



Sun setting over Krushë ë Vogël

Summer 2009

Are you going through testing times at the moment? Do you feel like you are in the fire? James writing to the first Century Christians and also to us today encourages 'consider it all pure joy' whatever we are facing! Why? ...because we know that these times are building us up and '...developing perseverance' in us. What does he really mean? Do we really have to enjoy our times of testing – our trials and tribulations? The first thing to note is that he says 'when' assuming that we will **all** have hard times, so we should be encouraged that we are not on our own and others are facing their own trials as well. We don't have to pretend we are happy... we don't have to pretend that we are enjoying our trials...who are we pretending to? When Jesus suffered for us on Good Friday, there was no pretence in His pain - no pretence in His suffering...He was honest and open and cried out to His Father. Our times of trial are also an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God. To be reminded of His presence. Someone once asked where Jesus was when they were suffering – Jesus is right there with us in the 'middle of the storm'.

“In the middle of it all there you are – You never leave.....in the middle of my cry – You answer me”

This is a song written by some friends of mine, who run a beautiful ministry 'A Place for the Heart' in North Carolina, USA - www.aplacefortheheart.org

In the News

Inevitably being away from the UK I do feel a little out of touch with the news but two stories which struck me recently was that family break-up can lead children to seek solace in alcohol and also that girls in London, including those from Muslim communities, are now at the same level as boys in underage drinking. As girls have a much lower tolerance to alcohol they are more prone to be visiting hospital as a result of overdosing.

See <http://www.drinkanddrugsnews.com/ViewNews> for further information on these and other stories.

Personal update

We have now been in Kosova for over seven months and are currently melting in the heat! We know that this is the place where we are meant to be at the moment and see this as a period of equipping. We will be visiting the UK in July/August to see family and friends and talk to individuals, churches and groups about our work before returning to Krushe e Vogel for our second term.

We are currently in the process of translating the website so that it can be easily used by people not only with English but also Albanian as their main language.

You have been sent this newsletter because you have previously expressed an interest in the ministry of The Way - Confronting Addiction, or in the personal ministry of Chris Milton. If this is not the case and you do not wish to receive this newsletter please mail us: chris@theway.uk.com and accept our apologies. The Way is not affiliated to any other groups or charities with the same name. It was established to provide support for those seeking to confront and overcome addictions. It is supported by voluntary donations from individuals.