

What impact do you pray Mission School (Szkola Misyjna) will have in the lives of Polish believers?

In Poland we have some missionaries in different parts of the world, but primarily our brothers from the West support them. Only a few churches in Poland care for these missionaries. We believe that missions is the task of the church. This includes the Polish church and **involves sending people and giving financially** to support their ministry. **We would, therefore, like to stimulate and challenge Polish churches to send and support missionaries.** We hope that missions won't always be something that only a small group of enthusiasts are involved in.



Questions and Answers with Robert Boryczka

Robert and Ela Boryczka and their children – Sebastian, Patrycja, and Borys

When did you sense God challenging your own heart toward cross-cultural missions?

From the beginning of my walk with Christ, I felt a strong desire to go to Russia as a missionary. Soon after Ela and I were married, we began praying about the possibility of doing this. Four years later, in 1996, we led a team of eight Poles (along with our two older children – our youngest being born there) to Rostov on Don. About 900 miles south of Moscow and situated on the banks of the river Don, this city is home to one-and-a-half-million people. We began sharing the gospel with university students, equipping these young believers to grow in their faith and to reach others. When we were forced to leave in 2003, we left behind a group of indigenous believers committed to continue reaching their own for Christ.

While living in Rostov, I befriended a number of people. I learned that 100 or so different people groups live in Russia and that some regions have little to no exposure to Bibles, churches, or Christians. I also learned that Poles are well received in some of these areas, for, throughout the centuries, Poles fought side by side with these people and assimilated themselves among the various people groups. Recognizing how positively received Poles are, I began wondering if perhaps God was asking Polish Christians to take the lead in bringing the gospel to these people. Having prayed about this, I am convicted that God's answer is "yes."

*The US has numerous mission-sending organizations committed to equipping and sending missionaries cross culturally. **What is the mission climate like in Central and Eastern Europe?***

The end of November I was in Budapest. I went there with Michael. He attends one of the churches in Krakow and works with me at the school. We participated in a conference organized by the European Evangelical Missionary Association (EEMA). While at the conference, I noted that there weren't many people there from Central or Eastern Europe. In fact, **our school and another based in Budapest** were the **only schools organized by nationals dedicated to missions in our region.**

*Where do you see **Poles** involved in **ministry cross culturally** in the near future?*

We are currently preparing to send a team for a year or two to **Russia**. Our desire is to share the gospel and distribute Bibles in the native language of the region where the team will be. Long term we would like to help establish national churches so that the work continues. Next month we will send two teams to the **Czech Republic** to partner with Campus Crusade's Czech ministry. The mission school in **Hungary** began this past June, and they have asked us if we would be able to help them. The Polytechnic University in Krakow attracts many **international students**, and we would like to develop a ministry focused on sharing the gospel with them. A Christian teacher at the university is eager to work with us.

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