

Kosova Trip March 2010

Again we prepared and prayed for many weeks before our visit to Kosova. A while ago my friend and “partner in crime” Ray and I had talked about taking a few friends with us when we go to Kosova again. So despite the threat of British Airways and our flights being cancelled here we were at Gatwick airport on 15th March. We had been in Kosova in November last year and had wondered if we could get someone to come with us who could do some solid and yet simple Bible teaching for our friends and the local church there. I thought to ask my good friend Phil from church who was a pastor/preacher for many years and has a vast wealth of pastoral experience. Now here he was with us ready to go. He would be leading a one day long Bible teaching seminar and preach wherever we visited. Also our good friend Richard, a retired bank manager and accountant for a Christian charity with a love for the helpless came along too. My other great friend Steve, an ex BBC cameraman and our Language Recordings UK web site guy made up the LRUUK team. We met Ray and another Richard and they made up our complete team. We got to meet and introduce ourselves to each other over breakfast at Gatwick. After a great flight we met up with Geert a trainee recordist from our Dutch office. He was coming along primarily to see the recording process in the field situation. We were met by Pastor Faton and as we had loads of suitcases full of things to give away we needed two vehicles to get us to the town where we were to stay. It was wonderful to be in Kosova again.



We never had an agenda apart from wanting to record in 2 languages and distribute some materials and gifts while we were there. The rest was whatever The Lord opened up for us. After a very cold first night, the sun shone the rest of the week.

The next day a widows/ladies day was planned and we were included in the program. We collected/taxied the ladies from local villages and they were excited to get a day out of the routine of village life. A short Bible sketch was presented by the youth, on Mary and Martha with the message being spending time with God and looking to Him alone. Then a lovely lunch was provided followed with Kosovan dancing and lots of games. Everyone enjoyed the day and we could see them all relaxing as the day progressed. With much bereavement from the war in 1999, many have so many needs and we were able to hand out aid which included kiddies shoes, toys and clothes which we had brought. Also especially pleasing for me was to give everyone 5 Gospel DVDs & CDs in their own language. These were the most recent recordings we had made on our last visit. This meant that these Muslim ladies were taking the “Good News” back to their families and villages after a great day out.





On Wednesday another load of people came to the church where we would have the Bible teaching seminar. Pastors brought members of their churches from far and wide and even from across the border in Albania. Phil preached and Pastor Faton translated with a break for lunch and on into the afternoon. This was the first time this had been done and all the listeners were so hungry to hear Gods word preached and taught in a simple but powerful way. The rest of our team also gave testimony about Gods goodness and we finished in praise and prayer. We are making plans for more of these sessions in the future. At the end we gave everyone our DVDs, flip charts, picture books and CDs to take back to their families, churches and friends. These would further their Bible knowledge and help with evangelism through the local churches.

That evening we were invited to speak on a local Christian radio and were able to share why we were there and about our faith in Jesus. This was a great privilege and nerve wrecking for us. Later that evening Geert, my Dutch colleague and I began to record with our language helper Itzet in Kosovan Albanian. We worked until about midnight and then my friend said he would like to check more scripts and record them in the morning. He worked into the early hours and we began to record again at 7 am the next morning. We finished around 11am much to our delight. We then headed off to our next planned recording project about 40 kms away where we were to meet our Goran



language helper and friend Mukim. He arrived at the bus station about 10 minutes before we arrived. Within half an hour we were recording in his language.

He and his family are the only Christians we know of in his people group. There are Goran speakers in 28 villages on the border of Macedonia, Kosova and Albania and many around the world. We then taxied Mukim to his home place and had time to visit our friends and children at a local primary school. We drank coffee and enjoyed chatting with them again. We played table tennis with the teachers and they enjoyed seeing new faces. This job is really hard eh! We had taken some new bats and balls for them. Sadly we parted company with Mukim but will see him again in June when we return to record the “Good News” script. He had almost completed the translation but still has some work to do on it. The two Muslim lady teachers who had worked on this script translating it from Albanian to Goran commented, “We would like to know more about this Jesus who we are reading about in these readings; we have never heard of these things before”. We didn’t get to meet these ladies as they were working, but Mukim will introduce them to us next time we visit. Praise the Lord.



Next day we visited the Romany camps and gave out lots of aid for the families there. Many we remember from our last times there and they have so many needs. The children loved to



see us especially as we were giving out lollies and sweets to them. We distributed the 40 kilos of shoes donated by our local school kids in High Wycombe in the UK and lots of other gifts of clothing especially to the families with young babies and children. We also gave out spectacles, vegetable seeds and many other items. Some friends from my church had given me cash to use however we felt,

and so this was my thrill to bless these lovely people with this money.

We enjoyed visiting a disabled/blind centre, a local library, youth groups, prayer groups and we were kept busy the whole time which was why we were there. Ray had brought the local library a video projector and the lady there was a Christian. We asked could we leave some of our CDs and DVDs and flip charts. She was delighted to accept and would make sure they would be well used. Next time I will take plenty with me to “re-stock” her library. It’s amazing how the Lord opens up these wonderful opportunities. His agenda always works.



On Saturday we crossed the border into Albania to visit a new church planted by Faton and his team a few years ago. They go there every Saturday. We were delighted to see so many young teens and younger kids meeting in that place. They meet in a house in a block of flats and are so hungry to learn more about the Living God and to Praise Him. We were sad to leave them in this region with so much hopelessness and poverty in Northern Albania. We hope to go again next time in June.

On Sunday Phil preached and we enjoyed the service and we felt right at home. The rest of our time was spent visiting and distributing food parcels, aid and small gifts of money to the poorer families. Francis of Assisi said, “Preach the Gospel, use words if necessary”. This is what we do when we go to Kosova.



The BA strike kicked in the day we were due to return to London, “but our God works everything together for good for those who love Him”...we got to spend 2 more days with the people we love in Kosova. We Praise The Lord for this wonderful 10 days together and I would like to thank Ray, Pastor Faton and his wife Lena and all our team for being such a blessing to each other and to the people we met.



1John 3: 17-18 says. *“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth”.*

If you’d like to know more about our trip you can visit our web site at... www.languagerecordingsuk.co.uk to see lots of photos and some video clips. Thank you to

all our friends and prayer partners around the world who prayed for this trip. I want to tell you **Prayer Works** and we give ALL the glory to God. To all those who gave, supported and encouraged God Bless you and thank you so much.

Kenny McKee

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