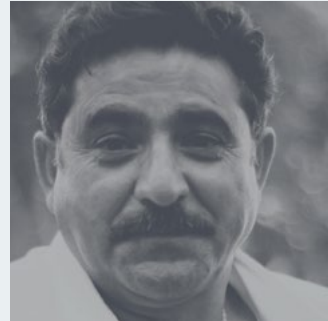
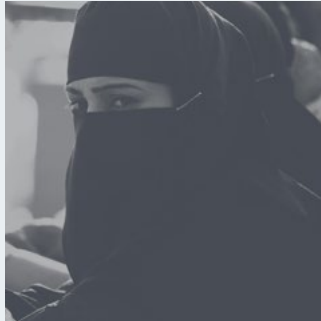


Islam



Getting²Gospel

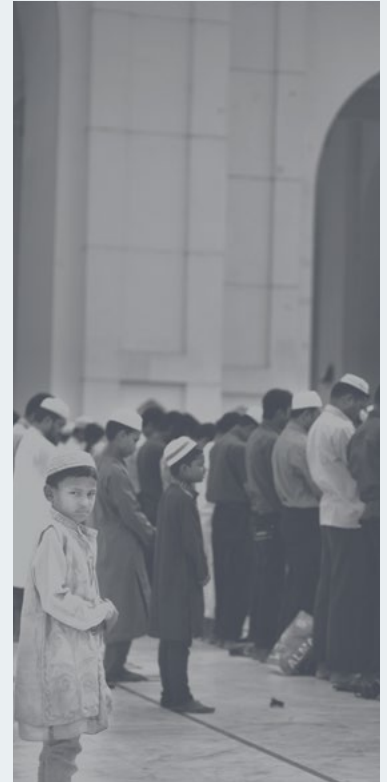
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Islam

Islam recognizes four books as holy: the Torah, the Jewish prophetic books, the Gospels and the Quran. Most Muslims believe the first three have been corrupted. They rely on the Quran as flawless and most holy. In order to keep the Quran flawless, Muslims believe that it should not be translated outside of the Arabic language. Many Muslims who have read the Quran do not understand what it says. Instead, they depend on religious teachers called imams.

Islam also reveres Isa (their name for Jesus) as one of God's prophets. They believe Jesus was human and not divine. According to the Muslim faith, Muhammad was the final prophet and so is seen as the greatest by most Muslims.



1 Preparation

Read over the sections on **Worldview**, **Religious terms** and **Answering Questions and Objections**. Become familiar with these so that you are more comfortable relating to a person of this faith.



Worldview

There are a lot of factors that shape a person's view of the world. History, culture, language and tradition are among some of the factors, which provide a framework for how a person filters information, understands truth or makes decisions.



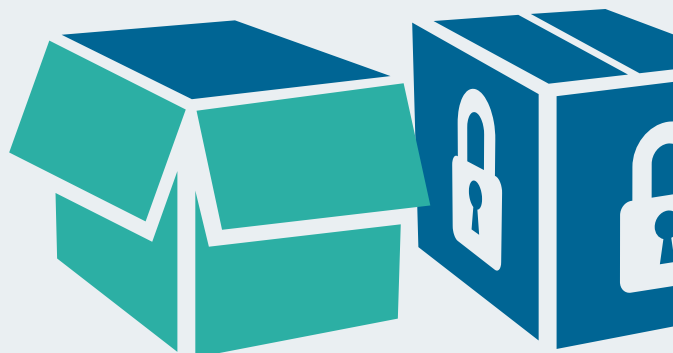
Muslim Worldview

- Followers (1.5 billion worldwide) view Mohammad as their prophet.
- The Quran is considered their sacred book. Both Sunis and Shias (two main branches of Islam) follow the Quran.
- Their place of worship is called a mosque.
- Muslims view Jesus as one of their prophets and believe that Jesus did not die, but instead was raised to heaven and will return to earth some day.
- Muslims typically view Christians as blasphemers since they call Jesus the “Son of God.”
- Muslims characterize Christians as morally loose people who drink alcohol, smoke and disrespect women.

Religious Terms

Other religions often have their own words for the one true God, sin, etc. Also, the name Jesus may be translated into their religious language. It's often helpful to use their translated name for Jesus. Using what they know can help improve understanding and reduce the amount of information to get across.

You may not be comfortable using other terms than what you know. We encourage you to prayerfully consider using terms that are familiar to the person you are sharing with, as appropriate.



Muslim Religious Terms

- In Muslim languages, Jesus is "Isa," pronounced, "EE-sah."
- The Injil ("In-jeel") is the New Testament gospels (Matthew/Mark/Luke/John).
- "Isa Muktidata (Mook-tee-dah-tah)" means "Jesus is Savior."
- The English word "God" will be understood.

Answering Questions and Objections

Every major religion has common misconceptions regarding Jesus, God, truth, salvation and heaven. Myths and misunderstandings have been passed around from family to family and country to country. We have compiled the most common questions and objections.

After you read over these, take time to read any Scripture that will help you grow in your faith, as well as give you confidence to answer with biblical Truth.



Answering Questions and Objections

"Jesus is only a prophet."

Response: The Quran, in Al-Imran 3:45, says that Allah names Isa (Jesus) "Isa Masih" (EE-sah Mah-see) which means "The promised salvation." Why do you think Allah gave Isa this title?

"The Bible has been changed and corrupted."

Response: See Jonah 10:94 in the Quran where Allah tells Mohammad to go to the people of the Bible (The Book) if he has a question or doubt.

Ask: If the Bible was changed or corrupted, Allah would have not told Mohammad to go to the Bible, he would have told Mohammad to go else where to find answers. There are no verses in the Quran saying the Bible has been changed or corrupted.

"But Jesus did not die."

Response: While one verse (4:157) indicates Jesus did not die on the cross, several other verses indicate he did die (3:55, 3:144, 5:117, 19:33, and if anyone doubts, he should see 10:94).

Answering Questions and Objections

"Saying 'Son of God' is blasphemy."

Response: Say, "What are we to say when God calls Jesus his Son in the Bible (Matthew 3:17), This is my beloved son, the demons respectfully say, 'Jesus, Son of the most High God,' (Mark 5:7), and Jesus refers to himself as son (John 3:16), 'For God so loved . . . He gave his only Son'"

"You believe in 3 gods." (Trinity)

Response: Say, "Muslims have a title for Jesus, 'Isa Ruhallah,' which means (1) Isa = Jesus, (2) Ruh (Roo) = Spirit, (3) Allah = God. This is three in one. Muslims also say 'Isa Kalamullah,' which means 'Isa is the Word of God.'" A person's word and spirit cannot be separate from the person. They are all one person.

2 Talking

Use these basic steps to start a conversation and reach the point of sharing the gospel through Romans 6:23.



Greeting

You can always just say “hello.” But, if you want to see a person’s face light up with a smile, try greeting them in a way that is familiar to them. We suggest you practice this greeting phrase and use it as you begin to talk.

Muslim greeting:

“Salam-Alee-Koom”

(They will say back to you, “Alee-Koom Salam.”)



Find the audio at G2G resources at <http://southasianpeoples.imb.org/G2G>.

Bridges

Some people find it easy to transition a conversation to spiritual matters. Others struggle to do so. These bridge questions are tested and have been used to quickly and naturally share Romans 6:23.

Choose one and memorize it so you can use it more naturally.

From the point of greeting the person, move as quickly as possible to your bridge question. Typically, the longer it takes the less likely you will get to the gospel.



Bridge Options

- 1 Ask:** Do Muslims in your community know the book, Injil Sharif ("In-jeel Shah-reef," the Gospels)? Did you know the meaning of the word "Injil" is "Good News"?

Bridge: I found one verse in the Injil that summarizes the "Good News" (share One Verse - One Story).

- 2 Ask:** Is there one verse in the Quran that summarizes the entire Quran? (wait for a response).

Bridge: I found one verse that summarizes the Injil (share One Verse - One Story).

- 3 Ask:** Can I ask you two questions about a verse in your Quran?
In Surah (Chapter) 5, verse 64, the Quran says that the Injil (Gospel) contains light and guidance?

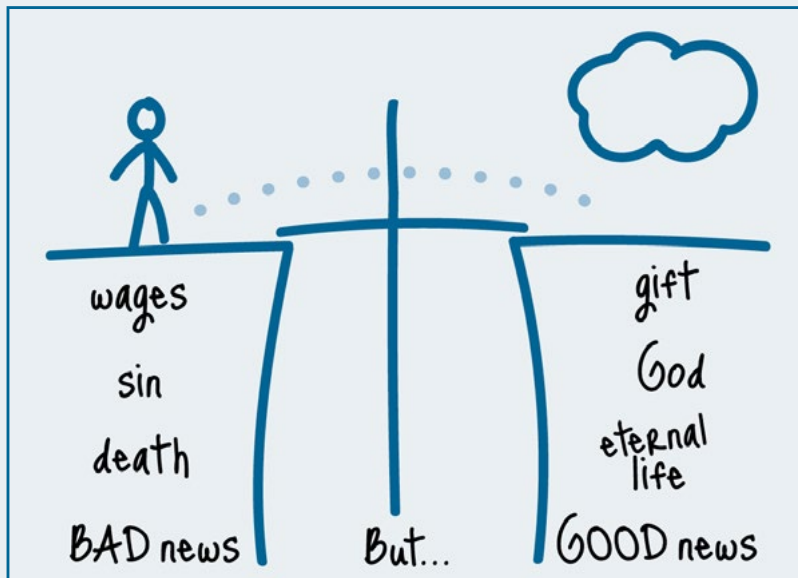
- First, what do you think is the "light" and "guidance" in the Injil?
- Secondly, do you think the Injil contains information that can guide us on the day of judgment?

Bridge: I have read the Injil (Gospel) and I found one verse that is like a light and gives guidance for judgment day (share One Verse - One Story).

One Verse – One Story | Romans 6:23

Romans 6:23 provides the structure for talking about the need for a Savior and concluding with the question, “Do you want God’s gift of eternal Life?”

Use the One Verse – One Story video, printable guide or eTract to prepare to share the gospel.



 southasianpeoples.imb.org/OneVerse-OneStory

3 Next steps

Possible responses and what to do next:

- A) The person chose to accept God's free gift of eternal life: Seize the moment. Review and explain again the core truths of the gospel. Answer any questions and encourage them to pray and tell God they are turning from their disobedience, believing the good news of Jesus and confessing Him as Lord. Get the person's contact information so that you can follow up. Invite the person to your church or begin meeting at his or her house.
- B) "I want to know more." Get the person's email or phone number. Begin sending electronic resources from this religion's G2G resources section. Arrange to meet them in a public place like a coffee shop to discuss this more.
- C) "I am not interested." Ask how you can pray for the person.

4 Share more

Bible stories

Everyone loves a good story. We remember them. We share them. Stories touch our hearts — whether they're movies, family anecdotes or Bible stories. They affect our decision-making and transform our worldview.

God's Word changes lives. Consider becoming familiar with one or more stories that will fill the gap in understanding the gospel. Having a Bible story in your mental toolbox will help you guide a person to understand the work of Christ in a way that fits his or her culture and background.



Telling a Bible story isn't strict memorization. Identify the essential parts of the story you must share.

Then, read over the passages of Scripture several times. Once you know the story, you are ready to share it in your own words. Run through the story in your head and share with a friend or relative to practice.



Bible Stories Filling the Gap

Use these stories and passages to address some of the questions, concerns or beliefs found in this religious worldview.

Theme: Sacrifice for Sin



- 1st sacrifice, God killed an animal (Gen. 3:21); The skins covered Adam & Eve.



- Practice of sacrifice started long before Abraham. The sacrifice must be blood. (Gen. 4:3-5).



- Moses places blood over door (Exodus 12:7).
- David sees a future suffering King (Ps. 22:1-3).

700

- Isaiah prophesied of a virgin giving birth and an innocent lamb killed with the world's punishment on him. (Isaiah 7:14, 53:1-10) – 700 years before Jesus.



- John the Baptist – Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. (Jn 1:29).

Extra Resources

Biblical resources – such as a video or tract – can help within a conversation or be given for the person to view later. We've identified a select and varied set of biblical resources for you to choose from. In some cases, there may be a hundred other options out there. We've limited the resources to one per type or category.

In G2G you need to choose one or more resources to share. Choose the type of resource that best fits you and your preferences. For example, if you commonly share videos from your mobile device, then choose the video. If you prefer to hand someone a tract, then download and print the tract. You may want to keep a Bible or New Testament with you and have key passages bookmarked from this guide.



Find these G2G resources at <http://southasianpeoples.imb.org/G2G>.

■ **Scripture Portion:** John 14 and Acts 1-2 (Holman Bible Translation). These two passages are strategically chosen. Muslims believe that the counselor or Holy Spirit mentioned in John 14 represents a prophecy of their prophet, Mohammad. Ask them to read with you (you read one verse, they read one verse) through these three chapters. Next, be sure to move straight into Acts 1 and 2. Here, they will see that the counselor is the Holy Spirit and that the Spirit came, just as Jesus said. Finally, read together Peter's sermon in Acts 2. Ask your Muslim friend what he thinks of what he read.

■ **Video: Clip from *The Savior*, "Lame Man Lowered Through Roof."** Arabic with English subtitles.

■ **Printable Tract:** *What will happen to you when you die?*

■ **Video: "The Prophets' Story" (Creation to Christ)** – This seven-minute animated video follows the sacrifice theme through the Bible. Since Muslims sacrifice animals each year as Abraham did, this Gospel presentation will connect with them. Available in English and certain Muslim languages.

Need help?

Email questions to

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<http://southasianpeoples.imb.org/G2G>

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