



CZECH MINISTRY UPDATE

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“because the mind set on the flesh is hostile to God; for it does not subject itself to the Law of God, for it is not even able to do so. And those who are in the flesh cannot please God

—Romans 8:7-8

Dear Friends,

The clearest sign that people are not pleasing to God is that they do not believe in Him. But we want to update you on how God has been answering prayers in the Czech Republic to awaken in Czech souls an awareness of Himself in preparation for saving knowledge of Christ.

ENGLISH CAMP 2010

If you could spend a whole week with people who know very little about God, are openly willing to listen and discuss truth about Him and His Gospel, and will sit and listen to Gospel preaching, would you pass up the opportunity? We seriously considered it.

In May, as Pastor Jarda Kernal (from Usti nad Labem) and I planned and prepped for this year’s English camp, we considered the possibility that this might be our last annual outreach camp. What was our new plan? We were thinking that next summer we might begin a church summer retreat, with outreach English camps on alternate years. But a few days into this summer’s English camp the Lord completely changed our thinking. As Jarda and I discussed the many ways the Lord was working, we both realized that limiting the outreach English camp to every other year was a profoundly hair-brained idea. English camps are quite possibly the most effective large-scale way to evangelize this hardened nation. Not only were campers open to listening to the Gospel, they remained willing to dialogue about Christ throughout all 8 days and 7 nights of camp. In America we have lots of opportunities to reach out to the lost, but I’ve never experienced the wide-open door this English camp provided.



Photo from 2010 English Camp

For Christians at the camp, our day began with corporate worship and prayer at 7am. After breakfast, students went to their respective classes (we had 7 levels this year, ranging from beginners to advanced) where they received three hours of in-class English instruction. Afternoons were packed full of opportunities for the campers, with activities like hiking excursions, GPS cache hunts, Frisbee,

volleyball and how-to-workshops on making such things as cameras, toothpick bridges and jewelry. But the highlight of each day was the evening program where we took an incremental approach to sharing the Gospel, starting with evidence for God’s existence and culminating with His holiness, righteous judgment and saving grace in Jesus Christ. This year’s “survival” camp theme provided an excellent platform for the evening program, with topics like “Survival of the Fittest,” “How to Survive in a World of Darkness,” and “How to Survive the End of your Life.” We had the privilege of hearing a radical testimony from a man who had escaped Czechoslovakia while it



Campers and team members on a hike to the “Pencil Rocks”

was under the iron curtain. He made it to America, served in the U.S. Army during Desert Storm, planned to kill himself, gave his life to Christ, then landed a job paying six figures. But Milan chose to leave the American dream to return to his homeland and plant a small,



Pictured with team members Julia and Jeena (left), big “George” and his two teenage kids, who thoroughly enjoyed this summer’s camp. “George” still says he’s an atheist, but it is apparent that he is thinking much more about the God he doesn’t believe in.

After most of the evening messages we had discussions about the truths we'd heard. Some nights we gave campers time to just hang out and think about what they'd heard. We even showed the movie "Fireproof," a film that brings the Gospel to a life situation that's relevant to many who were at camp.

Camp provides a catalyst for building relationships, but it's what happens after camp that proves most beneficial. The two weeks immediately following the camp were filled with activities that deepened our relationship with campers and provided further opportunities to minister the Gospel. The second Sunday after camp we were doubly blessed to have our own Daniel Adamovský preach God's word from John 3:16-18. Daniel has been a believer for two years. He formerly attended English camps as an atheist, but now he plays a crucial role, ministering the Gospel to the lost at camp and ministering God's word to the Kladno saints on Sundays.

Our 2010 English camp is over, but much work remains to be done. Last year we had an introductory Bible study for neighbors who were inquiring about Christianity. Now three young women from the camp have expressed an eager desire to study the Scriptures. Please pray for them and for other campers as we resume our Bible study for young adults in September.



SHORT TERM TEAMS



Short Term Teams, long term fruit.

Again this year we were blessed by short term teams from Cornerstone Bible Church (CA) and Christ Our Hope Bible Church (WA). The hardest part of our summer outreach ministry is saying goodbye to these precious saints. We've been extremely blessed—not only did these saints minister alongside us, they constantly ministered to us. It is clear that each and every one of them was hand chosen by our Lord to fulfill works He had prepared beforehand. English camp is a lot of fun, but it is also a lot of work. From when you wake up each day to the moment your head hits the pillow, it is non-stop physical, mental and spiritual labor. When they weren't teaching English, they were busy planning events/activities for the camp or spending time with campers, loving them and ministering the Gospel to them.

For all of you on the teams, we send a deep and heartfelt thank you! For those of you who were at home praying thank you!! God answered and is answering your prayers in mighty and plentiful ways. Please continue praying for the lost and even for next summers camp.

PRaises & PETITIONS

- Please pray for the Hron family who have expressed real interest in learning more about the Gospel. At camp Pastor Jarda stayed up late one night sharing Christ with them. Vlastimil (in the purple shirt) had never heard the Gospel before and was immediately open to it. We gave him a Czech translation of a book by R.C. Sproul, "Reasons to Believe," and he eagerly asked for another copy so that he could give one to his father. Unfortunately the Hrons live a couple hours from Kladno, but we are looking forward to meeting with them soon to share more about the great love of God in Christ.
- There are just too many camp stories, too many encouraging conversations, to share about in this letter. Please intercede for the work that our Lord has promised, namely that His Holy Spirit would convict this nation and the city of Kladno of sin and righteousness and judgment. Deep conviction through the Spirit of God is the only means by which Czech hearts and minds will be awakened to Jesus Christ. (John 16:8).



- The Czech Republic has a tremendous need for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon all lives and ministries. Please pray that the church here would stand fast in the full armor of God, not only living defensively against the world around us but also being on the offense with the message of the cross.

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