



Reflection | September 2023 Update

We drove to Washington, DC, last week to submit our documents for our Czech visas. While staying with our host family, we spoke with a young missionary couple at the beginning of their journey. Today, I spoke with a dear pastor friend who is a former missionary, and we discussed what it takes to thrive on the field amid trials, ministry pressures, loneliness, etc. Both conversations can be summed up by “why did we go, and what kept us going?” Jesus calls us all to take part in the Great Commission, but Peter provided the “why” as he answered Jesus, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). But what keeps us going? Peter again comes to the rescue when others are leaving Jesus, saying,

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.
We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of
God.” – John 6:68-69

These are the bookends of why we start and don't stop. I was preparing for radiation treatment for cancer this time last year, and my blood test last week came back as “undetectable.” We are very grateful for God's mercy, and Peter's second statement resonates strongly that Christ and his word remain central when all else fades. These bookends of life are for all believers and not just missionaries. Be encouraged.



One of our favorite photos, enjoying the moment before we moved to Poland in 2016. We still enjoy the moments.



One of our first baptisms in Lviv, Ukraine, early 1990s.

The whirlwind begins next week with Abbi and Josh's wedding in North Carolina, after which we fly to Cape Town, South Africa, for Every Nation's World Conference. Next, we fly back to the US to wait for our visa approval, then pack up everything again, and go, again.

Partnership Needs

- Travel costs for our South Africa trip and the move to Prague
- Funds to purchase a car in Europe
- Start-up funds for shipping our belongings and establishing a new home in Prague

This is a short update before we relaunch to Prague, and we appreciate your prayers through our preparation. I will also be upgrading our financial partnership base until we leave, and we appreciate your generosity to sustain the mission. Blessings!

Mike & Myra

Prayer Requests

- Peace for Ukraine and continued resources for refugee relief
- Mike's health: continued energy for this busy ministry season
- New team members for the Prague church plant
- Expedited visas for the Czech Republic



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