

Ledbetter's IRELAND UPDATE

Vol. XXII



For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds. 2 Corinthians 10:4

December, 2011

Dear Precious Friends in the Ministry!

Well, since it is that time of year, you all should know how to say 'Merry Christmas' in Irish! So here goes... "Nollaig Shona Daoibh" It's pronounced 'No-lig ho-nah jeev', and it simply means "May you have a Happy Christmas!" It's a strange saying because there's not much real happiness at this time of year here! People *look* happy, but with all the drinking (and I mean a lot of drinking) that goes on at Christmas, it is very hard to find someone who knows the JOY of Christmas! Christmas here is one of the hardest times of the year for the Irish, because to them, the Jesus that they learned about as children is only plastic, and so distant, and doesn't really care about them. For ME, Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year! It is amazing just how real Jesus is, and how close He is... not to the religious, but to the repentant and desperate heart! Our objective these past 17 and ½ years has been to expose people here to the wonderful reality of the birth of the Messiah, and how much He can transform *any life* yielded to Him! As a matter of fact, right after church this past Sunday morning, a young Irish teen named **Kevin** came up to me and asked me if he could get saved like I had gotten saved 31 years ago! 45 minutes later, Kevin bowed his head and trusted Christ to save his soul! Well, GLORY to God!

Christmas Church Dinner. We just had our Church Christmas Dinner as one huge church family gathering, and 120 people attended with 3 visitors! That's amazing because all the rest were all church-folk!

Looking back at 2011... 13 souls have been led to Jesus Christ so far; the church averages 110 people on Sunday mornings with 142 attending this past Sunday; we graduated 2 people from Discipleship, and have 13 being Discipled; and I baptised 16 new believers on two occasions and have 3 more ready to be baptized.

Back at the end of September, I was privileged to preach the Mission's Conference for a fellow missionary here in Ireland in his church. It was a thrill to meet his people, and help with his vision! The need for more Bible believing churches here is great! And the need for our churches here in Ireland to be involved in starting more churches world-wide is even greater!



Our "Light-the-Night" meeting on October 31st was fantastic with over 120 attending! We as a church gathered for preaching, fun and food, and no one missed the darkness of the devil's holiday called Halloween!

Upcoming Events! This coming Saturday (the 10th of December) our church will be gathering on the busiest downtown main street in Cork City and **sing Christmas Carols**, and give our testimonies of what Jesus has done in our lives! Our annual

Children's Christmas Play occurs on the following Sunday morning, the 18th! Then on **the Lord Jesus' birthday** (the 25th), we all meet again at 11am for one hour of singing and preaching! Then on **New Year's Eve**, we have our *Vision Night* where I will be presenting the theme and plans for our church for 2012!

Furlough 2012! This coming April, my family and I will be coming back to the United States to finish the second half of the furlough we started in 2009. During that summer, we travelled 17,000 miles and only got to be in and report to half of our supporting churches. So, I will be contacting pastors soon to see if we could come this Summer and rejoice with you and your people for all God has done with such feeble lives as we offer Him!



Prayer Request Summary

Continue to pray for these precious souls to turn to Jesus Christ! Brendan F, David C, Pat W, Jim O'L, Kerri M, Wendy O, Chris M, Barry G, and Ann M to get saved. Thank you for faithfully supporting us financially and prayerfully! **We love you all, and thank God for you!**

The Ledbetter Family

Up-to-date information on what's happening here in our work in Ireland is available at:
www.biblebc.com

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