

THE LONG ROAD TO GREECE

A Presentation on Calvary Chapel's Missionary Work in Greece

Introduction: *The situation in Greece, How we received our calling, What we believe God is sending us to do, How things are unfolding*

I. The Need & Situation in Greece

- **Population:** 11,183,393
- **Religion:** Eastern (Greek) Orthodox 92%
- **Evangelical Christian:** Approximately .4 % (Less than 42,000 of 11,000,000)
Very few evangelical believers, very few evangelical churches, very few Bible teaching churches.
- **Religious Freedom:** It is illegal to proselytize and Christians have been arrested for sharing the gospel.
- **Refugee Issues:** In recent years there has been an overwhelming influx of refugees to Greece from the Muslim world (Afghani, Iranian, North African, etc.)

II. How We Received Our Calling

The Macedonian Call

(When a closed door leads to an open door)

Acts 16:5-9 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "***Come over to Macedonia and help us.***" Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

The Command, Example & Promise

(Learning to walk by faith)

Isaiah 51:2 "Look to Abraham your father, And to Sarah who bore you; For I called him alone, And blessed him and increased him."

The Quest for Direction

(Working through times of silence)

Psalm 25:4-5 Show me Your ways, O LORD; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You *are* the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day.

The Answer

(Preparing yourself to hear)

Acts 13:1-3 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent *them* away.

III. What We Believe God is Sending Us to Do

Lay A Foundation

1 Corinthians 3:9-11 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, *you are* God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Make Disciples

Col. 1:28-29 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this *end* I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.

Reach A Nation by Example

1 Thess. 1:6-8 And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

IV. How Things Are Unfolding

- **Athens not Thessaloniki**
- **People Bridges (Friends & Connections: HM, Sevi, Refugees)**
- **Unexpected Opportunities**
- **When Reality Matches Stirring & Desire**
- **Provision One Step at a Time**

What God has taught us in all these things: Trust Him, even when it is hard to do so (Prov. 3:5-6)