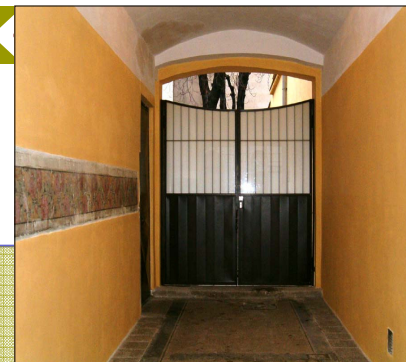


SERVANT LEADERS

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Launching Cesta Tam

by Jarda Tusek

One of the key activities of ILI for 2009 is to assist young adults in achieving their God-given goals, dreams and purposes. Now how might that be done?

We know that we must “do the works of Him that sent us, while it is day” (John 9:4). Clearly, there is an urgency to our task. However, anxious as we are to complete the vision that God has called us to carry out, I am convinced that we should not rush.

Getting the Lay of the Land

As in a military campaign, the first task before any action is to get to know “the lay of the land.” Although I was born in Prague and lived there the first 27 years of my life, and Sara and I have been visiting Prague regularly since 1990, we can’t assume that we know what lies under the surface of what we observe.

Our first months in Prague (summer of 2010)

should be used, then, to set priorities while learning more about the place and time in which we will serve.

We pray that by fall of 2010, we’ll have met with and exchanged views with other Christian leaders, renewing our rela-

tionships with those leaders we’ve been in touch with over the years and meeting new men and women of Christ.

From these meetings and discussions, we hope to gain a better understanding of the strengths and weaknesses we are bringing with us, as well as the support systems we can join. We hope to acquire a fuller grasp of what it means to move from our long-time base in the United States to operate the Institute overseas. We expect that the adjustment will not be completely smooth and trouble-free!

When we have found our stride, the time will be right to re-emerge from our self-imposed obscurity and declare in public what the programs, services and strategies for our work will be.



Prague rooftops.

Photo courtesy Luis Blanco

Our Agenda

At this time we believe that our agenda should center on, but not be limited to, International Leadership Institute programs in conversational English, career development seminars, and leadership development courses, Travel-and-Learn programs in the United States and ILI publishing activities.

We feel sure that our main focus will be on offering these programs to young adults, though, of course, we will not exclude those of other ages who genuinely seek help. We intend to be sensitive to the special needs and problems of everyone who comes our way, in order to be as inclusive as Jesus was in His ministry. *To p. 2*

International Leadership Institute
Providing Leadership Development Services and Programs in the US and Europe since 1985



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As we continue to lay our plans for our move to Prague, we know that we need to be aware that we are not “the only game in town” when it comes to ministering to the Czechs. Dozens of dedicated Christ-followers have been working in the Czech Republic for many years, and have already established strong churches and ministries, many of them Czech-founded and Czech-led. We have no illusions that we’ll be an instant sensation. And that is not our goal.

In order to gain a reputation in a new place for honesty and integrity, we will need to link our words to action. We hope to speak to the aspirations and deepest dreams of the people around us; we don’t seek to raise hostility, but if we do, we hope to dispel it with kindness.

Three Things We Will Do in Prague!

In our book *Three Things You Can’t Do in Prague*, our alter-egos Knut and Gudrun Peterson are discussing their Prague mission. Knut remarks,

“Gudrun, we could never have imagined what the Lord would

do with our little lives. He is truly awesome. He loves His creation with an eternal and boundless love, and has made every sacrifice—even that of giving His Son—to show people how to live with purpose, meaning and joy. How blessed we are to be able to demonstrate His living love to the people of the Czech Republic.”

Gudrun replies, “Yes, Knut, I was just thinking of the famous verse, *For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life* (John 3:16).

“Or to quote Eugene Peterson in *The Message*, that new version of the Bible that’s so readily understandable: *This is how much God loved the world: He gave His Son, His one and only Son.*

And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in Him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.”

“All that we have accomplished can be summed up in that verse,” adds Knut. “In every way that seems practical, we have been trying to get out that simple message. God loves the humans He created and has provided the solution to the problem of separation between humans and their God.

“This is the essence of the Gospel of Jesus, that the love we all long for in our innermost heart is already present, surpassing our longing,” says Knut. He concludes, “That solution is found in Jesus Christ. Surrendering your will, your intellect and your emotions to Jesus will bring you into close relationship with your Creator. Continual surrender to Jesus is what the life of a Christ-follower is all about.”

Along with Knut and Gudrun, we pray that we can persuade and inspire the people we meet in the Czech Republic to accept God’s love, grace and mercy, so that they can see themselves as God sees them, as *men and women after God’s own heart, forgiven, and fully accepted by God* (Acts 13:22).



Jarda at our new favorite Florida destination: the Albin Polasek Home and Gardens in Winter Park, near Orlando.