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## What did the mission trip to Estonia mean to me?

## Martin Šindelář (23), Prague

I would like to write about a mission outreach and what had happened before. I have always thought there were a lot of calls on my life. Missions was not attractive to me, and I thought it was definitely not for me. But I was praying last autumn, and I started to think that I would like to try something like that. Maruška called me soon thereafter and said she felt she should ask me to join the misson outreach to Estonia. I didn't hesitate at all and immediately decided to go. I believe that it was God's will – that it was His leading.

Just after coming to Estonia I was excited. I like going to new places and Estonia is beautiful. I'd like to mention three things which touched me during the ministry.

The first is "Treasure Hunting." I was together with Pavel Neústupný and an Estonian sister in a group. I didn´t expect any great things because I had never found any "treasure" in the past. Finally I had written on my paper:

• a young boy with a cap • a bench • an orange colour • sports injuries • a name (which I don't remember now).

Just after we set off to look for the "treasure," we noticed that we were passing a skatepark. There was an orange colour on its side. We went into it, and a young boy was sitting on the bench under the ramp. He was wearing a t-sirt with a printed orange baseball cap in it. We talked to him. He had some injuries, and we could pray for him. It was a great encouragement for me because we had found all hints except the name.

Then we continued in our journey in the town. We were looking for other treasures. Finally we came to a half-dried up river. On the other side of the river we saw a little group of children. We decided to give them invitation cards for our program. I took off my shoes and set off to the river to wade across it. Suddenly I went down into the river, and there was a mud more than above my knees! Pavel was excited and took pictures. I washed myself off in the river, and we agreed that real missions is followed by joyfull experiences like this one.

Another encouraging situation for me happened the last night after our program. We had a delicious dinner with worship and prayers in the small groups. During the evening I remembered that God sometimes sends me with a prophetic word for someone. There was a great desire in my heart to serve to somebody. I prayed and got a word for an Estonian sister. So, I asked Jana from our team to go with me and to interpret. I told the word to the sister. I believe it was really from God, and it encouraged her. Then, we could pray, and I was really excited.

The last experience is from our trip to the sea. We visited the Navy Museum. I believe that God led me to the owner of the museum. I gave him a DVD with the "Jesus" film. He gratefully accepted it.

In the end I can say that I met wonderful people in Estonia. There are a lot of memories in my heart. I hope to get there back one day.

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Czech version <u>here</u> Estonian version <u>here</u>