MARIE

• Grade/Level in Bible School: 2nd year student

• Financial need: \$1,500 for tuition and books

• Marital status: divorced, 55 years old

• Family background: I was born and raised in Kosovo in a Catholic background family, but I came to know Jesus in a personal way when I was in my 20-s, married, with a young family and living with my husband's parents. I have 5 children, all of them adults now, believers and growing in the Lord. Two of them are married and so I also have three grandchildren.



- Salvation Experience: I accepted Jesus as the Savior of my life and attended a church gathering regularly in our village, converts of both Muslim and Catholic tradition. Though my husband eventually immigrated in Europe and started a new family there, I continued raising my children in faith and taking care of my in-laws for as long as I lived with them.
- Important Spiritual Experiences: This close relationship with the Lord and the fellowship with other believers became a source of strength and sanity especially in a time of war and brutalities happening all around us in the late 90-s. When everyone was panicking and leaving the land for fear of the Serb paramilitaries coming to massacre and loot, the Lord spoke to me in prayer, "Do not be afraid, do not move from your house, for I Am with you! My hand is over you to protect you and you will be safe!" I was as a young bride, pregnant, and struggling to convince my in-laws and husband to stay, a brother from church comes with a word from God confirming the message. We stayed and the Lord truly was with us, protected us in the midst of madness. My baby boy was born a few months later, healthy, a miracle as the doctor said, because many babies born to mothers who went through that kind of horror, had all kinds of problems.
- Call to ministry and ministry experiences: My children studied and are working in Germany, I went to live with them around 7 years ago and attended an International Church with mostly immigrants, a fellowship full of the Holy spirit and a heart to reach the people, especially of Muslim background. My calling and gifts are for evangelism and praying for the sick and needy. I speak about Jesus with whoever I meet on the streets, as I walk and pray with whoever allows me to pray for them. My pastor laying hands on me has prophecied that God wants to use my hands and my mouth to speak and as I study the Bible more in depth I hope to become more and more efficient in serving Him.
- **Plans for the future:** I came to Albania to study, get better at sharing my faith and make myself available to be used by God wherever He wants to use me.