

## **Overwhelmed by Love**

A young Albanian Muslim whom we shall call Khaled had a friend who became a Christian. This caused Khaled to be hostile to him. But although Khaled's heart was filled with nationalistic pride and hatred toward all Christians, he decided to go with his friend to a Christian meeting. There, he was overwhelmed with the love of the Christians. But still he told his friend, "You're crazy to go to the Christians' meeting." Yet Khaled could not stay away. On his second visit to the meeting, he decided to follow Christ.

Khaled was rejected by his family as a result of becoming a Christian. That was not his only problem. He also had no job, and unemployment was high in the area where he lived. But the church was not indifferent to Khaled's situation. They prayed that God would supply employment for Khaled, as well as for three other young converts. God answered, and all four were hired to work at good jobs. Khaled then wanted to return to his family. They accepted him back, which certainly made him happy. But his days of peace were not to last.

One day the police stopped Khaled on the street and took him to the police station. There they locked him up for some hours. "What are you," they demanded, "Muslim or Christian?" "I am a Christian," Khaled said. Hearing this, the police beat him badly and left him battered and bruised, saying that they'd be back to beat him again. At two o'clock in the morning they came back. When Khaled saw them, he was terrified. He had a letter opener and cut himself with it in several places. When he did this, the police got worried and rushed him to the hospital. There a doctor took care of him, and the police let him go. After his release, Khaled went to his pastor who led him to ask forgiveness from God. Following this terrible experience, Khaled's family started pressuring him to revert to Islam. Again, he had to leave home.

Khaled has been baptized in water and in the Holy Spirit. At the time of writing this story, he needs permanent housing and employment.