

INTRO

- Have you ever been to Europe? If so, what did you most enjoy. If not, would you like to go there someday? Why?

This past Sunday we had a special guest Pavlo Lozynsky from Lviv, Ukraine share his “follow the call” story which resulted in his returning from Canada to his homeland. His church and ministry are now actively helping victims of war with practical needs and sharing the good news of the Gospel.

Pavlo shared that there was a time where his faith was nominal, but when he saw young people coming to Christ and living fully for Him, it made him reconsider his own faith.

Qu: Who did you observe in your spiritual journey whose life impacted you in such a way that it made you look closer into what it meant to be a true follower of Jesus?

READ & REFLECT

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9

After moving to Canada with his family at age 19, having to leave all his friends behind, and not knowing any English, Pavlo was depressed and even mad at God. “Why would God put me in this horrible situation?”

Qu: Describe a time when life was hard to the point where it made you question the goodness or existence of God altogether. Perhaps you are in that place right now?

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Matthew 16:25

After getting settled in Canada, Pavlo still had a desire to go back to the Ukraine. He came to the point where he realised that even though his intentions were good, he needed to lay that desire down before God. He came to the point where he was willing to spend the rest of his life in Canada. Shortly thereafter, God opened the door in a miraculous way and in just a few months found himself back in Ukraine as a missionary!

Qu: Can you describe a time where you needed to lay something important to you down before God? Explain.

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

With the Russian invasion, everything changed. His church had various ministry plans laid out but as Pavlo stated, “in a moment all our plans became irrelevant.” It was as if we were building a puzzle and someone just scattered all the pieces. What he later realised is that God was the one in control – building the puzzle from His vantage point. The church began to help refugees and preach the gospel in new ways. One man who became a Christian said that the war was used by God to lead him to Jesus.

RESPOND

Pavlo felt that the connection with Every Nation GTA could be one of those puzzle pieces that God has orchestrated. Perhaps we as a church can be involved in the rebuilding efforts after the war.

PRAY

- Pray for Pavlo and his family as they head back to Ukraine
- Pray for one another