

# New Life in Hard Places

Winter, 2014



*And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answer her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her." Luke 10:39-42*

I would like to start with a wish: May no activity, even a praiseworthy one, steal from you the fellowship with our Lord!

And now some topical news. Two years ago I touched the very bottom due to being burn-out and I was not sure at all whether God would grant me his grace and strength to continue a full-time ministry. Returning into a civil job does not present an obstacle in serving God but I am glad that I can have the privilege to participate in bringing the good news to my nation in spite of the difficulties ensuring all the needed finances. A long time I "cried" because I was not as efficient as before my burning-out. One cannot gain their previous "performance" but I am aware of my limits and do not want to return to my old bad habits. But I am happy that this experience has changed me, our marriage has benefited from it and it has helped me to achieve things which worked out well after long months of hard work.

## Czech Students



Being filled with gratefulness toward God I can say I feel much better. My scope is really wide - Teachers' network, F-foundation, leadership in our church and youth group, Christian outdoor (KO) and I know that I need to stop doing certain things or hire another person to help me. I am thinking whether the solution might be found in hiring an administrative helper or finding a co-worker who could take over and independently develop certain areas of the Teachers' network and F-foundation. But ensuring finances for such a person presents a real challenge. This fact is the main topic of my thinking and praying.

## Family

Miriam has been happily studying at Masaryk University in Brno for two years; she has been trained to become a music and English teacher. Nela has been intensively preparing for talent admission exams at architecture and she would like to study in Brno as well. So I and my wife Nad'a will be probably facing an "empty nest". A big trial of faith for us is the fact that after seven years Nad'a has lost her position as an accountant in the bookshop Librex because it went bankrupt. From January she might start working as a saleswoman of drinks machines via the phone but we are not sure whether this is a suitable and long-term job. But we were also encouraged because my father-in-law remarried again at the age of 70 and he does not need so much help.

## Church

When I agreed to accept the function of the elder in my church I was aware of the fact that we would have to face a difficult period. A group of most active and very gifted people has left our church in order to plant another church in Beroun and we simply miss them. We have also been thinking of how to unite our community and how to start working hard. There are 65 church members including children and we have 10 adult men and we have our own church building and this is

## Jan & Nad'a Kuklinek



## Working Group of the Christian Teachers' Network

more than many other churches have. I have been focusing on working with young people in our church and I try to devote one day per week to our church - one half should be spent teaching and organizing things and the other half by spiritual consulting and developing the leaders. I am very glad that this is possible due to my working as a national missionary for JV but as I have already written it will function only if I find another person to help me or if I stop doing some things.

## Our Network of Christian Teachers

The Christian Teachers' Network has gained a working group consisting of representatives of the individual areas it covers, which is very important for its course on a long-term basis; see the photo (Milan Pecka, founder of the Christian department at the University of Ostrava; Petr Herman, representative of high and Christian schools; Tomáš Řehák, representative of lecturers; Renáta Janotová, representative of teachers at secular and primary schools; Jan Hábl, representative of universities and churches; Jiří Tomiczek, representative of headmasters of secular schools (is missing in the photo); Jiří Unger, representative





## Snowboard Camp

of the Evangelical Alliance). Bible for Schools has successfully passed its first stage. We managed to get involved three biggest distributors of Bibles: Czech biblical society, Biblion and Gedeons, whose offer can be presented at schools. We also managed to announce programmes about Bible on the RVP web of the Ministry of Education. These programmes include prepared units with PowerPoint presentations and methodology for teachers. The presentations also comprise the explanation of the Gospel and make familiar with the main message of the Bible. Even though we have put a lot of effort and prayers into it, we cannot call it but God's miracle! I have heard of

## Our Daughters, Miriam & Nela



schools getting in touch with Gedeons and asking them to bring the Bibles. Praise to our God!

## KO

Christian Outdoor has proved as a good missionary tool. We have been preparing another Snowboard camp in February (web link [www.pavucina.net/snowboard](http://www.pavucina.net/snowboard)). In order to train new leaders for this ministry, at the beginning of March there will be another training course The Heart of a Guide (web link <http://ko-trek.cz/?p=3165>).

## New generations on the good way.

In the foundation I am responsible for 12 lecturers who are supported by the F-foundation in the school year 2013/2014. The campaign for getting new donors will take place in 2014.

## Finances

In the last couple of months I have managed to win new donors but some who supported me for a long time have stopped doing this and that is why I have still been looking for new donors or churches. My income is now the only one in our family and for this reason it is even more important to keep the finance on the same level. Now I lack LXXX Czech crowns per month. Two thirds of my finances come from donors and one third from the F-foundation.

I do appreciate that you have been helping me because without you I could not do what I am doing!

May God bless you!

**Honza Kuklínek**



## Summer Trek



## Pray for Us!

- New job for Nad'a and getting our family finances stabilized.
- Wisdom when deciding on the new co-worker in the Teachers' Network and F-foundation.
- Gospel for non-believing friends on Snowboard Camp 02-2014.
- Finding a new vision for Křesťanský sbor Ostrava Poruba (KSOP) and strengthening the core of our church.
- Gratefulness for the campaign Bible for Schools and intercession for getting a full patronage from the Ministry of Education.

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