we ask or think!

A sister at the gospel meeting asked if she could join to watch a young brother's baptism. We said yes! We began to speak to her about being baptized too. She was baptized also and was so joyful to be with the saints. May the Lord gain her as remaining fruit for His testimony in Geneva!

#### **Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 630 Bibles, 61 prayed to receive the Lord, and we exchanged contact information with 102. There were 5 appointments, 5 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, 22 came to gatherings, and 2 baptisms.

#### **Mertzig (Luxembourg)**

In the past a few scattered saints have been working in the capital city of Luxembourg. However, the Lord has gained a dear family in Mertzig as a foothold to raise up a church in this country. They have been opening their home to many of their relatives, friends, and neighbors. May the Lord continue to raise up the church life by adding to this family!

There were also follow-up appointments with those initially contacted during the first gospel trip. These times were filled with the Word and much shepherding, as many of them have recently prayed to receive the Lord and are eager to continue in their Christian life.

#### **Here are some highlights:**

The only local family in Mertzig hosted a barbecue and invited relatives and neighbors. Five members of their family came, the majority of whom are local. They were all very happy to sing and fellowship with us.

One of the local saint's cousins had been with us since she arrived last week and very much enjoyed preaching the gospel. During these past few days the Lord had been stirring in her to be baptized. We shared with her the importance of baptism, and she was baptized in the presence of her family. We all sang wonderful hymns on passing out of death into life. It was a glorious sight!

A sister from OL1 accidentally left her phone on the bus, and a young man found it. He felt compelled to return it directly to the owner. After calling the emergency contact on the phone, the brother on the other end was able to meet him and gave him a Bible. The young man mentioned that he was looking for a Bible and was invited for dinner, and he accepted for the following week. During dinner he shared that he was going through a difficult time and was feeling angry with the Lord. However, after eating dinner, singing, and praying with the hosts, he was joyful and even thanked the sister for losing her phone.

During our fifth meeting with a seeking young woman, we discussed John 3 and talked about the importance of being born again and the significance of baptism. She inquired if there were any requirements for baptism, and one of the sisters said that the only condition was the availability of water (since she had already received the Lord). The woman said, "There's a fountain across the street with water. I can be baptized today." She was eager to be baptized right then, even though it

was her short lunch break. She didn't mind if her clothes got wet, even though she would be returning to work; she just wanted to be baptized immediately! After considering the situation, we told her we could baptize her after work. Our entire team then drove 45 minutes back in the evening for her baptism. As soon as she finished work, she came to the fountain, and we baptized her. It was a glorious moment, and she was very grateful and moved that everyone had come. We sang hymns with her until she had to catch her train, and then we all waved to her goodbye.

**Through the distributions and gatherings:**

We passed out a total of 375 Bibles, 54 prayed to receive the Lord, we exchanged contact information with 55. There were 16 appointments and 11 appointments with ones from a previous gospel trip, 14 came to gatherings, and 2 baptisms.



## Photos and Team Prayers:

### Paris Palaiseau



Pray that the Lord will be with us in our shepherding care and that there will be remaining fruit!

### Versailles



Pray that the Lord will speak a personal word to each new one and will capture them with the vision of the church!

## Dieppe



Pray for the local testimony in Dieppe to be strengthened and increased through this period of distribution and mutual shepherding!

## Paris Nanterre



Pray that we will have the best follow-up with the ones we have met.



## Geneva (Switzerland)



Lord, use the ones we have met to raise up the church in Geneva.

## Paris



Lord, gain these ones for the church life in Paris.



## Rouen



Lord we pray that all the ones we are contacting will have continued fellowship and shepherding with the dispensing of the Triune God!

## Lille



Pray that the ones we have met will be added to the day-by-day church in Lille.

## Strasbourg



Lord gain these new ones for the church life in Strasbourg!

## Mertzig (Luxembourg)



Lord, raise up the church life in Mertzig through these gospel trips.