

SPRING 2024

BIBLE SOCIETY  
NORTHERN IRELAND



# SHARING THE GOSPEL THROUGH SPORT IN **ALBANIA**

“ Emiljo is keen to help other young people learn about Jesus. He volunteers with the Bible Society coaching children so that they too can feel part of a community and a family of Believers in Jesus. ”



## DEAR FRIEND

Albania has been described as one of the least religious countries in the world – some might see that as a challenge, but the Bible Society in Albania see this as an opportunity.

Since the beginnings of the work of the Bible Society in Albania in 1996 they have used sports to reach out to children and young people with Bible Stories.

I'm excited to tell you about a young man called Emiljo. Emiljo is from Albania – he lives in Tirana and studies Sport Science at university. Emiljo volunteers with the Bible Society of Albania and has been a follower of Christ for several years.

Emiljo was introduced to Jesus by different church volunteers and our colleagues in the Bible Society of Albania and now he is a volunteer doing the same for other young people.





## YOUR PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TODAY WILL HELP MORE YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE EMILJO HEAR THE GOSPEL.

Emiljo grew up in an orphanage, he had a difficult start in life. He often felt alone until the Bible Society's volunteers became his extended family. Twice a week, they brought not just football training but a sense of community and belonging through Bible stories. Emiljo found faith and solace, saying, "When you are part of a team and a group, you never feel alone but feel part of a community."

Now Emiljo is keen to help other young people learn about Jesus. He volunteers with the Bible Society coaching children who have had a similar start in life to him so that they too can feel part of a community and a family of Believers in Jesus and develop their own sports skills.

In a few weeks the Bible Society will be running their 'Easter Cup' at their centre in Tirana. Teams of young people and adults will come together to play in a football tournament with a difference – **before every match there is a Bible study**. Before playing any football, everyone has heard Bible stories and learnt Christian values. Later on this year it will happen again with a Summer Camp organised for young people in Tirana.

**Your support today can directly impact these events, fostering an environment where everyone learns more about Jesus.**

## PRAY

Please join me in prayer:

- **Pray** for Emiljo as he volunteers to share his football skills and his Christian values with young people.
- **Pray** for the young people attending the 'Easter Cup' and Summer Camps, that they encounter Jesus through the Bible stories shared before each of the matches.
- **Pray** for the leadership of the Bible Society in Albania as they work in a challenging environment where Christians are in a minority.

## DONATE

Please consider sending a gift:

- + **£25** can allow 3 young people to join the Easter Cup, experiencing Bible stories, football skills, and a supportive community.
- + **£40** provides Bible materials for 8 young individuals, aiding their growth in knowledge of Jesus.
- + **£100** supports the ongoing work of the Bible Society in Albania, reaching those with little to no knowledge of the Bible.

## THANK YOU

Your prayerful and financial support for this project is much appreciated. **Thank you for your generosity.**

Every blessing

*Catherine Hillcox*

Catherine Hillcox, Bible Society NI.



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# PLEASE SUPPORT BIBLE SOCIETY NI WITH A GIFT



## 1. ONE OFF DONATION For Albania For where the need is greatest

**Our website:** Donate via Debit/Credit Card on our website- [www.biblesocietyni.co.uk](http://www.biblesocietyni.co.uk)

**Via phone:** Call the office on **028 9032 6577** and we will process your card payment over the phone.

**Cheque:** Make cheque payable to **Bible Society in Northern Ireland** and post it to Bible House, 27 Howard Street, Belfast, BT1 6NB. (No cash in the post please.)

**By Card:** Fill out your details below and return this form to to Bible House, 27 Howard Street, Belfast, BT1 6NB

I would like to make a donation of:  £25  £40  £100  Other

Name on Card:

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Security Number:

(3 digits on back of card)

Signature:

Tick here to receive an acknowledgment for your gift.

## 2. REGULAR DONATION If you would like to make a regular donation for ongoing work:

I would like to make a monthly donation of:  £10  £25  £50  £100  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to go towards:  General Bible Mission  Bible-a-Month club

### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please return this form to: Bible Society NI, 27 Howard Street, Belfast, BT1 6NB

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager  
Bank/  
Building Society:

Address:

Postcode:

Name(s) of account holders:

Email:

Service user number:

9 6 2 5 6 2



Bank/Building Society Reference (for BSNI office use only):

Bank/Building Society account number: Branch sort code:

### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay the Bible Society in Northern Ireland Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with the Bible Society in Northern Ireland and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signatures:

Date:

Tel:

## 3. GIFT AID Add an extra 25p to every £1 you give at no cost to you.

Yes, I want Bible Society NI to claim Gift Aid on my donations.

I am a UK taxpayer and want Bible Society NI to claim back the tax on all donations I have made in the last four years and on all future gifts. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Name:

Address:

Signature:

Date:

Once you have filled out this form please return it in the envelope provided. Please don't forget a stamp!



All project donations are used in full for ministry – we do not take an administration fee. In the event that a project is overfunded, funds will be used for a similar project. We do not sell your details to any other party. If you would like to amend your details or stop receiving fundraising material from us, please contact the office.

Thank you!