



August 2018

Dear faithful prayer supporters,

'LITTLE BY LITTLE I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land'
(Exodus 23:30)

The Lord invited his people in the past to accept the promised land was certainly theirs, a secure inheritance; that little by little they might possess and live in it! We believe the Lord invites us also today to accept that a glorious and excellent inheritance in Christ is already ours... and therefore we should make every effort to make these promises our own ...with godly fear (Phil 2:12). This term has seen more of the same ups and downs, but little by little we're encouraged how the people of God in Bologna are making headway in understanding and pursuing their inheritance in Christ.

TGCI BEGINS (The Gospel Coalition Italy)



Twelve churches were represented at the first Gospel Coalition conference, an encouraging start with 100 present and exposition of 2 Timothy.

PRAY for the founding members of TGCI Italy, as many of the men involved are facing significant challenges in their churches.

PRAY for steps forward, little by little, in publishing new material on the website in the autumn (www.tgcitalia.org).

PRAISE for the children's programme - for happy collaboration

across churches and for those children who learnt what to pray for their pastors from 2 Timothy.

PRAY FOR THE NATION



In May we had our first half prayer day for the nation of Italy across the churches of Bologna. It was a start with 30 present. Little by little we learned to pray for the government, law and order, immigration, schools, unemployment and the evangelical church.

PRAISE for the small but exciting start.

PRAISE for contributions from the various churches of Bologna.

PRAY for prayers to change lives, society and in time the nation for Jesus' glory (as the day becomes an annual inter-church event).

PRAYING IN THE GARDEN

One of our dear members **A** couldn't wait for the new building to be opened to start daily church prayer meetings; so she initiated a half-hour slot in the park! Every week-day for the past two months, various members have prayed for three individuals from FT – for the building project – for a ministry at FT – for Bologna – for Italy – for the world. It's been a joy to see the time invested in the preparation of prayer pointers EVERY DAY, with great participation from the church. It certainly has established a model of how we want to be praying daily in our new building, once doors open. Little by little we're asking our Father in Heaven to graciously act upon our specific prayer requests!



PRAY – For this excellent ministry, with its local, national and international horizons, to continue from September.

ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER CAMP



Applications are always last minute, but this year waiting made for an especially anxious time!

PRAISE – In the end for sign ups. 23 children for Torricine with talks on the resurrection encounters, and 26 teenagers for Exchange with talks on Ephesians, including a new assistant leader programme.

PRAY that when applications arrive little by little in future years, we will not panic and trust that the LORD is GOOD. He honours those who put their necks on the line for him.

PRAISE for super teams from Christchurch Durham again, with increasing numbers of Italian FT leaders enthusiastic about the ministry. Great thanks for our dear brother **L** who oversaw the whole camp season; no small task!

REST, GIVE, WORSHIP... TEN YEARS ON

JP has been preaching a series on 'resting, giving and worshipping' from the Torah this term. These themes are all united by the principle of setting apart for the Lord a clearly defined gift of time or resources. As we approach our 10-year anniversary in Bologna, we want to be those who rest, give and worship well. We have just returned from an entire fortnight's holiday by the sea in Calabria, and were very glad for the rest!



PRAY we will continue to love Christ, shown in resting, giving and worshipping well.

THANKS for your perseverance in supporting us and that little by little we will see together more fruit for Jesus' glory.

PRAY for more 'midwives', i.e. more local church pastors in Italy, ready to give themselves to investing like Paul in future Timothys, essential for the future of this needy nation.

Sending our love this summer and happy holidays to you our friends

JP and Sue xx

PRAYER POINTS

PRAY for the Lord to strengthen the fragile but faithful start of TGCI in Italy
PRAISE for the first PRAY FOR THE NATION half day across Bologna churches

Thanks for PRAYER IN THE GARDEN everyday

Thanks for another year of faithful fun-filled CAMPS

Thanks for the fruit we have seen in the past TEN YEARS in the Lord Jesus building His church

Please contact your local Crosslinks office to change your contact details

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