



NLI NETWORK

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NAPLES, ITALY - Sant' Antonio - Emmanuel Church Plant

Since the launch of the very first evangelical church (Emmanuel) in the town of Sant'Antonio, Naples on Sunday, February 15, 2015 we have witnessed God's favor and blessing. We were able to launch through the generosity of Canadian churches and individuals who believe in the work that God wants to accomplish through us in reaching a harvest of souls and the transformation of many lives. Since launch day, the church has been gathering regularly on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings. New families and friends of believers have been added to the church showing interest in the Word of God and spiritual pursuits. Our church planter Vincenzo has been very diligent in following up these families through discipleship.

Recently a woman started attending the church and shared with us about her son, David, explaining that he had serious problems with depression that kept him from experiencing a happy life, something natural for a young man his age, along with maintaining regular work. She asked if we could help by visiting and praying with him.

The task was given to one of the core leaders, Gabriele, to start visiting and supporting him. With that in mind one Monday morning Gabriele, along with another believer from church, decided to go to their home for a visit. Finding him in poor condition: sitting in the dark, unshaven, and not caring for his surroundings. They spoke with David, shared the scriptures and gave him guidance and encouraged him to regain his strength, get cleaned up and dressed, and return to work. After praying with him, he listened to their advice and did everything they had suggested.

Soon after a neighbor knocked on the door, after listening to the story from David's mother about what had happened, and she asked the leaders to pray for her as well. As they prayed others nearby joined in and they formed a group of 6 -7 people who listened with interest and asked questions with a desire to receive something. At the end of the visit they asked if they can meet again and it was agreed they would return every Monday. Thus a small group was birthed with Gabriele as leader.

We also launched a weekly youth group and David is now developing solid friendships with other youth in



Church planter Vincenzo and his family



Emmanuel Church Plant, Naples Italy



this setting.

The adult small group has been meeting every Monday evening in the home of David's mother who is also attending church meetings now as well. The house is located in a government housing area where there are many issues such as high unemployment, drug dealing and drug use among the youth, juvenile delinquency and families with serious economic problems.

We are presently in the process of setting up a food bank to help meet the physical needs of the families. In addition, to reach out to children in the neighborhood (who spend a lot of time in the streets), We have launched "Kids' Island Outreach" with our mobile truck and stage to share the gospel through skits, performances, songs, and games.

Many neighborhood kids have been attending and there has also been a notable influence even with the parents who have listened and participated with great interest, joy and enthusiasm. Many watched from the windows and balconies of several apartment buildings close by and we are confident that they also have received the message of the gospel in a simple and penetrating way.

The vision of Emmanuel Church is to be open to all and therefore we are working hard in being strategic with our activities and outreaches. We trust God for his continued faithfulness towards us. This work that began about 8 months ago is already beginning to bear fruit and will continue to move forward being a light in this city.



To our Canadian friends and partners
we are grateful for your generosity and prayers.

Thank you supporting us and making this a reality.
You are significant extension to what God is beginning to do
in the city of Sant'Antonio, Naples.

To donate please contact our office at: Canada@nlieurope.com or donate on our website <http://www.nlieurope.com/support/canada>