



sister church partnership

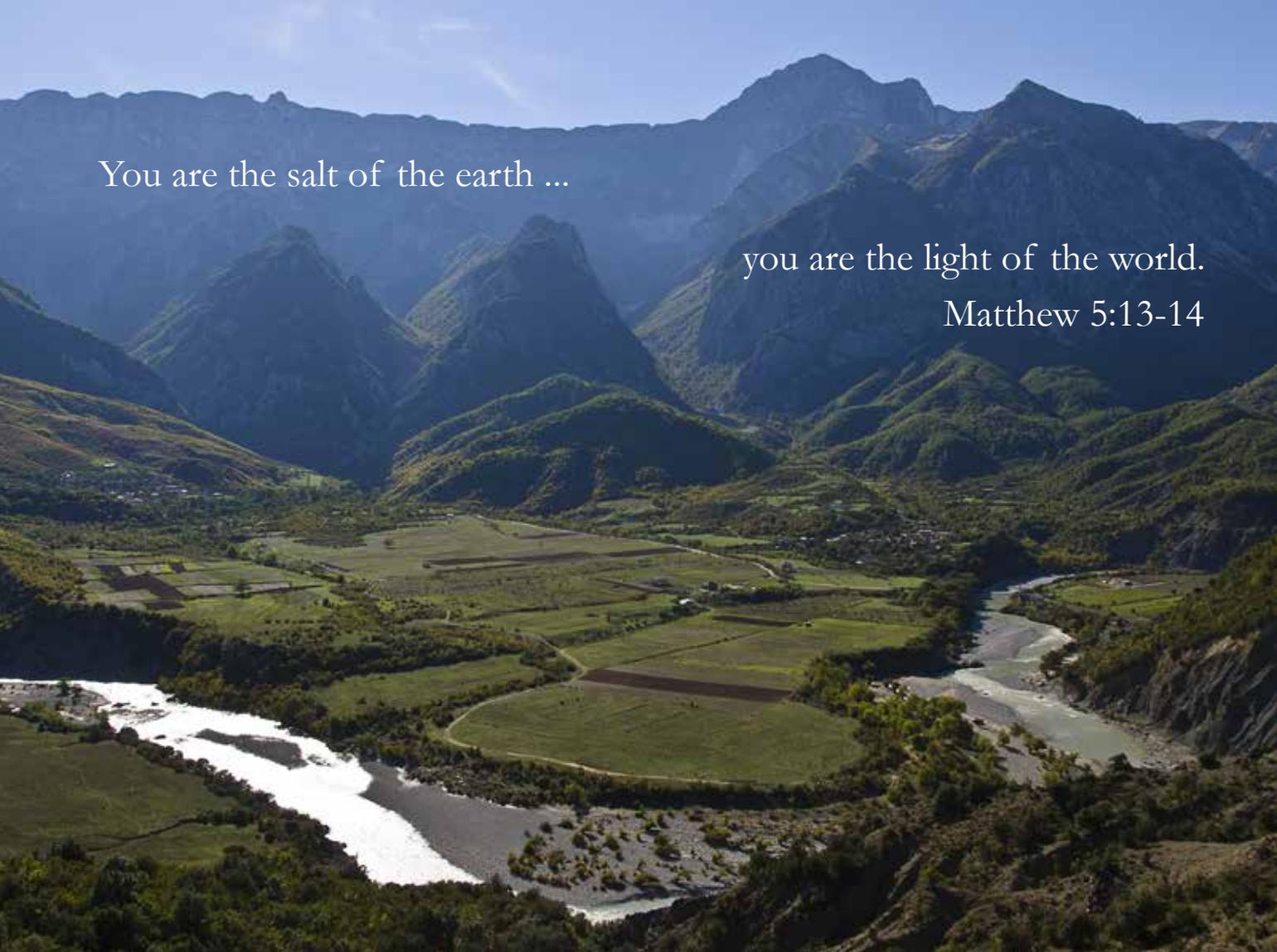
vision

CALVARY  CHURCH

Santa Ana, California

THE WAY OF PEACE CHURCH

Lushnje, Albania

A high-angle, panoramic view of a lush mountain valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a green landscape, with a large, circular field in the center. The middle ground shows rolling green hills and fields, some with small structures. The background is dominated by jagged, forested mountain peaks under a clear blue sky. The overall scene is bright and vibrant, with a mix of green, brown, and blue tones.

You are the salt of the earth ...

you are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:13-14

# CALVARY church

and its heart for Missions

From its beginnings in 1931 Calvary Church has been passionate about starting churches and taking the gospel to those who haven't heard.

In Calvary Reach Global Missions Policy it states:

*Calvary Church desires to take the Gospel Message to those who have not heard, encourage those believers who are persecuted, equip those of the body who do not have the resources and opportunities that we possess.*

Our mission has always been to mobilize God's people and engage the unreached in order to establish reproducing churches.

Calvary's goals are:

*To have the Bible in the language of every people group*

*To have a missionary go to every unreached/unengaged people group*

*To plant a church in every least reached village around the world*



*Reaching the unreached has always been at the very heart of Calvary Church.*



# Albania

## and its need for Christ

In 1967 Albania became the first declared Atheist country in history.

Its constitution stated in Article 37, *“The state recognizes no religion, and supports atheistic propaganda in order to implant a scientific materialistic worldview in people”*.

In 1990 Albanian communism fell, and with it freedom of religion returned, but the effects of its past are still felt.

Today, religion plays a role in only 39%\* of the lives of all Albanians, with more than half of those adhering to Islam.

Albania is currently being strategically targeted by Islam. Calls of worship to Allah ring out five times a day from large towers in every village in Albania.

We want to change this by sending Albanian missionaries, pastors and leaders to reach these villages for Christ.

*\*According to a 2011 census*

# Calvary & The Way of Peace Church

Since 2001, Calvary has been involved in Albania. Our first contact was through Vladimir Devishi, a linguist who came to Christ through a missionary living in Albania. Vladimir's life change set him on a new course, translating the New Testament into a Muslim friendly Albanian, which Calvary helped print and distribute.

Through Vladimir, we made several short term trips to Albania including a team of High School Students led by Chuck Ball, and Calvary staff Matt & Marie Doan and Victor & Kim Estrada.

Their team served with Vladimir's contact and friend, Pastor Berti Dosti, along with children and parents from The Way of Peace Church in Lushnje, Albania.

During the 20th Anniversary of The Way of Peace Church celebration in August 2013, Pastor David Mitchell, Liz Gold, Harold Stephens, and Chuck Ball met with Pastor Berti, and the seeds of a new sister church partnership began.



High School Short Term Team, 2004



20th Anniversary Team, 2013



# PARTNERING

## TO REACH ALBANIA

After months of prayer and multiple discussions with the Calvary Church Reach Global Missions Team and Elder Board, the spark that began that night in Pastor Berti's home became the vision for Calvary Church to begin a sister church partnership with The Way of Peace Church. A vision to plant churches in Albania.

God's plan, for the growth of His children and His Kingdom, is the church.

The Way of Peace Church (WPC) began 20 years ago. It is now a growing church that reaches out to its community and surrounding areas with its great servant's heart.

Pastor Berti desires its leadership to grow deeper spiritually and has asked Calvary to help that happen in a Sister Church partnership through:

- *Leadership Development and Training*
- *Church Planting Resources*
- *A Variety of Short Term Teams*
- *Community Development*

# why Albania?

Eastern Europe is at a spiritual crossroads. Will it become a region dedicated to Islam like Northern Africa and the Middle East? Will it return to its atheistic ideals of a generation ago? Or will Eastern Europe embrace the Good News of Jesus and see life, community and a national transformation?

We believe Albania, a modest country with humble people, is ready to embrace the Gospel. Now is the time to partner with our Albanian brothers and sisters in Christ and see pastors trained, leaders developed, churches planted and the Gospel transform lives.

Let's join together to see Albania and our world reached for Jesus Christ!

*“Tani atij që, sipas fuqisë që vepron në ne, mund të bëjë jashtë mase më tepër nga sa kërkojmë ose mendojmë, atij i qoftë lavdia në kishën në Krishtin Jezus për të gjitha brezat, në jetë të jetëve. Amen.”*

*Efesianëve 3:20-21*

*“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.”*

*Ephesians 3:20-21*





# PRAY

for our Albania Partnership

- Please pray for our Elders and other spiritual Leaders from Calvary Church who will go to Albania, and the leaders that they will invest in for God's Kingdom.
- Pray that the Albanian leaders will desire to grow through mentorship and on-line training.
- Pray for those Calvary members who will go on short term trips and be salt and light in Albania.
- Pray for a godly missions minded man of God's choosing to intern at The Way of Peace Church.
- Pray for urgency and long term commitment from Calvary Church to this vision.
- Pray that the Albanian church will powerfully impact and influence other ministries here at Calvary Church and in Orange County.
- Pray that many in Albania will come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through this partnership.

[calvarylife.org/reach](http://calvarylife.org/reach)



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