

PRAYER LETTER – February 2018

Firstly, we are sending warmest greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus: grace and peace be with you.

It's night time when I'm writing this. It's almost -20C degrees. They say it's warmer on the South Pole than it is here today. Although everything is frozen outside, there is warmth in my heart as I have Christ who starts a fire in me that makes me ready for the work to be done. As the psalmist says, He "trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle" – our life is a spiritual battle indeed.

Though it's winter here and not much can be done outside, that time has been special for a few reasons:

1. I have completed a series of sermons about prayer. The last one of the series was particularly relevant as I spoke about common prayer, the importance to be ready to stand up, especially us men, and pray (1Peter3:7; 1Tim2:8). I also think it's important to be like-minded when we approach the Lord – it's better to meet up as a small group that is like-minded than a large one of 300 or 400 people, but not being of the same mind-set. When a church remains one in Christ, they can experience God's blessing and the fulfilment of His promises in a special way. It's good to pray together and seek to be one in Him.
2. Two weeks ago, we had another session of the 3-year long course when, over the course of 6 hours, I was able to speak about the foundations of the Church (Acts2:42-47) and the signs of a healthy church. In the evening, I spent time with one of the students who felt called to planting a church. Please pray for Rafal and the conversation he's planning to have with his church's pastor and elders.
3. My wife is involved in Sunday school activities for pre-school children. She constantly makes things that will aid the Bible stories she teaches to the little ones. Kamilla needs our prayers at this time as there have been some changes in the coordinating group of women, where the oldest one, who used to lead the Sunday school teaching, has recently retired (see the picture in which, on behalf of all the women in our church, Kamilla is thanking her for her hard work over the years). Now, Kamilla is in the process of forming a new ladies' group and explaining the aims and direction for the women's work in our church. It's a time of much prayer and many conversations. We also pray for Magda, who has just joined the women's group. She is married to one of our elders, who was elected by our church last year.
4. Denis and Jadzia are doing well as youth leaders. Recently, three new girls have joined the group. The next topic Denis will be speaking to the youth about is "brotherly love" – how we should treat one another. He's also been getting ready for a youth men's retreat in the mountains, planned for spring.
5. Please pray for Wieslaw (see: the picture). When Jacek went to be with the Lord, Wieslaw took over leading the Bible study group in Tychy. I support him regularly too. Wieslaw's wife had to undergo an operation that made it

impossible for them to have children. It's been very difficult for Wieslaw as they really wanted to start a family. What is more, he has a highly responsible day job as an engineer who supervises and maintains all electronic equipment in a power house. All his responsibilities and worries make it difficult for him to find the time to prepare his teaching. Please, remember him in your prayers.

6. Lately, I have asked you to pray for the possibility to have another Bible exhibition in a different town. Unfortunately, the director of the Bielsko Castle (a 1.5mln people city South of Pszczyna) did not give permission to let us set up the exhibition in his castle.

As soon as I thought all the doors were closed, we heard from a director of a nearby civic culture centre who seemed very interested when he heard about our plans for the exhibition. He told us he had decided to host a Bible reading event in his centre at a later date than we had in mind for our exhibition. He said the idea was to invite famous people from the area to read the Bible out loud which should encourage the citizens to read it at home. He felt his idea was missing something and when he heard about our plans, he knew that was it. He was very enthusiastic and offered us to use his hall for free. It's amazing how God found a new place to exhibit His word to the people.

I am so grateful to have a God like that. Once, Keith Green sang that when God closes a door, He remembers to open a window. It's true – God has opened the door to a man's heart who not only has an exhibition hall in a convenient location, but also respects the Bible and appears to be seeking God. Isn't God's leadership wonderful? Although we are postponing our Bible exhibition 6 months, we are gaining a supporter of our evangelistic events.

That is why there is fire in our hearts despite the low temperatures outside - God's answers to our prayers cause it.

The Bible says, "Then the Lord my God will come, and all the holy ones with him. On that day there will be neither sunlight nor cold, frosty darkness" (Zach 14:5-6). This is what we await. Until then, we send you warmest greetings from cold Poland, thanking you for all your support and prayers. They are very precious to us.

May the Lord bless you,

Tomasz and Kamilla