

2024 ESBC

THE WAY

We thank God for richly blessing the ESBC 2024. It took place in Prague, Czech Republic, from August 1-4, 2024, with 1084 attendants from 43 nations. The conference hotel was not far away from the airport and easy to reach by shuttle bus or public transport in 30-50 minutes. Since the conference rooms, dining rooms and bedrooms were in the same building, the atmosphere was more peaceful, and it was easier to meet other people than in previous ESBC's. We thank God that the whole conference went smoothly based on the diligent coworking of over hundred coworkers in Europe and in Prague and the huge prayer support of our coworkers in Korea, America and around the world. I am especially thankful that this time so many young people committed themselves to the preparation in many areas with a strong sense of ownership and coworking, taking the lead in many task groups. Their input in the planning and their practical contributions were so important; without them, this conference would not have been possible.

We thank God for helping all messengers to preach God's word gracefully with the power of the Holy Spirit. P. Ron Ward gave the opening message based on John 3:16. Even though Europe has a long Christian tradition, most people don't have the Biblical truth as foundation anymore and try to build their lives on their own reason. They think that there are many ways, and everyone can choose a way that suits him well. But God, in his love, sent his only Son to open the way for us to his eternal kingdom. P. Ron encouraged all participants to find the way and take a decision during this conference.

Afterwards, Sh. B*runo Au*ssant preached on Isaiah 43:1-28 with the title „A way in the wilderness “. The Israelites, who had to go in captivity in Babylon because of their sins, had no hope to return. But God promised them to make a way in the wilderness and he finally fulfilled it by sending Jesus. Europe has become like a spiritual wilderness, and many young people are hopeless and despaired. B*runo proclaimed there is hope in God and encouraged all participants to accept Jesus, the way, during the conference.

On Friday, the whole morning was dedicated to Bible study and fellowship in groups so that the members could get to know each other and speak personally. In the afternoon, workshops were offered with themes related to the conference theme or to current needs of the participants. In the evening E*berhard Gr*oss gave the message on John 14:1-14 with the title "Jesus is the way." He clearly testified that the Father's house is our true home and eternal destination, and that Jesus is the only way to it.

On Saturday morning J*acob P*atriuk spoke on Luke 23:26-49 with the title „Father, forgive them!“ He proclaimed Jesus who prayed and died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins and became the new and living way to the Father for all who accept him.

On Saturday evening D*avid S*hin preached on Acts 9:1-31 entitled „His Chosen Instrument.“ Paul's drastic change from an enemy of Christ to His chosen instrument is an example how Jesus is the way, which gives big hope for all young people in Europe.

On Sunday P*aul from London preached on Philippians 3:1-14 with the title "I want to know Christ". He proclaimed the drastic change of Paul's mindset and encouraged us to pursue the way by striving to know Christ more, his suffering and his resurrection power, and become like him in view of our eternal fellowship with him.

P. N*ehemia Kim gave the closing message based on 2 Timothy 4:2 "Preach the Word". He encouraged all coworkers to preach the word to young people through 1:1 Bible study and pray for them and raise many leaders so that God may bring a spiritual revival to Europe and make it a Christian continent and send missionaries from Europe again.

In the evenings we heard total eight life testimonies, six from young people and two from senior coworkers. All life testimonies were very honest, graceful and heart-moving and were living examples how became the way for each of them personally.

After the life testimonies on Saturday evening, there was a video about the ministry in Europe because of the 55th anniversary of UBF mission. Three nurse missionaries were sent out from Korea to Germany in 1969 and six followed two years later with very little training. But God blessed their faith in God and their love to Jesus and the lost souls in Germany and built ministries in 25 countries and raised many native coworkers.

The worship team chose very suitable songs for each message and sang them Spirit-filled and helped us to come to God and praise him. Their contribution was significant. Five choirs, a trio, orchestra plays, worship dances, and the musical „Paul, The Apostle“ gave glory to God and supported the spiritual atmosphere. The teenagers (JBF), who had their own Bible study groups, contributed a big choir. The children, who had their own conference in parallel, contributed a lively worship dance on the stage in the last night.

At the end of the program on Saturday night, there was a prayer time of thirty minutes. Those, who had taken a decision for Jesus, were invited to come to the front. Around 60 young people came and received prayer support. It was a mighty work of the Holy Spirit.

We thank and praise God for blessing the ESBC 2024 beyond our expectations. We thank God that Jesus was clearly revealed as the only way to the Father and his eternal house. May God help all participants to pursue the way and grow in his likeness. May God help especially the young people to grow as spiritual leaders and lead many to the Way!

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