

GJC infos

N°1

Dear friends,

We are soon going to start a new year, and this one still holds many surprises and adventures in our walk in the footsteps of our Friend and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The wonderful thing is that Jesus not only invites us to walk in His footsteps, but that He says of Himself: ***"My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest"*** (Exodus 33:14). What a promise for each one of us! Let us preciousely keep it in our hearts, until our Redeemer comes again.

With this first newsletter, we are happy to share with you some encouraging testimonies and review this first adventure during the GJC Congress in Clermont-Ferrand, from the 28th to the 31st October.

We don't want to forget to thank the speakers, musicians, organizers, participants and visitors, who came from far and near. The e-mail received one day before the congress, sent from the Euro-African Division, which you can read on GJC's website, has also been an encouragement for all of us. But above all, we thank God, because without Him this congress couldn't have been a success.



Some participants of the first GJC Congress in Clermont-Ferrand

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1 – Testimonies of young people

« It was an amazing experience and more important, a huge blessing! Thank you very much! » Stéphanie M.

«This was such a wonderful congress, congress used by God for His glory, for the good of others, and for our most blessed edification and joy --the joy of this unique missionary fellowship with so many people!! I thank YOU for this, Father, and look forward to more of this fellowship, with any who lives for YOU!!! I'm so grateful, so grateful... thank YOU Father!!! Thank You SO much!!! » Jonathan

« The whole message was wonderful! I enjoyed a lot the pastors who came». Renato

This was «the most amazing experience. The Holy Spirit was poured out with great power



Peter Gregory and his translator in action

this weekend and I cannot thank God enough for what He did. Everyone, the speakers, ARME prayer room, the musicians, the volunteers, the attendees ... THANK YOU! And PRAISE BE TO GOD! » Tiphaine

« Loved GJC, I know that lives were changed! Thank you for the opportunity to be surrounded by fellow believers and youth! God Bless and press onward! » Jaël

« The messages given by the speakers were among the most motivating for our life of faith that I could hear up to this day! To me this remains an unforgettable week-end, and for sure, if I would once again have the opportunity, I wouldn't hesitate for a single second to be found there once again! » Clément

2 – Lectures and Workshops

*« God has given me so much through **the speakers**, the messages, the participants, and the experiences of this congress.*

Right from the first sermon, on Friday evening, I have been hugely blessed, and this up to the end of the congress. I can say that the messages which were delivered were exactly what I needed! I am persuaded that God inspired the choice of the sermons and workshops!

Concerning the sermons in plenary sessions, only one word can sum up what I remember: ENCOURAGEMENT.

- encouragement to finish the race,
- encouragement through a wonderful reminder on the topic of wisdom in relationship problems,
- encouragement to imitate Christ,
- encouragement to spend personal time with God and with our Saviour,

- encouragement to look at what seems to be an insurmountable mountain, as possible to do,
- encouragement in my life, since I publicly pledged myself at the congress, by standing up when calls were made,
- encouragement to seek, through tireless prayer, full sensitivity to good and evil, for us whose conscience has been desensitized by repeated contact with evil (TV, etc.),
- encouragement not to let ANYTHING discourage us!

I must say that the speakers were really friendly and very communicative: this was very invigorating to see their enthusiasm, their joy and their being so dynamic about the word of God!

Concerning **the workshops**, I went to one session of the workshop of **Jeffrey Rosario**, which dealt with the reasons that we can give to someone doubting the existence of God and the existence of moral absolutes, to show him that it makes sense to believe that they do exist, and that in fact, it makes **SO MUCH MORE** sense than not believing that they do.

I also remember attending a **workshop on door-to-door work**, in which **Jonathan Zita** shared with us principles and experiences, showing us how to be efficient and how to do good to the persons whose doors we will knock on.

I also attended to a part **the workshop of Daniel Pel** about **courtship and marriage**. This was full of wisdom and encouragement!

I have been even more blessed by the workshop of **Vanessa Sabo**, in which we prepared **the song for the concert** on Sunday evening: both rehearsing and taking an active part in the concert were huge joys for me, but the highlight was the concert, because this was a **WONDERFUL** experience to be able to sing the virtues of the Creator, right in the city of Clermont-Ferrand, in a public place!

What a joy to desire to do the work of God, not only from a sense of the duty inspired by **LOVE** to our neighbour, but also with **PLEASURE**, **BECAUSE** there is an **INDESCRIBABLE** joy when we participate in this work **ALL** together!!! Amen!!!

Finally, I could listen to one session of **the workshop of Laurent Thaeder** on the discoveries and reasoning of numerous scientists who see scientific reasons to believe in the existence of a Designer of the universe and of life. And I expect **A LOT** of blessings when I will be able to listen to the CD of the congress; I am **SO** eager to be able to do it! » Jonathan

« **The lecture of Nicola Taubert on music** has been fantastic to me!

The malaise which exists in our churches today about music is great and I think that all the members and all the pastors should listen to these lectures. For my part, what has been presented to me is clear and confirms my opinions. Do all to the glory of God! » Gladys

3 – Missionary Experiences

a) Outreach: Door-to-door, Surveys...

A group of young people led by Jonathan Zita, went out on Sunday afternoon to experience God's wonderful blessings by knocking on doors, knowing that Jesus had gone before them to prepare and touch the hearts of the persons they would meet.

« Personally the blessings started in the tram, as I was able to talk to a lady who turned out to be a Christian. She mentioned in what condition the world is today. This is why she joyfully accepted the book I offered her: *The Great Controversy*.

Arriving at our destination, the groups spread out, my partner and I started handing out some flyers and knocking on doors. We found people to be generally open and friendly, and



Door-to-door

the majority of our contacts were Muslim believers.

Knocking at our 1st door an elderly lady answered. She tried to excuse herself, but her son came to talk with us and answered the survey. As a 'thank you' we desired to give him a gift. He wanted to take the two books "*The Great Controversy*" and "*Steps to Christ*", and promised us: "I will read them, thank you."

He talked to us about his mother who was sick. Knowing that they all were Muslims, we offered to pray for his mother. He accepted, and told us that his sister had gone to the "Health Expo" at the Polydome.

Then we went in a Muslim restaurant. Someone desired to answer the survey and to get a book. The same did his friend. We couldn't lose such an opportunity of sharing the Good News.

The Lord kept on walking with us and guiding us to the people during this missionary outreach. The Lord blessed us and listened to our prayers. This encourages us today, to go forward with prayer and to be His workers, because the Lord so greatly desires to bless us all ». Nelson



Flyers, GLOW, IEBC, Health Expo flyers, books...
for the missionary outreach

b) Health Expo

God blessed the young people as well as all the volunteers in this service to our neighbour. What a joy to share Him in a practical way, with a smile and words of encouragement, as Jesus did when He came to our planet.

We were about 20 participants on Saturday afternoon during the Health workshop. But afterwards, surprise surprise 😊, not far from 40 participants took charge of the different stands of the Health Expo (including 3 physicians, 3 nurses and some medicine students).

Testimonies of participants:

« It was really great!! I enjoyed so much to participate in it. It was beautiful to see people coming, being interested in their own health, and aware that we give them good things, and that they don't leave as they came ... It was wonderful to see young people in their early twenties, elderly people, couples of all ages, children, etc ... » Benjamin

« For me, the Health Expo was a total success. And what a joy to be able to share what I know with people interested in it, having come for this! This is something to be repeated!! » Clément



Around 160 to 200 inhabitants of Clermont-Ferrand and its surroundings went through this Health Expo on Sunday afternoon within the time frame of 3 hours. Here are a few of the testimonies that they left in the visitors' book:

« My name is Marcel, and I am very happy to see children of God interested in the life of others as Jesus Christ who made no distinction between people. Counsels on how to have a healthy body are really great, and it is the will of God ».



Nutrition Stand at the Health Expo



The Children corner

« Thank you very much for this experience. It would be well to repeat it in other cities ». Pinette

« Very enriching experience, to be repeated. Discovery of new things about health, disease detection, relaxation. Thanks to the volunteers who have put a lot of themselves into this day. Thanks everybody ». Anonymous

« Continue like this! Thank you. This was an unforgettable moment ». Anonymous

« Wonderful initiative, when will be next time? Well done! » Anonymous

« Thank you for all the information. This is a service I think, to bring within everyone's reach and to repeat. I wish you well for what comes next ». Cynthia

« It is good to be able to enquire about health. There are potential opportunities to increase our life-span ». Madi

« Thank you for everything and most of all to the cook. Thanks for these new vegetarian recipes ». Sonia

« Very interesting, I have discovered new sensations, new tastes, and new methods of relaxation. Thank you for everything, to repeat ». Anonymous

« And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people». Matthew 9 : 35

c) Public Lecture

Afterwards, with the same idea, during the public lecture, Nicola Taubert shared with us the importance of mental health, which we can only have in receiving the fullness of Christ. And in this way we can be fully alive.

Testimony of a listener: *“Thank you for your ministry of preaching Christ”*. Brigitte



Public lecture “No limit! Living life to the full!”

d) Creation Concert

Several young musicians with a lot of talent and a passion for music, but mostly for God, made us taste some really beautiful music, while experiencing the 7 days of Creation, as described in Genesis.

« I have enjoyed the concert a lot, I am a classical music fan. This gave me some sort of a 'fullness' ». Albert, listener

« Right before the concert I was playing in the big hall when the first visitors came in [...] and after I went to find our team, I had a short conversation with a visitor. He told me that he was very interested in how we would connect the creation with a concert.

After the concert he was really glad. He told me that he just loved it! The connection between the music and the movie was excellent and the best of all, he said, was that the music was "life". Many others told me something similar. Praise the Lord!

For me it was a new experience. The music was so fitting! I have no words to express my amazement ☺. If there would be an opportunity, I'd like to participate again ». Georg Müller, pianist



« Ah Lord God! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee ». (Jeremiah 32:17)

« Someone told me that she had experienced many concerts but that this one was really special. She said that you could really feel God's presence through both the music and the pictures. It was also positive to her that the musicians were rather in the background so that the message of creation was the center of everything. She even said that we should tour around with this concert because it was so precious ☺.



I loved the concert. The choir was amazing... all these people learning the song in one day and then performing it...» Vanessa Sabo, choir leader.

Dear Friends, dear Young People,

"The Lord is calling upon His people to take up different lines of missionary work, to sow beside all waters. We do but a small part of the work that He desires us to do among our neighbors and friends. By kindness to the poor, the sick, or the bereaved we may obtain an influence over them, so that divine truth will find access to their hearts. No such opportunity for service should be allowed to pass unimproved. It is the highest missionary work that we can do. The presentation of the truth in love and sympathy from house to house is in harmony with the instruction of Christ to His disciples when He sent them out on their first missionary tour.

Those who have the gift of song are needed. Song is one of the most effective means of impressing spiritual truth upon the heart. Often by the words of sacred song the springs of penitence and faith have been unsealed.

Church members, young and old, should be educated to go forth to proclaim this last message to the world. If they go in humility, angels of God will go with them, teaching them how to lift up the voice in prayer, how to raise the voice in song, and how to proclaim the gospel message for this time.

Young men and women, take up the work to which God calls you. Christ will teach you to use your abilities to good purpose. As you receive the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit, and seek to teach others, your minds will be refreshed, and you will be able to present words that are new and strangely beautiful to your hearers." (Messages to Young People, p.217-218)

4 – Some figures

In total, at least 160 young people came from far and near to experience this first Congress in Clermont-Ferrand, but also many hundred people watched it live in different parts of the world.

About 30% of the participants came from foreign countries such as England, Norway, Germany, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, Portugal, Romania, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Poland, Mexico, Brazil, Madagascar, Guadeloupe, Martinique ... Yet together, we were a family in Christ, united by our search for truth and by our thirst for a closer relationship with our Creator and Redeemer.

This congress, with its training workshops, had a real impact on the lives of the young people and also on the city of Clermont-Ferrand.

The missionary activities on Sunday afternoon included a Health Expo, a public lecture, a concert and activities in the street (survey, door-to-door ...).

Only for the glory of God, here are some figures:

- more than 2000 leaflets of information on the Bible (GLOW and IEBC),
- nearly 200 visitors at the Health Expo,
- about 70 people surveyed on faith or health,
- over 400 books distributed,
- 76 people have chosen to leave us their contact details to be informed about health or spiritual matters.

5 – Power of United Prayer

The young people were particularly blessed by the presence of ARME:

ARME means “Adventist Revival Movement for the Endtime”

Their motto: Forward on our Knees!

For more information about this movement visit: <http://www.armebiblecamp.com/>

“We saw many lives changed. Many people who were broken before the Lord found peace and happiness because of united prayer. There were people who came to the prayer room and who were looking for a purpose in life. Others came to pray because they wanted to understand how they can serve God at their best. Others came looking for peace.” “Many people came and cried before the Lord because they sensed their need for Him. We had many people come to us with tears in their eyes to thank us for bringing united prayer to the congress.”

Finally

“God had also a wonderful surprise for us at the end of the convention”:

“The last day the devotional was held by Jonathan Zita. He preached with so much power. Everyone could feel God's presence there.” (Many young people answered the call).



United prayer with ARME

After the commitment seen at this call, though several had already left the day before, “and there were only around 70-80 people left”, “around 30 people [...] stayed behind to seal their decision” with united prayer; and some of the speakers and GJC leaders even joined the prayer.



“It was simply beautiful to feel the presence of the Holy Spirit.” “And what is even more wonderful is that a lot of them are determined to take united prayer back to their countries.”

“So, what else can I say... I feel that words are not enough to describe how much God has blessed” during this GJC congress in France. “Everyone agreed that this was a Spirit filled youth conference.” Raluca Stefan

6 – A Call

Through Jonathan Zita, God spoke to the hearts:

"We need to feel the converting power of God's grace, and I urge all who have closed their heart against God's Spirit to unlock the door, and plead earnestly, Abide with me. Why should we not prostrate ourselves at the throne of divine grace, praying that God's Spirit may be poured out upon us as it was upon the disciples?

Its presence will soften our hard hearts, and fill us with joy and rejoicing, transforming us into channels of blessing." (*Ye Shall Receive Power*, p.58)

"Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me!!"
Mark 10:47. **SHOUT** (CRY OUT), **CRY**, **PLEAD** – and **Jesus will "stand still" for you**, as He did it for the blind man in Mark 10:49.

"God does not say, Ask once, and you shall receive. **He bids us ask. Unwearyingly persist in prayer.** The persistent asking brings the petitioner into a more earnest attitude, and gives him an increased desire to receive the things for which he asks. Christ said to Martha at the grave of Lazarus, "If thou wouldst believe, thou shouldst see the glory of God." John 11:40." (*Christ Object Lessons*, p.145)

« "Walking in His footsteps" ... What a melodious theme, harmonious fellowship and rhythmic effort to walk in His footsteps as well. You wonder whose footsteps? Christ's and His only - why? There is no other God out there whose name and works are so excellent! So what's His mission? To seek and save that which was lost (Luke 19:10). **His Mission is our message!**

Christ is the Saviour who loves sinners - that's why we walk with Him, He sets us free, eternally.

Now imagine, hundreds of young people following this master!

A generation of young people who are walking in Christ's footsteps - how?

By precept and practice – teaching (workshops), preaching (sermons) and healing (health exposition).

People who attended this conference were becoming humble, happy, healthy and holy along "The Way".

Dear friend, Christ desires that you follow Him step by step. He calls your generation, yes, He calls you!

Wouldn't you like to be part of this global movement which 'turns the world upside down'? Join us now - Ready, steady, go!! »

Erwin Nanasi

If you desire to seal your commitment, to renew it, or to begin this fascinating adventure with God, then come to Jesus, walk with Him, because He already walks with you.

On the following card, you can write your personal decision; if you desire you can also contact your pastor, and tell him about your desire, or you can also share with us your joy of following Him, and your questions.

My decision for Jesus Christ

- () I desire to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour.
- () I desire to meet Jesus and walk with Him, everyday () or to be accompanied in order to learn to meet Him everyday.
- () I desire to prepare myself for baptism.
- () I am ready to commit myself to Jesus, with my talent and my possibilities, in mission work and in bearing witness of my faith everywhere I go.
- () I desire to devote my life to God and want to become a preacher.
- () I am interested in going through training in a mission school.
- () I am interested in being a missionary volunteer for one year, in France () or in another country ().
- () I am interested in committing myself to the mission. (For example, through « ShareHim », « Europe4Jesus »).
- () My personal decision: _____

Name: _____

SUPPORT REQUEST

GJC has just passed a big mark, with the positive and the negative. God has immensely blessed us, but this is through you, through our friends and sometimes through anonymous people that this blessing was mostly felt, through their spiritual, organizational, personal, material, and also financial support. All these forms of support have been precious to us and constitute GJC's wealth.

Today, GJC doesn't give up, but is rather determined to continue its adventure, and to do so with you. GJC needs to stay on track and go forward despite the challenges.

This is why we keep calling you in to support us. We still need physical and personal support to help us in organizing the different tasks and to build a representative network. But also, we need your prayers more than ever, that GJC might do the will of God and that He might open doors where He wants to. **Finally, GJC still needs funds, finances unfortunately remaining weak and still having to face expenses to be paid for the Polydome, etc., for the 15th of December.**

If you want to support in one or the other lines mentioned above:

- Here is where you can register to become a part of the GJC movement: <http://www.gjc-france.net/en/adhesion-gjc.php>
- You can also make a donation:

Account holder: Génération de Jeunes pour Christ

Bank details:

Banque postale centre financier 33900 Bordeaux Cedex 9

IBAN: FR3020041010161097547C03705

BIC: PSSTFRPPTOU

Thank you, and may God bless you richly. Let us walk forward! Let us stay faithful to Jesus because He is our faithful Friend. To Him be praise and Glory!

The GJC team

DATE to REMEMBER:

From the 6th to the 8th of January 2012, to start the new year with God, you will be able to experience the Congress once again, broadcast on TVFamille (<http://tvfamille.org/tv>) !

Invite your friends !



**God calls me today
and I cry out to Him:**
*« Jesus, thou Son of David,
have mercy on me!! »*
Mark 10:47.

Génération de Jeunes pour Christ (GJC), a non-profit association incorporated under the French 1901 law (registered in March 2011). Its goal is to propose to other young people occasions to get involved in and commit themselves to the mission of sharing the gospel. GJC supports the movement, the institutions and the doctrines of the Seventh-day Adventist Church at local and global levels. However GJC is composed of simple young members of the Adventist church and is thus, fully administratively independent from the church. Complete file in French about GJC at <http://www.gjc-france.net/dossier-gjc.php>

