



© Ivan Steiger MMIXX

***Blessed are they whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD. Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart. They do nothing wrong; they walk in his ways. You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed. Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees! Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands. I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws. I will obey your decrees; do not utterly forsake me. How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, O LORD; teach me your decrees. With my lips I recount all the laws that come from your mouth. I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. (Psalms 119:1-16)***



**FEBRUARY 2019  
DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS OF  
THE REACH BEYOND MINISTRY  
TO THE PEOPLES  
IN CZECHIA AND SLOVAKIA**

Almost 30 years ago, we were standing in Jakarta not knowing if we would end up in America or in Europe. Fifty years ago, we immigrated to the USA and we had never imagined that one day we pagan non-believers would return to our native country as missionaries! We had no clue what was in His plan for us. He prepared us gradually for this ministry without our knowing. In our wildest imagination, we were unable to grasp the idea that socialism under the leadership of an “unshakable” communist party in Czechoslovakia would crumble in our lifetime. It did in His time.

Some 25 years ago, we had no idea what the information era would bring into our days. Not long ago we watched the movie about Steve Jobs. In those early days, we even bought quite a lot of new issue penny stocks of Apple Computer. Since they did not perform and the company looked dead, we sold them after a few years. The Lord knew why. If we had

kept them who knows what we would be doing today. He had a different plan for us.

### LOOKING BACK

When we joined HCJB mission in 1990, we were hoping to serve in then Czechoslovakia at least for some 15 years. The Lord was opening doors and closing some others. Every now and then it seemed that some opened doors felt like a disappointment. The time proved that He is always right. He knows everything. He spared us from hardships and complications. He saw much further than we could. While we were at the HCJB Conference in Quito in the year 2000, the Czech language was the first taken off the air. The era of short wave broadcasting was over and we said, "Praise the Lord". We knew that He was closing one door to open another. He did, as He promised. He opened all kinds of social media and prepared opportunities, of which we never dreamed. Instead of flying on frequencies of short wave radio, we swam in the uncharted waters of media ministries. How often we were asked during our home ministry times in supporting churches, "When are you going to plant a church?" Our answer: "Never, because we are so busy with radio programming, magazine publishing, answering thousands of letters, teaching, preaching." However, He had a different idea. Again, in His time He provided likeminded servants who volunteered to board the ship. New opportunities opened and now we rejoice as we see how the outreach multiplies every day. As we look at what happened just in the past 5 years we marvel. How many books were published,

how many people were reached through web pages, conferences, teaching ... We know that the mission world is changing and mission organizations go through tough transitions. It is true that churches are not any more as enthusiastic about traditional mission methods and outreach as in the past. Many churches started their own work or were focused on short-term missions. The world is changing in front of our eyes. We are aware that the mission days of 75 or 50 or even 25 years ago were very different. We have new tools and technologies we never imagined to have. Nowadays, there is a limited number of those who are full time servants or in the field; however, there are multitudes who can serve right where they are regardless of the language skills, theological training, or age. It all boils down that most important in our days is to be steady, faithful, committed and focused on those around us who do not know our Lord, rather than on the entire unreached world. Unreached nations are now all around us.

True believers never retires; true believers have to be willing to do whatever is needed. That is the great commission:

*The word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, or I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD. (Jeremiah 1:4-8)*

## DAYS THAT WILL BE OVERCOME

On the other hand, we do not know from day to day what is ahead of us. As we mentioned in our previous communication Reach Beyond (formerly HCJB), the mission we have served with for almost 30 years, is undergoing many fundamental changes, painful budget and staffing cuts. The hard question lingers on, whether the current partner-driven model of ministry is sustainable.

About a year ago, we announced that we would take part in a Reach Beyond conference in Colorado. Our plan was to visit our supporting churches and supporters in CO, CA, AZ and NYC. However, the conference was cancelled because of the recent budget cuts.

In our mind and prayers, we ask what stands ahead for Reach Beyond ministries in Europe. Some of our close fellow missionaries are resigning. We hope that we will know more after meeting our immediate supervisor as he stops to see us in Prague in March.

With our small team, we remain focused on our micro-reach great commission region of Czech and Slovak people. We serve face-to-face to a "host" of tens of souls and in Czech and Slovak Christian publishing and cyberspace to several thousands.

There are encouraging reports from Reach Beyond's "Vision Summit". People are praying, willing to become partners, willing to finance specific projects. We ask for your prayers just like Paul did:

*And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. (Colossians 4:3)*

## IN THE MEANWHILE

We need faithful Stateside, Czech, and Slovak ministry partners. We trust that He knows the needs. He is the One who inspires, and empowers our teams to achieve the great commission goal. Judge for yourself:

(1) Milan Hudec, "www.radiologos.sk" wrote to "Thru the Bible" regarding permission to translate and broadcast in Slovak Language their programs (Czech was done years ago). This is how He works. Here is the answers:

*Dear Friend in Christ,*

*Thank you for contacting us. We appreciate your interest in this ministry. Regarding your request, we are just beginning a Slovak production! In about a year, you should be able to access it online.*

*As you continue to study the Scriptures, may you be further enriched and edified by "the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified" (Acts 20:32).*

*In Him,*

*Thru the Bible Radio*

(2) Our 10<sup>th</sup> Winter Conference in Prague was another event for which we praise the Lord. Its theme: "Why we need Grace." This time we had more people coming from areas near Prague. What a joy it was to see some people we have not seen for the last +/- 20 years. In some cases, we had to search deep down in our memory. We all changed, however it was easier for them to recognize us and

remember the names than for us. What a joy it was to see the 4<sup>th</sup> generation in families we have known from the beginning of the ministry here. Those who attended were from almost 90 years old down to three months young. All presentations are on the web. Out of the panel, and Q&A came articles for our magazine. Next month we meet for planning the 11<sup>th</sup> Winter Conference in 2020. Yes, we have 20/20 vision for another great topic that will be "God's Love".

### OUR PERSONAL JOY

Just a week ago, we had a lovely conversation with a couple of special friends one of which founded the Czech HCJB broadcasting from Quito, Ecuador. We communicated through a three-party Skype conference. One was in San José, Costa Rica, the other in Austin, TX (the founder of Czech broadcasting), and us here in Prague.

A day later friends of our friends from Ohio came over to see us. We always rejoice as He adds some more very special people. Via e-mail and Facebook, we keep in touch with friends all over the world. So much is going on and happening.

### PRAISES AND PRAYERS

We give thanks for all of you that stood by us these past years. Your prayers and support help to keep the Czech and Slovak Ministries going. Local Christians support the major part of the ministry however; the helping hands are appreciated and needed.

- Pray for the Czech and Slovak people and churches, for the majority of the people around us are unreached.
- Pray for Pavel's brother Ivan and his wife Eva. At this time, she is under palliative nursing care. This is a very difficult time for both of them and the family. We are most concerned for their spiritual condition.
- Please pray for Reach Beyond's directions and guidance.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN OUR LIFE AND THE CZECH & SLOVAK MINISTRIES

In His Sovereign Grace,  
Pavel and Klara Steiger  
<pavel.steiger@gmail.com>

<°)))))><

#### You may mail your U.S.

Tax-deductible contributions to:  
REACH BEYOND  
P.O. BOX 39800  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80949-9800  
U.S.A.

#### You may mail your Canadian

Tax-deductible contributions to:  
REACH BEYOND  
3 - 44 SALTSMAN DRIVE  
CAMBRIDGE, ON N3H 4R7  
CANADA

Attach to your check the following note:  
**FOR THE MINISTRY OF  
PAVEL & KLARA STEIGER  
ACC # 100-110329**