

## Leaders that last

Did you know that according to some latest research about 75 percent of church leaders go through periods of stress so great that they consider quitting ministry? One of the major reasons for that is spiritual burnout, loneliness and lack of support. Paradoxically most people in full-time ministry do not have close personal friendships and therefore become dangerously vulnerable. That's why ministering to those who are in ministry by providing a space to build significant and safe relationships is so important. It really moves our hearts that "people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble" (Eccl 4:10).

Since our last prayer update in March we were able to be there for other church leaders during different seasons, good and bad, both on individual and group level as we ministered to each other and rediscovered afresh the truth that we surely need the love and grace of God to sustain us in the ministry, but we also need one another if we are to finish strong.

## Nehemiah conference in India

Thank you so much for your prayers for the trip to India. It was an amazing time of ministry. The conference took place in Varanasi which is one of the biggest centres for Hindu festivals in the world. What looks so exotic and beautiful from outside and attracts many Western tourists is in fact spiritually very dark. When we were there it

was a time of Hindu festival when many offerings to different gods were sacrificed you could clearly sense the presence of the evil one there. It was quite shocking at times.





But at the same time when the festivities took place by the Ganges river we had a conference for pastors and their wives from that region. Most of them experience different forms of persecution, often risk their lives almost everyday and yet they stay faithful by living in the light of the gospel story. It was truly humbling to hear their stories, to pray with them and worship God together. I also taught at the Bible School in Trichy for a week, met with many leaders, church planters and students training for ministry. In summary it was another spiritual eye opener which yet again transformed my heart and helped me to reflect on what is really important in life.



## Movement of God's leaders

We continue moving forward with our vision of strengthening evangelical leadership throughout Poland and are amazed to see how many different places and groups of leaders we worked with over the last few months:

**Christian Coaching Conference (Warsaw)** We partnered with Proca Foundation and took part in the Christian Coaching conference where we presented our concept of leadership coaching. We are also working together on a post-graduate certificate programme in Christian Mentoring and Coaching which is due to start in October 2013 – it will be the first Christian coaching programme available in Poland and we are very excited to be part of it! Our vision is also to organize together with others a National Leadership Summit which would become a platform to have an impact on both pastoral and marketplace leaders (possibly in 2014).



**Life with passion** – is a workshop we developed in response to the needs presented by the pastors and we were able to do it both with church leaders and to students at the national University in Zielona Gora and we did follow up workshop with the whole church as the pastor wants to equip his community with some coaching tools;

**CEL Coaching training for mentors and the conference** – We are deeply involved in CEL and trained all the mentors involved in the programme which pairs experienced leaders with younger generation leaders – as a result of these relationships we are now invited to do “Coaching Questions” workshop with several churches in the Fall 2013

**Evangelism and discipleship workshops for church leaders** – some churches and Christian organizations find it hard to do evangelism in contemporary culture. We developed a workshop that addresses this very issue and provides some practical tools which equip leaders with practical coaching tools on how to engage people in transformational conversations. We did this workshop twice already in Glogow and Wroclaw.



**Calling Discovery workshops** This is a very practical workshop developed by Tony Stoltzfus that invites people to discover their unique life messages, tasks and impact God is calling them to. Recently we were invited to do it by one of the pastoral couples we are working with in Gdynia and we had over 70 participants in the room – the biggest workshop so far...It was a great time of ministry!





*In the Fall we are scheduled to do these workshops in Warsaw, Tarnow and Gdansk.*

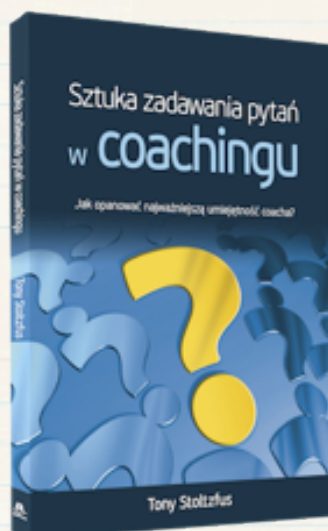
**Individual coaching** – we also continue to meet leaders and couples for personal coaching which allows us to minister to them on a deeper level and address various issues in their lives and ministry. As a result of our coaching workshops we are also doing coaching with some Christian marketplace leaders which is also a great blessing to us.



**SLOT Art Festival** - the largest Christian outreach festival in our part of the world (it attracts over 5000 people) and we were asked to head the team of volunteers responsible for evangelistic outreach and pastoral care at the festival. We will do daily coaching and leadership workshops for them and look after this team in general. Please pray for us, our team and the whole festival which starts on July 9 and lasts till July 14. You can read more about the festival at [www.slot.org.pl](http://www.slot.org.pl)



**“Coaching Questions” success** - we received a note from the publisher for “Coaching Questions” that Tony’s book which as you remember we published thanks to the grant last year was nominated by National Association of Business Trainers as one of the five best Polish business books in 2012. They wanted to discuss a second printing. It truly served as a catalyst to launch a ministry that is built around the idea of using coaching as a tool to assist pastor’s and Christian marketplace leaders to be great at what they are already good at.



Please pray...

- For all the leaders and cities we are working with right now and particularly Warsaw, Glogow, and Dzierzoniow which we will be visiting in the near future;
- For all other individual meetings we have with leaders as we develop authentic relationships with them intended to encourage and empower them in fulfilling God's calling in their lives;
- For Calling discovery workshops in Warsaw, Tarnow and Szczecin in the Fall 2013;
- For the CEL mentors that we work with;
- For Slot Art Festival and the whole team;
- For the P2P group meetings – especially for all the leaders;
- For the pastors and their ministry in India
- For our family, to grow stronger in the Lord and stay focused on God's priorities.

Please continue praying for Agnieszka's brother Martin who had a brain stroke and is going through a rehabilitation now and also for her 19 years old sister Barbara who just had a baby boy Filip.

We praise God for His faithfulness and provision in our lives. You are a great blessing to us!

**Yours in Christ,**

**Wojtek and Agnieszka Kowalewski**  
**Pastors2Pastors**  
**A Coaching Ministry - Leadership Excellence**

**Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labor. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble”**  
**Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**