



## Going Out in the Rain

## December 2021 Update

We cannot perpetually stay at home during the rainy season; that is why we have umbrellas and wet-weather gear. We adapt by protecting ourselves from our environment. Neither can we perpetually put off life and living for a more opportune time during the pandemic, nor shelve questions of eternity that require us to venture “outside.”

In his sermon, *Learning in War-Time*, C.S Lewis stated, “The war creates no absolutely new situation: it simply aggravates the permanent human situation so that we can no longer ignore it. Human life has always been lived on the edge of a precipice.” In our present context, we can justifiably replace “war” with “pandemic” to echo Lewis’s wisdom, to pursue what is essential despite difficulties. Yet, we do this with the caution that circumstances demand.



I just returned from my first ministry trip to Europe since the pandemic began. My “umbrella” and gear for venturing into the rain were multiple locator forms, PCR tests, and marathon N95 mask-wearing. My first stop was Ghent, Belgium, for our Every Nation Evangelist Summit. While there, I ministered with other team members to encourage and equip our leaders to better engage their diverse contexts. This included a collaborative roundtable where we guided key leaders on enhancing their strategies. My friend and colleague, Frans Olivier, and I will continue to coach such leaders on reaching their cities and campuses.



The next stop was Prague, Czech Republic, where I preached, led the team in outreach training and strategic planning, and baptized six people. On the morning of the church service, one of our members, an African Ph.D. student, invited her Iranian colleague to church. This caused me to adapt my message on baptism for a Persian evangelistic context at the last minute – quite a challenge – but the Iranian woman stayed with us the remainder of the day for the baptism and a group meal. This woman’s openness is due in part to the faithful friendship of the person who invited her and the warmth of those who received her. I can’t mention names for obvious reasons, but please keep this woman in prayer that she sees Jesus.

I have several more trips planned for Europe starting in February, including training Europe leaders, strategic planning with our Europe leadership team, and several trips to Prague. We thank you for your faithful prayers and partnership as we venture “out in the rain” again, and we pray that you and your loved ones have a very blessed Christmas.

Mike & Myra

**Join Our Partnership Team!**  
Mail support to:  
  
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### Prayer Requests

1. New monthly partnerships
  2. Peace and security for Ukraine
  3. New team members for Prague, Tbilisi, Romania, & Cyprus
  4. Visas and church registration for Prague and our other European teams
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