


# A Weekend in the Life of ...

September 2009 update on the ministry of Scott & Sharon MacLean serving in Italy with  CrossWorld

Beep beep. Beep beep. Arrg, what an annoying sound at 5 in the morning. But that's when I need to get up for my volunteer shift at the ambulance house every other Friday morning. A little over an hour later I was sitting at the table in the ambulance house, drinking my first cup of coffee and chatting with the other staff and volunteers. It takes just a few seconds to down the couple spoonfuls of dark, strong coffee, but the conversation usually goes on for quite a bit longer. The topics, of course, vary, but from time to time we discuss spiritual things as well. Recently, in fact, I spent over an hour talking with one lady about whether she was "on the right track" spiritually.

Later that day, having finished my shift at the ambulance house, I was out on the balcony of our apartment, refilling my paint jars and getting ready for the children's club at the park. Despite a few drops of rain as we were setting up at the park, we had a good turnout for club. I told (and illustrated) the first part of the story of Naaman. It was great to see, not only the kids sitting on the tarp near the sketch board, but also the other kids, and even parents, leaning on the railing a few feet further back and listening in on the story.

After a quick supper we had a prayer meeting about the upcoming baptism and about our meeting place as a church (or lack thereof to be

specific). We, as did many of you, prayed specifically for the families of two relatively new believers in the youth group to come to the baptism. Daniele (one of these new believers) had arrived just before we started our prayer time. Just after we finished he shared the exciting news that his father (who in the past has been rather hard to the Gospel) had said he would come to the baptism.

Saturday morning found me at our book table in the market. I didn't sell any books this week, but I did have one good conversation with a friend from the ambulance house who stopped by. A bit more useful the time I spent with Daniele who stopped by to help with the table. As we served the Lord together in this outreach, we also talked about the Bible and our ongoing relationship with Christ – a good "discipleship" moment.

When we finished for the day, Daniele took the books home since he will be manning the table next Saturday when we will be at a wedding. It is great to see his enthusiasm to be involved in reaching out in this way. He's even come up with a great promotional idea for the table.

Sunday morning began earlier than usual, as we had to get things ready for the baptism. Two teens, both from Christian families, were getting baptized. While Sharon busied herself in the kitchen with some preparations for the church dinner we would have later in the day, I hurried off to the meeting room we had reserved (on the ground floor of the nursing home) for the baptism.

We were able to use this room for this one special event, but the city has told us they do not have a room that we can regularly use on Sunday morning. Since we have left the apartment we were using (due to a rent increase) and other options for a meeting place have fallen though, we are currently "without a roof" as they say in Italian. Please pray for the Lord's provision and guidance as we seek a meeting place for the church.

Quite a few folks showed up for the baptism, including at least 10 folks that, as far as we

## ITALIAN INFO

In 2008, how many illegal immigrants sailed from North Africa to the Italian island of Lampedusa (a popular "entry point" to Europe)?

- A) 11,000    B) 22,000  
C) 33,000    D) 44,000

Answer to last letter's question:

*Ferrero (C), the maker of Nutella, was recently named "the world's most reputable company."*

*"Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" - Acts 8:36*

know, did not know Christ as their Savior. Daniele's whole family came, including his grandmother. The family of Veronica, who had wanted to get baptized, but her parents are against it, did not come to the baptism, which was a disappointment (please keep praying). We got things started almost half an hour late (which is late even by Italian standards), but once we got going things went great. Filippo gave a crystal clear explanation of the Gospel and of baptism. The teens each gave their testimony. It was thrilling to hear them speak of their personal relationship with God. You could tell that it was something real and personal and not just memorized responses to a determined set of questions.

Most of those who came stayed for dinner after the baptism and we had a wonderful time of fellowship. But the highlight of the whole weekend was a comment that Daniele's father made. He thanked us for being a good influence on his son. It would seem that he has seen God's hand at work in Daniele. Please pray that this testimony, and the message that was shared at the baptism would bear fruit in the lives of this family and all who heard it.

Well that is a bit of a recap of the weekend of September 4-6. We hope that this glimpse into our lives helps you be able to better understand the ministry here and pray for us as we serve the Lord. Thank you for your continued financial and prayer support that makes it possible for us to serve here.

His Servants,



Scott, Sharon & Karis MacLean

### QUICKLY NOTED ...

☸ **New Address for Financial Support!** CrossWorld has begun the transition to its new location in Kansas City. The finance department (which is now a shared service with Avant Ministries) began operations there on September 1. While gifts that come in to the old address will still get to us eventually, please begin sending all financial support to:

**CrossWorld  
10000 N Oak**

**Kansas City, MO 64155**

**Phone for support questions: (816) 479-7300**

As always, indicate support is for "MacLean's – Italy"

### Prayer & Praise

- ✓ Praise for a great sports day outreach with the youth back in July. We had a good turnout for this event. Please pray for our "kick-off" event in the coming weeks.
- ✓ Praise for a wonderful baptism and a great turnout. Pray that the Gospel seeds which were sown will find fertile hearts.
- ✓ Pray that the Lord would guide, give wisdom and unity, and provide as we look for a place where we can meet on Sunday mornings as a church.
- ✓ Pray for our fall series of children's Bible clubs in the park. Weather permitting, we will try to have one each Thursday into early October.
- ✓ Pray for Scott as he teaches an "Emergency English" class at the ambulance house. The class will teach English words and phrases for use with patients that don't speak Italian.
- ✓ Pray that our lives may be such that they shine as lights in the darkness as we hold forth the Word of Life to those around us (Philippians 2:14-16).
- ✓ Pray for a great working of God in the Ossola Valleys. May He draw many people to Himself and build His church!

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