

Cornerstone University Chorale
A Story from the Europe 2013 Tour
By Brad Baker, missionary in Budapest, Hungary



"Exceeding abundantly more than I asked or imagined" (Ephesians 3:20) sums up my thoughts of the Cornerstone University Chorale tour in Hungary. We had heard that the choir was good and we knew their tour goal was ministry, but none of us was prepared for the power of the Chorale's presentation. People here were blown away by the precision and professionalism of the choir. Many explicitly said they have never heard anything quite so good. One teacher said, "We need to invite Dr. Walters back to Hungary to train our music teachers!"

The "language barrier" proved to be an advantage rather than a barrier. Before each song Dr. Walters, through a translator, described each song's content, so the gospel was being clearly presented in word before being presented in song. The young men and women of the choir were a "breath of fresh air," to quote one Hungarian.

My prayer for the choir on the evening of their arrival was that they would "shine," that they would reflect God and His endless love to the people in all the countries they visit. And shine they did! Speaking of the choir, one pastor said: "We all know we are in need of God's angels, but very rarely do we mortals get to see them. Tonight we heard them and were among them."



After the concert in Székesfehérvár, people cried tears of joy and thanked the choir repeatedly for coming. One person was visibly touched when he told a choir member that something was going on inside of him that he couldn't explain. He was so "taken" by the choir and its message that he invited his family to the concert the next night in Budapest-Csepel and they came! At that concert, an older man was overheard saying as he left the concert: "This was much more than simply art." A few minutes later, the pastor pulled me aside and said: "Do you know what we experienced tonight, Brad? I'll tell you. Jesus calls His disciples to

come be with Him, to fellowship with Him. That happened tonight. Somehow, some way Jesus came and visited with us as the Chorale sang. We communed with Jesus for the past hour and a half! This was amazing!"

It was, indeed, amazing. Exceeding abundantly beyond all that I had asked or imagined!