

josiahventure

Walking with God is like flying in an airplane. Only grace provides you with the right equipment and can get you flying. How is it possible that an airplane flies? There is something inside it that totally differs from its surroundings – warm air and a special gas mixture. For an airplane to remain in flight it is necessary to keep this balanced mixture and the engine must



run all the time. The same is true for our spiritual life. If we do not sustain and keep this precious relationship with God, our spirituality will disappear and we will go down. There is another grave danger – a hole might appear in the fuselage and the body of the airplane might break apart. This is a serious situation and depending on the size of the hole it may be catastrophic. We can see a parallel to our spiritual life. If we sin, we cannot make up for it by reading the Bible more or by doing more good deeds. A sin is a sin and it can cause us to fall gradually or quite quickly and the only good solution is to make a genuine confession. Our spiritual life occurs during our day-to-day flight and I hope we have enough of that precious fuel to keep us flying.



Christian Teachers Network

We are very pleased that the number of Christian teachers has exceeded 150 members. On April 13 there was a conference of Christian teachers in Třinec. The topics were "*A teacher's spiritual authority*" and "The Gospel in the *classroom*". In addition, there were many workshops. Approximately 140 teachers took part in this conference and it was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm of those teaching at Christian schools and also the determination of those who teach at secular schools and want to give a good testimony as Christian teachers.

Here's a recording of the conference: <u>www.situcitelu.cz/skuzdroje</u> and here is a video: <u>VideoLink</u>.

Completed Studies The last couple of months were busy finishing my degree. I was writing my Master's Thesis on "Didactic Methods in Ethics Teaching". In May, I was able to pass my final exams and complete my Master's Degree at the Faculty of Education at Ostrava University. I was given a qualification for teaching Christian and Civic Education and Ethics at the primary schools. After five years of hard work it was a significant moment also for my family who were extremely supportive during my "never-ending" education. When I began my studies, I was in charge of the Internship program and I did not have the foggiest idea of teaching Ethics or how I could be helpful to Christian lecturers and teachers in the schools. So I am incredibly grateful to God who prepared me and had everything under control.

KO – **Christian Outdoor** In February, there was another snowboard camp with 19 participants. Radim, a university student, had his first opportunity to spend a week with Christians. He began attending our church and in March he decided to give his life to Christ. Hallelujah! When I think back on my Christian Outdoor experience, I have to share my joy because KO provides a great environment for sharing Christ. It's wonderful that KO is able to function even without the support of KAM (JV Czech Republic). KAM tries to reach out to young people broadly whereas KO focuses on creating something deep and lasting within a small group. There are 1.8 million young people in the Czech Republic and both approaches are necessary to reach out to all of them.

KO Looking Back: KO organized its first hiking trip in 2009 and since then there have been 30 trips with more than 250 participants and 20 training events in which over 50 leaders took part. This year seven experienced guides are working towards their certification and this year KO also celebrated its second anniversary as an independent ministry. The team of KO consists of seven brave guides and they cooperate with WMI from the USA. KO is all about adventure with Christ in God's awesome creation. Our mission is *to develop Outdoor guides who will, through the Gospel and through impactful and safe activities, bring young people closer to Christ*

Reaching out to young people through Christian prevention seminars

Last year I began to cooperate with F-foundation and I believe this was the missing part in the jigsaw puzzle of my life when I was looking for new ways of how to increase the Christian influence in the schools and how to bring young people the good news of Christ. During the school year 2012-2013, F-foundation supported 8 lecturers and co-participated in financing another fourteen lecturers. Every month there are approximately 500 lectures organized by the speakers from **The New Generation on the Right Way** and thanks to them <u>6900 students are reached every month</u>! It is a big challenge and at the same time a great source of joy to help the foundation support these speakers. This activity forms one-third of my work and the foundation financially covers one-third of my salary.

By the end of July it will be decided which lecturers will be supported by the foundation for the next school year. Right now there is a selection procedure going on and my great desire is to wisely decide what to focus on in order to spread the good news among young people. We are preparing a big campaign called **"We have said NO, now let's say YES!"** It is meant to get more local donors involved in a new fund called The New Generation on the Right Way. We will address those who signed the petition against introducing the teaching of Ethics in the schools. This petition was organized by VORP (The Committee for The Protection of Parents' Rights). The foundation would like to fan the flame of financial support in the Czech Republic. One way to do this is through a matching gifts program.

Finances (USA): My financial needs are covered two-thirds from individual donations and one-third comes from the F-foundation. <u>Right now I am looking for three donors who could</u> give \$20/month, \$30/month, and \$50/month to cover my missing \$100 monthly needs. Thanks to one foundation that is doubling my donations, I am close to meeting all my funding needs. Praise God! Finances issues are often a quite difficult and even painful but I must say I rejoice in the people who support me and also in God's providence achieving His work. If you feel you might like to become one of those donors, please write to me or visit www.josiahventure.com.

Miriam, our oldest daughter, is gradually finishing her first year at university (her majors are English and Music Education). God is incredibly merciful to my whole family! In June, a team is leaving our church because they are going to Beroun, a town in Bohemia, to plant a new church and we will miss them greatly. Basically, this group consists of the majority of those who are able to preach on Sundays. Our church is facing a new significant period but I will tell you more about that next time...

PRAYER NEEDS

- The growth of the Christian Teachers' Network so that it might increase the Christian influence in the schools.
- God's wisdom and guidance for the lecturers in the new school year and also for their fundraising campaign.
- Matěj, Honza, Martin and Artur a participant of the August KO-trip, who are interested in God.
- A new era in my church Křesťanský sbor Ostrava – Poruba and my role in it.
- Preparation of national campaign **Bible to school** and God's protection for this cause.

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Financial support

Josiah Venture P.O. Box 4317 Wheaton, IL 60189-4317, 1-630-221-9332 Account number: 15020 For online giving see: www.josiahventure.com email: jan.kuklinek@kam.cz, skype: honzakuk Phone: +011 420 605 264 446 Home address: Honza Kuklínek, Výškovická č. 84, 70030 Ostrava, Czech Republic, Blog: http://kuklinkovi.kam.cz

Contact Information: