

A Message from the Biscarini's:



“Who is my mother, and who are my brothers.”
(Matt 12:48)

Little did we know that Manfredonia would have brought such a harvest in a short period of time. That goes to prove that **obedience** to the divine even in the midst of what seems irrational, is always **to be trusted over man's judgment**.

There is not enough space here to describe the positive changes taking place in people's hearts in Manfredonia. Let me give you a bit of a background. The town has a good percentage of evangelicals (about 1.2 to 1.5% of the 60K local populous), but unfortunately most are bound by **heavy legalism** and **manmade rules** which drive away anyone looking for hope in Christ. The traditional Catholics are very critical of movements not their own, classifying anything different as **cultic**. Thus you can see how we

Gospel in the BOX



have our work cut out -no fitting in either category. You may say “what is different than Rome”? People here are more uneducated and afraid/resistant to anything unfamiliar. Last week I received a call from a pastor that used to live here and moved to the north. He started the conversation by saying that it takes a lot of courage to minister in this city, bound by rigid traditions and dead church politics, but he is grateful that someone had the guts to do it and bring change to town. Perhaps Rome was a good training ground

for us. Last week we had our 10th consecutive Sunday service and **33** people were present. For American standards this is not newsworthy, but **for Italy this is huge**, considering we moved here only 4 1/2 months ago. Glory to our Father for lining this up!

From the heart:

-Youth -seems to be the **operating word** down here (HS and college age). They are the ones that can bring change because **they are changing**. I did not see the transforming power of the Holy Spirit work as well in **Rome** where people seem to be more interested in **acquiring** further **knowledge** instead of relenting and being acquired...**knowing Christ is dangerous** if we are not **known by Christ**. It could trick us into thinking we are ok when the Word clearly says "*do not be deceived*". My **challenge to some of you** reading this letter is just this: *do not fall into the trap of calling Him Lord, Lord while you are still going about your business every day*. What is He Lord of? You are risking hearing Him say one day "*I never knew you*" . I am not saying this to pass judgment on anyone, but because the love I have for you and for His promises compels me to tell you this.

With the Hillsong band



We just returned from a great weekend in **Sicily**, where we took some of our Young Life kids to see **Hillsong** out of London and **experienced worship** in a new and exciting way. None of the kids have ever seen a Christian

concert, been to Sicily or on a ferry (which we boarded with our van), so their adrenaline was high. On the way



Mixing with the group in Bari

home we stopped at a pizzeria in Bari and came across some other kids that were intrigued by our happiness (we were singing). We hung out while eating our pizza, laughing, joking, taking pix and then we told them about Young Life and invited them to come as they are only 90 minutes away. We left and in the van one by one every person prayed out loud asking God to draw these kids to

School clean up with SFCS



Him... that is huge for Italians and especially for our group that is so young in Christ! Thanks to those of you who helped making this a reality for them by supplying \$\$\$.

The **Santa Fe Christian School** came to visit us once more though we moved 4 hours south of Rome; bless their hearts! This time around it was a big deal to have AMERICANS in town. We lined up **press coverage**, a reception at **City Hall** with a tour from the **vice Mayor**, a visit to the local **orphanage**, a wild **treasure hunt** around town along with 68 Italian teens, a dress up

party at the Box and a **school clean up** (the school grounds have not been cleaned up in 20 yrs!!! We even found a **burnt Bible** in the rubble).



Who would have thought that at 50 years of age we would have had more **family**, but that is exactly what God has provided lately. **The stories of some of them are touching.** Take **M** for instance. He comes from a divorced family and has been suffering from depression sleeping away most of his hours. Not only did he find a **new purpose in life** and is ecstatic to spend time with us (he is my shadow), but he is always the first to help in anything, takes part in our skits during worship and is the lead singer. Last night he was with his girlfriend who was not feeling well and he asked if he could pray for her, then he proceeded to read 2 chapters of the Bible study book I wrote “Which way, truth and life?” and told her if she would **abandon herself** into the **Lord’s hand**, her life would

Treasure hunt



have a new purpose... that is discipling at its best and the power of the Holy Spirit working miraculously in someone’s’ life.

We trust this Easter brought a new resurrecting power into your spiritual self so that whatever you do would be pleasing to His sight!

We love you all. Peppo and Jare

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