



**A message from the Biscarini's:**

*"Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself"* Mark 8:34

Our last month has been more of a whirlwind than usual. First of all the big change: our move to the US. Most US missionaries are required by their sending agencies to spend a year in the States after 4 years on the field. We never felt that need to "recharge" and served continuously since August 2004. However, after a lot of prayer and evaluation this time around we decided to put family first and attend to Isabella's needs by spending her remaining HS years with her in the US instead of having her "parked" in a boarding school. Most of you do not have to make these type of decisions: opting for the wellbeing of biological



children vs. spiritual ones and I have to confess the decision was not an easy one. Imagine seeing the life of a gothic atheist (with piercings, chains, the works) being slowly transformed before your eyes simply because you show her the love of Christ. Or witnessing the changes of a depressed suicidal 22 years old that is no longer in need of medications and is thirsty for the Word and its healing power. Both consider us their adopted parents and both were baptized 3 weeks ago. There are other similar stories like Carmen a 15 years old that had to leave school to attend to her 8 yrs old brother because her mother is too unstable (her 19 old brother found the mother in the bathroom one morning with slit wrists). She too came to Christ just 2 nights before our departure on July 11th. These are some of the REAL

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All these kids were pleading for adoption. At the same time Isabella has quietly endured the separation from her parents for the past 2 yrs. For some of you this is not a big deal having sent some of your own offspring to boarding school. However, for us it is not quite the same since we had to "give up" our kids for ministry sake. Thus the decision to move back, but not to Palm Beach (too racy) nor San Diego (too expensive), but Chattanooga, Tennessee.



Our Father in some strange fashion (like He usually does with us), has provided this opportunity for a great school for Isabella and a potential new ministry for us. I will be traveling to Manfredonia as often as finances will allow it, to keep the flame burning strong. We are proud of the Manfredonia group because though so young in inception, it has demonstrated wisdom and maturity in continuing by faith what we started, making Christ and not a person the center and pillar of what is to come. This past Sunday it was the first time they had to gather without us and not only did they do well, but had even 2 new people attending! Who says God is dead? Do you see Him working around you? And if not, are you making yourself available as a vessel through whom He can freely and supernaturally operate?

**From the heart:**

Brothers and sisters, how far do we have to fall before realizing that **Church is not entertainment** (I see many US churches fallen trap of

exotic gigs and illustrious guests instead of sticking to the Word and creating a true koinonia as Christ exhibited, as the core “draw”); following Him does not mean congregating on Sunday to **increase our head knowledge**, it implies a very active involvement in our daily lives topped off by sacrifice.... (Mark 8:34)“Whoever desires to come after Me, let him **deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me**”. What is our true heart’s desire? I am not proposing clichés here...do people see self denial in us? Do they see us bearing our crosses without grumbling or complaining? That is what becoming a follower of Christ entails : **desire, denial, determination**. As an athlete I can go back and see that these components were absolutely essential in increasing my chances to make it at the top. **1 How badly did I want it?** Was the passion burning inside of me pushing me to go beyond the mental and physical pain? **2 How much was I willing to sacrifice** to obtain that goal? Friends would often hang out in the afternoon, but I could not participate in their leisure activities because of a higher priority, thus saying “no” was often essential. **3 Did I stay focused no matter the distractions** around me? Discouragement and failures were turned in opportunity for growth knowing that “quitting” was not an option. Perhaps this may appear as a hard core approach to the Christian life, but all of us can adapt these principles

according to their God given make up. I am not writing this as direct criticism, but as an encouragement to those of you that need

**Latest:**



to evaluate their **true stand with Christ**.

It was wonderful to be able to **seal** the decision some of the kids made for Christ via a baptism. We decided to do

it at 5:10 AM to signify **the dawn of a new era**... Most of the people in Manfredonia

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this time of the year get up around 8:30 so this for them was definitely a commitment, a display of pure love! Carmen left us a letter before our departure and in a

*Dopo la preghiera di domenica mi sono sentita rinata! Ed ora sai cosa voglio?*

**Broken Heart + TEMPO = Broken Heart**

**Broken Heart + DIO = Whole Heart**

*Che questa decisione sia sigillata e resa pubblica attraverso il battesimo che devi essere tu a farlo quando torni a Febbraio.*

*Mi mancherete tanto pero confido nelle Spirits Santo che dona a tutti noi la*

simple way she illustrated what happened to her ; the diagram below states:

**A broken heart + time= broken heart**  
**A broken heart + God= whole heart**  
She too wants to be baptized when I go back in February for an outreach program.

We have been praying for a new location where the new church could meet once we gave up the **BOX**. In the past 10 days I had the opportunity to have breakfast twice with the **Mayor** of Manfredonia and discuss a future **sister city project** with Chattanooga as well as challenging him for a location for the church. He was sadden by our departure since we “brought a lot of good to the town” . He really liked the idea of the sister city and a few days later he told me that he was willing to give us his former office **free of charge** (2,000 sq ft in the middle of town). That in itself is another miracle since we are not part of the catholic church.

Please pray that the 40 ft **container** will make it safely and without complication at customs into the US. Pray

for Isabella's **adjustment** into the new school

environment. *Love you all*

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