



Reaching Europe Ministries

Church planting in Macedonia



We just returned from our survey trip and learned a lot! One key discovery is that, while the country is unified geographically, there are significant cultural and religious divisions even within the same city. Specifically, there are two distinct people groups separated by language, religion, and historical background.

The majority group, comprising about two-thirds of the population, are Orthodox Christians of Macedonian descent. They speak the Macedonian language and follow traditions rooted in Orthodox Christianity. Their understanding of God, morality, and the afterlife is heavily influenced by the doctrines and practices of the Orthodox Church. This perspective is not aligned with the Biblical worldview, presenting unique challenges for sharing the gospel with them. To effectively reach this group, we need to use custom approaches, including specific tracts and Bibles in the Macedonian language.

The remaining one-third of the population belongs to different ethnic and religious backgrounds, including Albanian Muslims and other minority groups. These communities have their own languages, cultural practices, and religious beliefs, requiring different methods of evangelism and different language materials.

In essence, while the country is under one national identity, the presence of these two distinct people groups necessitates a balanced but different and culturally sensitive approach to ministry and outreach.

I made and printed tracts with a small cross on the front. As soon as a Muslim saw the cross they were not interested and politely said, "I am muslim, no thank you." This is one example how there is a lot to learn to reach these dear people. Adjusting to their views in order to reach them with the gospel, without compromising the gospel is a skill that I need prayer for. Please pray for wisdom as continue to prepare to reach them with the truth. By the way, I am thinking switching to a lamb on the cover might work, of course pointing them to the LAMB, Jesus Christ.

Jason Mann
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