

Could it possibly happen again?

As I stood there my heart was captured with the idea....a movement of God among the youth of the globe. It happened once...it could happen again.



We stood at the spot and near his wooden church where John Hus preached to hundreds of young people...the poor gathered in the slums of Prague. His preaching was against the caste system of the era. He believed that the average lay person could study God's word and hear from God directly. God used him to minister to the poor and rally people against the abuses of the church.

They didn't like his preaching...and on July 6, 1415 they burned him at the stake!

As he was dying he prophetically said, "You can kill the goose (John Hus's name in Czech meant 'goose'), but one hundred years from now a swan will arise that you cannot silence".

100 years later Martin Luther claimed to be that swan. Martin Luther began the Reformation that forever changed the church of that day. It returned the Scriptures into the hands of the lay person, igniting a movement of God that swept the globe. To this day in Europe, when you see a statue of Martin Luther, you often see a swan engraved at the base of the statue.

Could it happen again? A movement of God among the youth of Eastern Europe...that impacts the world...

In many ways God is doing just that.



Char and I just returned from board meetings in Czech with our partnering ministry...Josiah Venture. We spent several hours consulting with young leaders from Romania, Czech, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, and Poland. We heard stories of how God is working. In Romania a passionate coalition of young leaders, is seeking to bring a fresh revival among the legalistic and ingrown Romanian churches. In Czech, we met with a gifted producer who will be developing "Exit 3:16", a seventeen week television show designed for teenagers to be aired on the Czech television. In Poland we gathered around a former Communist youth camp and prayed that God would make it available for the training of youth leaders throughout Poland.

So much is happening, I can't describe it all in one prayer letter. In less than 12 years, Josiah Venture now has over 140 gifted young staff. And the exciting part is that more than 50% of them are now indigenous leaders that have been raised up to reach their own countries. Together we estimated, that in these few years they are now ministering to over 10,000 youth every week.

A movement of God among the youth of Eastern Europe...it happened before and swept around the world. It could happen again!



Praise and Prayer requests:

1. This weekend I fly to Washington D.C. to meet with some missionary leaders working around the globe. Through a series of supernatural connections, they have asked me to be involved in helping train their missionaries in the Son's Life.
2. I go from there to Dallas, Texas to help give input in the rewrite of Sonlife's youth training. Pray for Chris Folmsbee as he leads this field test.
3. The next week I head to Australia where I will be speaking to the staff of Campus Crusade Australia. **I'd really appreciate your prayers the week of October 17-21!** I will be speaking five times and leading two workshops. Pray that God would empower my messages and help me to speak with passion and clarity. I will also be meeting with several leaders of Campus Crusade in South East Asia. We will be talking about the role of GYI in partnership with the ministries of Campus Crusade. A very important time and I'd appreciate your prayers.
4. **Praise...**Not only has God provided a \$25,000 matching gift for our GYI meetings in Malaysia...but we have also received over \$12,000 of that match. My heart is overwhelmed with gratitude!

On the Lighter Side

A pirate walked into a bar and the bartender said, "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible."

"What do you mean?" said the pirate, "I feel fine."

"What about the wooden leg? You didn't have that before."

"Well, we were in a battle and I got hit with a cannonball, but I'm fine now."

"Well, okay, but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?"

"We were in another battle. I boarded a ship and got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off, I got fitted with a hook. I'm fine, really."

"What about that eye patch?"

"Oh, one day we were at sea and a flock of birds flew over, I looked up and one of them pooped in my eye."

"You're kidding," said the bartender, "You couldn't lose an eye just from that!"

"It was my first day with the hook."

With all the new technology regarding fertility, a 65-year-old woman was able to give birth to a baby recently.

When she was discharged from the hospital and went home, her relatives came to visit. "May we see the new baby?" one asked.

"Not yet," said the mother. "I'll make coffee and we can visit for awhile first."

Thirty minutes had passed, and another relative asked, "May we see the new baby now?"

"No, not yet," said the mother.

After another few minutes had elapsed, they asked again, "May we see the baby now?"

"No, not yet," replied the mother sternly.

Growing very impatient, they asked, "Well, when CAN we see the baby?"

"WHEN HE CRIES!" she told them.

"WHEN HE CRIES??" they demanded. "Why do we have to wait until he CRIES??"

"BECAUSE...I forgot where I put him!"

John was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place.

Looking up toward heaven, he said, "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up beer."

Just then a parking place miraculously appeared!

John looked up again and said, "Never mind. I found one!"



*Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to:
Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317*

