

# INFORMED ON İslam STUDY GUIDE

From

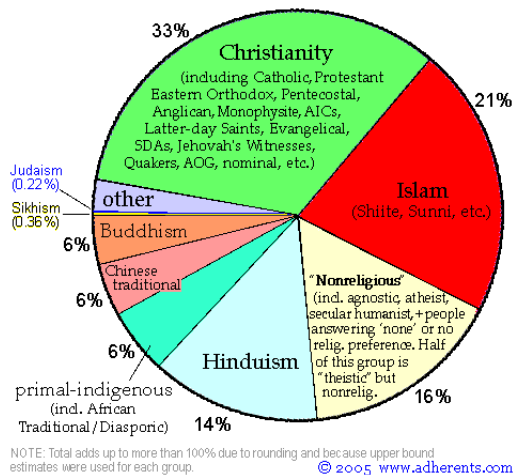
VOICE OF SALVATION MINISTRIES PRESENTS  
**WORLD  
IMPACT**  
WITH BILLY WILSON

# WHAT IS ISLAM



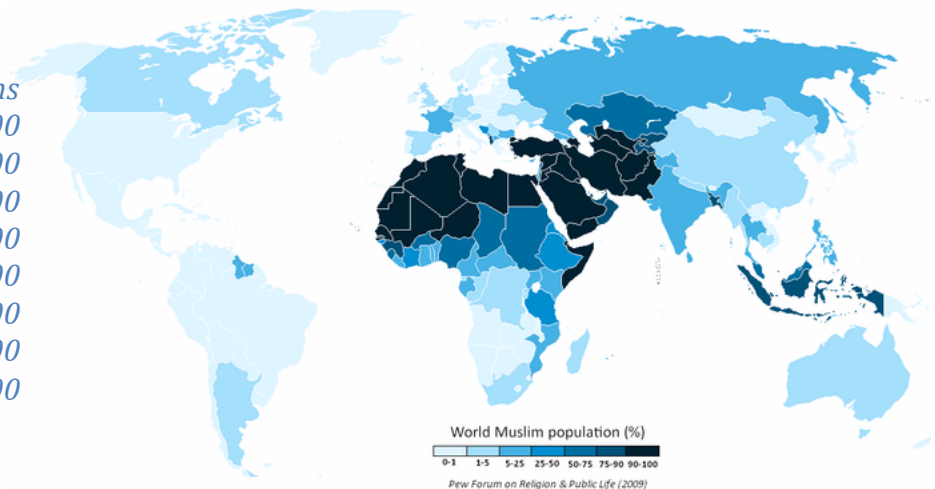
Definition: Islam is an \_\_\_\_\_ word meaning \_\_\_\_\_.

Definition: Someone who practices Islam is called a \_\_\_\_\_.



*Of all the world religions, Islam is the second largest with about 21% of the world's population claiming to be Muslim. Most of the adherents are concentrated in North Africa and the Middle East where Islamic religion and culture go hand in hand.*

Largest Muslim populations	
Indonesia	170,310,000
Pakistan	136,000,000
Bangladesh	106,050,000
India	103,000,000
Turkey	62,410,000
Iran	60,790,000
Egypt	53,730,000
Nigeria	47,720,000



The word for "God" is \_\_\_\_\_ in Arabic. So a Muslim is someone who seeks to practice \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Incidentally this same word is used when the \_\_\_\_\_ is translated into Arabic.

**From the tribe of Ishmael:**

There are three perceived beginnings to the Islamic faith

- 1) The Hisotiran says Islam began in the \_\_\_\_\_ century with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2) The Muslim says Islam began in the \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The Bible places the beginnings of Islam in the tent of \_\_\_\_\_ and promises made to \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 16:8-10) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 17:20).

Abraham's \_\_\_\_\_ son was born through an \_\_\_\_\_ named \_\_\_\_\_. Displeased by Sarah, Hagar runs into the wilderness where she hears from an angel to name her son \_\_\_\_\_ and that he would be a \_\_\_\_\_, whose hand will be against \_\_\_\_\_, and who will dwell in the presence of \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 16-17).

Ishmael was born out of Abraham's \_\_\_\_\_ and desire to make happen by \_\_\_\_\_ means what only God could make happen. Eventually Ishmael and his mother are exiled when Ishmael mocks \_\_\_\_\_.

Again an angel comforts Hagar and reveals a well of water (Genesis 21). This well is believed to be the well of Zamzam in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Ishmael becomes the father of the \_\_\_\_\_.

*God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation."  
(Gen 21:17-18 NIV)*

So it is that the Arabic peoples come from a moment when Hagar is \_\_\_\_\_.

By the time of Muhammad's arrival in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the Church had \_\_\_\_\_

the Arab people.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) How might knowing that God promised to bless Ishmael and his descendants change the way you pray for Muslims?
- 2) Do you believe the pressures in the Middle East are connected to Genesis 16:12?
- 3) Does knowing a peoples' past help you relate to them in the present?
- 4) Are there any lessons for your own life in the story of Abraham and Hagar?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ Did Muhammad hear from God like Abraham, Moses, and Jesus did?
- ◆ Did Muhammad write the Koran?
- ◆ What does the Koran say?

## THE KORAN



The Arabic word 'koran' literally means \_\_\_\_\_. The book known as the Koran is considered to be the \_\_\_\_\_ piece of Arabic literature and held by Muslims to be Allah's \_\_\_\_\_ revelation to mankind.

Muslims believe the Koran was first revealed to Muhammad by \_\_\_\_\_ in the month of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_ AD. The visions would continue until Muhammad's death \_\_\_\_\_ years later. Since Muhammad could not read or write, the visions were maintained by careful \_\_\_\_\_, hence the name 'the Koran.'

The text of the Koran has \_\_\_\_\_ chapters called \_\_\_\_\_. The caliph Uthman \_\_\_\_\_ the text 22 years after Muhammad's death. About 100 years later, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were added to the text to create the version we have today.

Sura in the Koran are \_\_\_\_\_ recorded in order. In fact \_\_\_\_\_ revelations abrogate \_\_\_\_\_ ones. A tool used to help establish cronology and interpret the Quran are the \_\_\_\_\_. These massive narratives detail the life and words of \_\_\_\_\_. Many practices of Islam are taken from these texts rather than from the Quran itself.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) The Muslims believe the Koran is the only uncorrupted revelation of God. How can you tell if a text remains true to its ancient original?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) If God choose to speak to you through an angel, how would you recognize that the message was from Him?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) How does the Koranic idea of prophetic abrogation differ from Biblical ideas?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ What are the core practices and beliefs held by all Muslims?
- ◆ What is a Muslim's prayer life like?

## *PILLARS OF ISLAM*



There are Five Pillars of Islamic Faith and Five Pillars of Islamic Practice. Together they form the core religious framework for all Muslims.

The **Five Pillars of Islamic Faith** are:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

The nature of Allah is revealed in his \_\_\_\_\_ names.

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Other than Muhammad, four prophets venerated in the Koran are:

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

What four sets of books does the Koran claim to be inspired by God?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_

The **Five Pillars of Islam** Practice are:

1) \_\_\_\_\_

“There is no \_\_\_\_\_ but \_\_\_\_\_ and Muhammad is the  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”

2) \_\_\_\_\_

Muslim prayers are said in \_\_\_\_\_ and include ritual \_\_\_\_\_.

Muslims bow toward \_\_\_\_\_ to show their \_\_\_\_\_ to Allah.

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Giving \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ is seen as part of the  
Muslim’s ritual \_\_\_\_\_.

4) \_\_\_\_\_

The primary fast takes place during the month of \_\_\_\_\_. During  
this month, from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ each day, every adult Muslims  
refrains from three things. They are:

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

5) \_\_\_\_\_



### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) How do the Islamic Pillars of Faith and Practice compare with the commands of Jesus Christ?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) What do the Five Pillars reveal about the heart-felt needs of mankind?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) How does knowing that Muslims pray 5 times a day challenge the way you practice Christianity?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ Why do Muslims travel to Mecca?
- ◆ How many names does Allah have?

## THE HAJJ



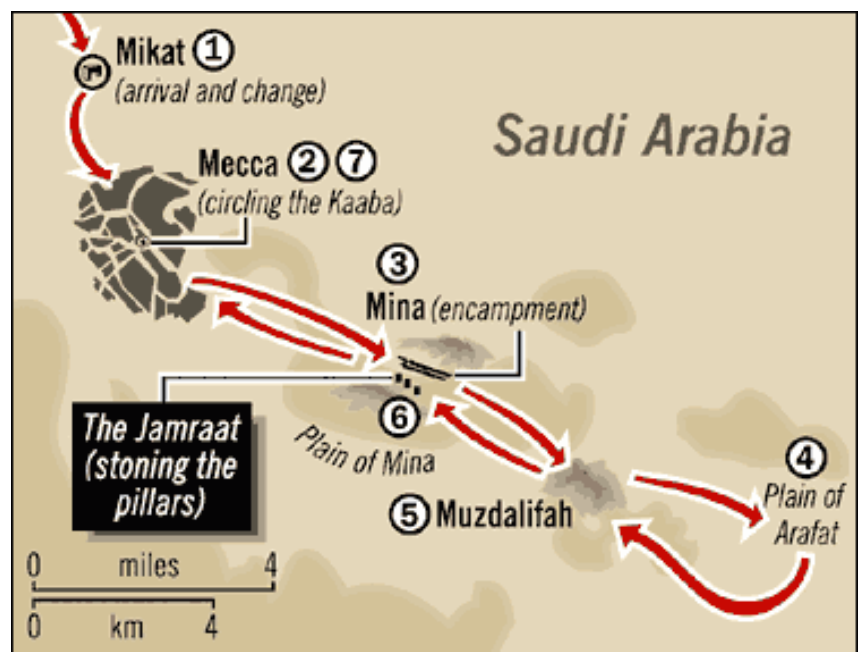
The Hajj is an \_\_\_\_\_ pilgrimage to \_\_\_\_\_ in Saudi Arabia.  
Each Muslim is to complete the Hajj \_\_\_\_\_.

According to Muslim tradition, the Hajj dates to the days of \_\_\_\_\_ when  
God made \_\_\_\_\_ for Ishmael. The first formal Hajj was in \_\_\_\_\_  
when Muhamand destroyed the \_\_\_\_\_ and cleansed the Kaaba.

The Hajj includes walking counter clockwise seven times around the \_\_\_\_\_.

Running between the \_\_\_\_\_ of Al-Safa and Al-Marwah to represent Hagar's frantic  
search for water before drinking from the well of \_\_\_\_\_. The ritual  
\_\_\_\_\_ of the Devil reenacts a time when Muslims believe Gabriel told Abraham to

throw seven stones at the Devil  
to end temptation and drive him  
away. The Hajj ends with a ritual  
animal \_\_\_\_\_  
and a three day festival.



### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) In the Old Testament, God repeatedly commands Israel to observe ritual feasts and sacrifices. Why did God establish these events for Israel?
  
- 2) Muslims say that the Hajj is an example of unity within Islam. Is there any similar practice within New Testament Christianity?
  
- 3) What rituals do you observe? What value do they bring to your life?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ Does Allah love everyone?
- ◆ Does the Koran teach anything about Jesus?

## THE SEARCH OF ISLAM



Islamic teaching records \_\_\_\_\_ names for Allah. While one name is “The Compassionate One”, Allah is never called \_\_\_\_\_.

### The 99 Names of Allah

All-Compassionate • All-Merciful • Absolute Ruler • Pure One • Source of Peace • Inspirer of Faith • Guardian • Victorious • Compeller • Greatest • Creator • Maker of Order • Shaper of Beauty • Forgiving • Subduer • Giver of All • Sustainer • Opener • Knower of All • Constrictor • Reliever • Abaser • Exalter • Bestower of Honors • Humiliator • Hearer of All • Seer of All • Judge • Just • Subtle One • All-Aware • Forebearing • Magnificent • Forgiver and Hider of Faults • Rewarder of Thankfulness • Highest • Greatest • Preserver • Nourisher • Accounter • Mighty • Generous • Watchful One • Responder to Prayer • All-Comprehending • Perfectly Wise • Loving One • Majestic One • Resurrector • Witness • Truth • Trustee • Possessor of All Strength • Forceful One • Governor • Praised One • Appraiser • Originator • Restorer • Giver of Life • Taker of Life • Ever Living One • Self-Existing One • Finder • Glorious • Only One • One • Satisfier of All Needs • All Powerful • Creator of All Power • Expediter • Delayer • First • Last • Manifest One • Hidden One • Protecting Friend • Supreme One • Doer of Good • Guide to Repentance • Avenger • Forgiver • Clement • Owner of All • Lord of Majesty and Bounty • Equitable One • Gatherer • Rich One • Enricher • Preventer of Harm • Creator of The Harmful • Creator of Good • Light • Guide • Originator • Everlasting One • Inheritor of All • Righteous Teacher • Patient One

The Koran indicates that Allah does love, but he loves \_\_\_\_\_.

The Koran also says Allah loves the \_\_\_\_\_, those who \_\_\_\_\_, and those who \_\_\_\_\_.

This is in contrast to the core Bible view that

\_\_\_\_\_.

*Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love**. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.***

*(1John 4:8-10 NIV)*

The nature of God's love is found in His commandments concerning the treatment of enemies. Jesus said, "Love your \_\_\_\_\_ and pray for those who \_\_\_\_\_ you" (Matthew 5:43-44). Then Paul told the Romans, "If your \_\_\_\_\_ is hungry, \_\_\_\_\_; if he is thirsty, \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 12:20).

The Koran says, "if they fight you, then \_\_\_\_\_" (Sura 2:191) for "the punishment for those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger [Muhammad]... is: \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, or the cutting off of \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ from the land: that is their disgrace" (Sura 5:33).

The Love of God for us is not \_\_\_\_\_. When you think it is, then you are consistently trying to \_\_\_\_\_ God's love. When you understand God's love as unconditional, then you are consistently wanting to \_\_\_\_\_ that love to Him. While it is impossible in our \_\_\_\_\_ to love our enemies, God puts his love in us so we can show \_\_\_\_\_.

Ishmael represents the accomplishments of \_\_\_\_\_. Trying to do God's work with \_\_\_\_\_ is never possible. Isaac represents God's ability to \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) Knowing that Jesus said to love your enemies, are you challenged to adjust your attitude toward Muslims? toward radical Islam?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) What are you trying to accomplish in life? How might applying faith and expressing the Love of God make the impossible into the possible?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) What can the Church do to share the love of Christ with the Muslim world?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ What kind of life did Muhammad live?
- ◆ How should I witness about Jesus to Muslims?

## ***JESUS AND MUHAMMAD***



### **The time and place of Muhammad:**

In 610 AD, when Muhammad had his first vision, he was \_\_\_\_\_ years old. He was pinned to the ground \_\_\_\_\_ times by \_\_\_\_\_ in the cave Hira to the North East of Mecca. When he returned home he shouted “\_\_\_\_\_” because he was so afraid.

In 622 AD, Muhammad fled from Mecca to \_\_\_\_\_ to avoid intense persecution. There he had his first visions dealing with war and Jihad. Muhammad eventually returned in 630 to conquer Mecca and dedicate the Ka’ba to \_\_\_\_\_.

Muhammad died at the age of 62 from \_\_\_\_\_ administered by a Jewish slave. The slave claimed to be testing Muhammad’s claim to be a prophet by seeing if Allah would deliver him from death. During his life, Muhammad had \_\_\_\_\_ wives and a large number of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Thought Question:**

- 1) Environment plays a big role in the choices people make. How do you factor the time someone lived in determining if they are worthy of respect? What about someone who lives now, but someplace different from you? Are there any absolutes that transcend time and place?

## Comparison between Jesus and Muhammad

Jesus	Mohammed
Never fought	Fought many times
Never killed anyone	Killed many people
Commissioned in daylight	Commissioned in dark cave
Performed many miracles	Only miracle was Koran
Fulfilled prophecy	Never fulfilled any prophecy
Never married	Married over 20 wives (one was 9 years old)
Claimed to be God and Man	Claimed to be a man
Jesus gave His life for others	Mohammed saved his life at others' expense
Owned no slaves	Owned many slaves
Born of a virgin	Not born of a virgin
Heard directly from God	Only heard through an angel
Spoke well of women	Women ½ as smart as men, majority in hell will be women
Never sinned	Sinned many times (Quran 40:55,48:1-2)

Islam teaches that Jesus was born of \_\_\_\_\_, that He was the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_, that He worked \_\_\_\_\_, and that he will \_\_\_\_\_ again. However, Muslims do not believe that Jesus was the son of \_\_\_\_\_, that He was \_\_\_\_\_ made flesh, or that He \_\_\_\_\_ on a cross.

While seeming to be embracing Jesus, Islam denies His deity, crucifixion and resurrection. This verse in the Koran says that those who claim Jesus and God are one are \_\_\_\_\_ and will \_\_\_\_\_. Ironically, the

*They do blaspheme who say: "(Allah) is Christ the son of Mary." But said Christ: "O Children of Israel! worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord." Whoever joins other gods with Allah,- Allah will forbid him the garden, and the Fire will be his abode. There will for the wrong-doers be no one to help.*

(Sura 5.72)

Five Pillars of Islamic Faith includes a belief in Gospel writings and there are at least four voices in the Gospels that proclaim Jesus to be the Son of God.



First, \_\_\_\_\_ proclaims Jesus His Son (Matthew 3:17, Luke 9:35).

Second, \_\_\_\_\_ proclaim Jesus to be the Son of God (Matthew 8:29)

Third, \_\_\_\_\_ proclaimed Him the Son of God (Matthew 14:33, 16:15-17)

Fourth, \_\_\_\_\_ proclaimed Himself the Son of God (Luke 22:70).

*That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the messenger of Allah." But they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them and thoes who differ therein are full of doubts, with no certain knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for a surety they killed him not.*

(Sura 4:157)

While the Koran says that those who believe Jesus was crucified are \_\_\_\_\_ and follow only \_\_\_\_\_, all four Gospels say that Jesus died on Calvary. Furthermore, historians outside the Bible confirm the death of Jesus. These include the \_\_\_\_\_ writer of the Mara Bar-

Serapion, the \_\_\_\_\_ historian Tacitus, the \_\_\_\_\_ writer Lucian, and the \_\_\_\_\_ historian Josephus who wrote his chronicles around 80 AD. It is even likely that the \_\_\_\_\_ Talmud, compiled in 200 AD, refers to Jesus death. All of these voices recorded their accounts at least 400 years before Muhammad was born.

The deity of Jesus and His crucifixion are \_\_\_\_\_ of the gospel. Without his cricifixion, there is no \_\_\_\_\_ and so no \_\_\_\_\_ from sin. Without these things, there is no \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) Why is it important to know that Jesus died on the cross?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) Islam accounts for the contradictions between the Koran and Bible by saying the Bible has been corrupted. Which voice (the Gospel writers, historians, or Muhammad) do you find most authoritative? Explain your reasoning?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) Muslims hold up Muhammad's life as a model to be emulated. Who might you be copying? Why?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ Do Muslims believe in Hell?
- ◆ How do Muslims expect to enter Paradise?

## ASSURANCE OF SALVATION

The entire \_\_\_\_\_ Sura of the Koran is focused on the fate of those who follow Allah and those who do not. At \_\_\_\_\_, a Muslim's life will be weighed to see if \_\_\_\_\_ deeds outweigh the \_\_\_\_\_.

*Everyone shall taste death. And only on the Day of Resurrection shall you be paid your wages in full. And whoever is removed away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise, he indeed is successful.*

(Sura 3:185)

\_\_\_\_\_ The only guaranteed entrance to paradise is through \_\_\_\_\_, which literally means to "\_\_\_\_\_".

Muslims who enter paradise will get a golden \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of a beautiful garden. Immortal male \_\_\_\_\_ and perpetually \_\_\_\_\_ women will bring \_\_\_\_\_ and serve \_\_\_\_\_. The righteous in paradise may \_\_\_\_\_ the women. The now famous number "72" virgins brides rewarded to jihadi terrorists comes from \_\_\_\_\_, not the Koran.

*Those who reject [Islamic] Faith, Allah will not forgive them nor guide them to any path except the way to Hell, to dwell therein forever. And this to Allah is easy.*

(Sura 4:168)

On the other side, to \_\_\_\_\_ Islam for other faith is the worst offence possible. Those who do will descend past the seven gates of Hell and eat thorns, forever bound in a lake of burning fat.

The emphasis of Islam is on \_\_\_\_\_ to do good deeds; on ones ability to keep the Five Pillars and not turn away from Muslim faith. In contrast the Bible teaches that salvation only comes from \_\_\_\_\_. We don't \_\_\_\_\_ salvation, and we can't \_\_\_\_\_ it, but God has given it to us by \_\_\_\_\_.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*

(Ephesians 2:8 NIV)

*(Rom 6:23 NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

(Romans 6:23 NIV)

Islam teaches that Muslims won't know if they will enter paradise until the day of judgement. Even Muhammad was not sure of his eternal salvation.

*Then Muhammed said. "By Allah, though I am the apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me."*

(Hadith al-Bukhari 5:266)

Contrast this with the early Christian apostles like \_\_\_\_\_ who saw into heaven and asks God to forgive those stoning him (Acts 7). Even the \_\_\_\_\_ received assurance of paradise before he died (Luke 23:43).

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) What does the Bible say about the value of good works?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) Muslims depend on good deeds to prove their worth to Allah. How could this belief effect their view of Christians?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) How does you ideas of grace and works color the way you see others?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4) Do your works prove your faith?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ How do Muslims in other parts of the world view Christians and the West?
- ◆ What does the Koran teach about Muslim relationships with Christians and Jews?
- ◆ Are all Arabs Muslim?

## MUSLIM VIEWS



The average Muslim around the world gets their view of Western countries like the United States comes from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. They have been taught that the West is \_\_\_\_\_, and so Christianity must \_\_\_\_\_ of the images and values seen in the media.

Also, most Muslims are ignorant of Christian theology and incorrectly think the Virgin Mary is \_\_\_\_\_. They also believe the Bible has been \_\_\_\_\_ and have been taught that it \_\_\_\_\_ the Crusades.

Muslims are taught never to take \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ as friends.

*Believers [Muslims], take neither Jews nor Christians to be your friends... Whoever of you seeks their friendship shall become one of their number*

(Sura 5:51)

*The Way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not (the way) of those who earned Your Anger (such as the Jews), nor of those who went astray (such as the Christians).*

(Sura 1:7)

Both the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ repeatedly establish non-Muslims as \_\_\_\_\_. Furthermore, the values of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ championed by the West conflict with the group-centered community ideals sought by Muslims.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) Is Christianity being fairly represented by the media?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2) Does the Church need to change its approach to community in order to reach the Muslim world? If so, how?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3) What does the Church offer that is absent in Islam?

### **Looking Forward:**

- ◆ How can you share Jesus with Muslims.
- ◆ Why should Muslims seek to know Jesus as their savior?

## ENGAGING ISLAM



Some important facts to keep in mind when engaging Islam:

- ◆ All Arabs are \_\_\_\_\_ Muslim.
- ◆ All Muslims are \_\_\_\_\_ the same.
- ◆ Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ an American.
- ◆ Jesus came to save \_\_\_\_\_, including Arabs and Americans.
- ◆ This is a heart issue, not a \_\_\_\_\_ one.

Appropriate Christian response to Islam:

- 1) Study and seek to \_\_\_\_\_ instead of merely fearing Islam.
- 2) Develop \_\_\_\_\_ with Muslims.
- 3) Reach out in \_\_\_\_\_ love.
- 4) Share Your \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Live Holy, with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The Five Pillars of Islamic Practice are centered on displays of reverence for God.

One of the major complaints Muslims have about the West is that people live too loose – going places and saying things they should not. Christians must not \_\_\_\_\_ the holiness of God.

- 6) Pray for the \_\_\_\_\_ works of Jesus.

Muhammad did no miracles except write the Koran. So when the miracles of God are seen, Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.



7) \_\_\_\_\_ radically

Why a Muslim should consider receiving Jesus as their personal savior:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ with God is possible.
- 2) Forgiveness and \_\_\_\_\_ are possible.
- 3) Historical sources regarding the \_\_\_\_\_ are many and reliable.
- 4) God is \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Jesus Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead.

### **Thought Questions:**

- 1) Where does Islam most closely impact your life?
- 2) Do you have any Muslim friends? Where and how can you reach out to Muslims?
- 3) How has your Christian faith been impacted by knowing more about Islam?
- 4) In your opinion, what is the #1 thing Christians can do to engage Islam?
- 5) What specific efforts are you going to make to engage Islam?

## ***A MESSAGE FROM BILLY WILSON***

*The last 12 years of my life have been given to Sharing Jesus with the World through a variety of means. Throughout these years, I have given much of my time and energy to using today's media for communicating Christ. The growth of World Impact has been miraculous and has caused me to say with the Psalmist: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."*

*Thank you for taking the time to watch these episodes. I hope you are a little more informed and will prayerfully consider how you can engage Islam. It is only through the love and miraculous power of Jesus Christ that Muslims can gain an intimate relationship with God. You are God's light and salt in this world and Muslims will first see Jesus through you.*

*I invite you to visit our media site at [www.worldimpact.tv](http://www.worldimpact.tv) to find episodes of World Impact on other topics and resources designed to refresh and equip you to Share Jesus with your World.*



Rev. Billy Wilson

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## ANSWER KEY

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## ANSWER KEY

### WHAT IS ISLAM

Definition: Islam is an Arabic word meaning submission.

Definition: Someone who practices Islam is called a Muslim.

The word for “God” is Allah in Arabic. So a Muslim is someone who seeks to practice submission to God. Incidentally this same word is used when the Bible is translated into Arabic.

#### From the tribe of Ishmael:

There are three perceived beginnings to the Islamic faith

- 4) The Hisotiran says Islam began in the seventh century with Muhammad.
- 5) The Muslim says Islam began in the Garden of Eden with Adam.
- 6) The Bible places the beginnings of Islam in the tent of Abraham and promises made to Hagar (Genesis 16:8-10) and Abraham (Genesis 17:20).

Abraham’s first son was born through an Egyptian named Hagar. Displeased by Sarah, Hagar runs into the wilderness where she hears from an angel to name her son Ishmael and that he would be a wild man, who’s hand will be against everyone, and who will dwell in the presence of his brethren (Genesis 16-17).

Ishmael was born out of Abraham’s works and desire to make happen by natural means what only God could make happen. Eventually Ishmael and his mother are exiled when Ishmael mocks Isaac.

Again an angel comforts Hagar and reveals a well of water (Genesis 21). This well is believed to be the well of Zamzam in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Ishmael becomes the father of the Arab people. So it is that the Arabic peoples come from a moment when Hagar is rejected. By the time of Muhammad’s arrival in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the Church had abandoned the Arab people.

### THE KORAN

The Arabic word ‘koran’ literally means recitation. The book known as the Koran is considered to be the finest piece of Arabic literature and held by Muslims to be Allah’s final revelation to mankind.

Muslims believe the Koran was first revealed to Muhammad by the Angel Gabriel in the month of Ramadan in the year 610 AD. The visions would continue until Muhammad’s death 23 years later. Since Muhammad could not read or write, the visions were maintained by careful oral recitation, hence the name ‘the Koran.’

The text of the Koran has **114** chapters called **Sura**. The caliph Uthman **standardized** the text 22 years after Muhammad's death. About 100 years later, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, **vowels** and **punctuation** were added to the text to create the version we have today.

Sura in the Koran are **not** recorded in order. In fact **later** revelations abrogate **earlier** ones. A tool used to help establish cronology and interpret the Quran are the **Hadith**. These massive narratives detail the life and words of **Muhammad**. Many practices of Islam are taken from these texts rather than from the Quran itself.

## ***PILLARS OF ISLAM***

The Five Pillars of Islamic Faith are:

1) **In only one God**

The nature of Allah is revealed in his **99** names.

2) **In the Prophets of God**

Other than Muhammad, four prophets venerated in the Koran are:

a. **Adam** b. **Abraham** c. **Moses** d. **David** e. **Jesus**

3) **In the Books of God**

What four sets of books does the Koran claim to be inspired by God?

a. **Torah** b. **Psalms** c. **Gospels** d. **Koran**

4) **In Angels**

5) **In the Final Judgement of God**

The Five Pillars of Islam's Practice are:

1) **The Shahada or Confession**

"There is no **God** but **God** and Muhammad is the **Messenger of God**."

2) **The Salat or Prayer**

Muslim prayers are said in **Arabic** and include ritual **bowing**. Muslims bow toward **Mecca** to show their **Submission** to Allah.

3) **The Zakat or Giving of Alms**

Giving **generously** to **the poor** is seen as part of the Muslim's ritual **cleansing**.

4) **The Saum or Fasting**

The primary fast takes place during the month of **Ramadan**. During this month, from **sun up** to **sun down** each day, every adult Muslims refrains from three things. They are:

a. **Food** b. **Drink** c. **Sexual realtions**

5) **The Hajj or Pilgrimage**

## ***THE HAJJ***

The Hajj is an **annual** pilgrimage to **Mecca** in Saudi Arabia. Each Muslim is to complete the Hajj **once in their lifetime**.

According to Muslim tradition, the Hajj dates to the days of **Abraham** when God made **the well of Zamzam** for Ishmael. The first formal Hajj was in **631** when Muhammad destroyed the **idols in Mecca** and cleansed the Kaaba.

The Hajj includes walking counter clockwise seven times around the **Kaaba**. Running between the **hills** of Al-Safa and Al-Marwah to represent Hagar's frantic search for water before drinking from the well of **Zamzam**. The ritual **stoning** of the Devil reenacts a time when Muslims believe Gabriel told Abraham to throw seven stones at the Devil to end temptation and drive him away. The Hajj ends with a ritual animal **sacrifice** and a three day festival.

## ***THE SEARCH OF ISLAM***

Islamic teaching records **99** names for Allah. While one is "The Compassionate One", Allah is never called **Love**.

The Koran indicates that Allah does love, but he loves **conditionally**. The Koran also says Allah loves the **righteous**, those who **submit to him**, and those who **hate the infidels**.

This is in contrast to the core Bible view that **God is love**.

The nature of God's love is found in His commandments concerning the treatment of enemies. Jesus said, "Love your **enemies** and pray for those who **persecute or spitefully use** you" (Matthew 5:43-44). Then Paul told the Romans, "If your **enemy** is hungry, **feed him**; if he is thirsty, **give him to drink** (Romans 12:20).

The Koran says, "if they fight you, then **slay them**" (Sura 2:191) for "the punishment for those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger [Muhammad]... is **execution**, or **crucifixion**, or the cutting off of **hands and feet**, or **exile** from the land: that is their disgrace" (Sura 5:33).

The Love of God for us is not **conditional**. When you think it is, then you are consistently trying to **earn** God's love. When you understand God's love as unconditional, then you are consistently wanting to **return** that love to Him. While it is impossible in our **own ability** to love our enemies, God puts his love in us so we can show **His nature to others**.

Ishmael represents the accomplishments of **man's righteousness**. Trying to do God's work with **human ability** is never possible. Isaac represents God's ability to **do the impossible** through **faith**.

## ***JESUS AND MUHAMMAD***

### **The time and place of Muhammad:**

In 610 AD, when Muhammad had his first vision, he was **40** years old. He was pinned to the ground **three** times by **a spirit** in the cave Hira to the North East of Mecca. When he returned home he shouted "**Cover me, cover me!**" because he was so afraid.

In 622 AD, Muhammad fled from Mecca to **Medina** to avoid intense persecution. There he had his first visions dealing with war and Jihad. Muhammad eventually returned to conquer Mecca and dedicate the Ka'ba to **Allah**.

Muhammad died at the age of 62 from **poison** administered by a Jewish slave. The slave claimed to be testing Muhammad's claim to be a prophet by seeing if Allah would deliver him from death. During his life, Muhammad had **ten** wives and a large number of **slaves**.

### **Comparision between Jesus and Muhammad**

Islam teaches that Jesus was born of **a virgin**, that He was the Jewish **Messiah**, that He worked **miracles**, and that he will **return** again. However, Musilms do not believe that Jesus was the son of **God**, that He was **God or the Word** made flesh, or that He **died** on a cross.

While seeming to embracing Jesus, Islam denys His deity, crucifixion and resurrection. This verse in the Koran says that those who claim Jesus and God are one are **blasphemers** and will **go to Hell**. Ironically, the Five Pillars of Islamic Faith includes a belief in Gospel writings and there are at least four voices in the Gospels that proclaim Jesus to be the Son of God.

First, **God** proclaims Jesus His Son (Matthew 3:17, Luke 9:35).

Second, **demons** proclaim Jesus to be the Son of God (Matthew 8:29)

Third, **His deciples** proclaimed Him the Son of God (Matthew 14:33, 16:15-17)

Fourth, **Jesus** proclaimed Himself the Son of God (Luke 22:70).

While the Koran says that those who believe Jesus was crucified are **full of doubts** and follow only **conjecture**, all four Gospels say that Jesus died on Calvary. Furthermore, historians outside the Bible confirm the death of Jesus. These include the **Syriac** writer of the Mara Bar-Serapion, the **Roman** historian Tacitus, the **Greek** writer Lucian, and the **Jewish** historian Josephus who wrote his chronicles around 80 AD. It is even likely that the **Babylonian** Talmud, compiled in 200 AD, refers to Jesus death. All of these voices recorded their accounts at least 400 years before Muhammad was born.

The deity of Jesus and His crucifixion are **the heart** of the gospel. Without His cricifixion, there is no **resurrection** and so no **redemption or deliverance** from sin. Without these things, there is no **hope for eternity**.

## ***ASSURANCE OF SALVATION***

The entire **third** Sura of the Koran is focused on the fate of those who follow Allah and those who do not. At **judgement**, a Muslim's life will be weighed to see if **good** deeds outweigh the **bad**. The only guaranteed entrance to paradise is through **Jihad**, which literally means to "**exert force for God**".

Muslims who enter paradise will get a golden **throne** in the midst of a beautiful garden. Immortal male **youths** and perpetually **virgin** women will bring **fruit** and serve **wine**. The righteous in paradise may **marry** the women. The now famous number "72" virgins brides rewarded to jihadi terrorists comes from **Hadith**, not the Koran.

On the other side, to **leave** Islam for other faith is the worst offence possible. Those who do will descend past the seven gates of Hell and eat thorns, forever bound in a lake of burning fat.

The emphasis of Islam is on **our ability** to do good deeds; on one's ability to keep the Five Pillars and not turn away from Muslim faith. In contrast the Bible teaches that salvation only comes from **what Jesus did at the cross**. We don't **deserve** salvation, and we can't **earn** it, but God has given it to us by **grace**.

Islam teaches that Muslims won't know if they will enter paradise until the day of judgement. Even Muhammad was not sure of his eternal salvation. Contrast this with the early Christian apostles like **Stephen** who saw into heaven and asks God to forgive those stoning him (Acts 7). Even the **thief on the cross** received assurance of paradise before he died (Luke 23:43).

## ***MUSLIM VIEWS***

The average Muslim around the world gets their view of Western countries like the United States comes from **TV** and **movies**. They have been taught that the West is **Christian**, and so Christianity must **approve** of the images and values seen in the media.

Also, most Muslims are ignorant of Christian theology and incorrectly think the Virgin Mary is **part of a pantheon**. They also believe the Bible has been **corrupted** and have been taught that it **endorsed** the Crusades.

Muslims are taught never to take **Christians** or **Jews** as friends.

Both the **Koran** and the **Hadith** repeatedly establish non-Muslims as **second-class citizens**. Furthermore, the values of **independence** and **freedom** championed by the West conflict with the group-centered community ideals sought by Muslims.



## ***ENGAGING ISLAM***

Some important facts to keep in mind when engaging Islam:

- ◆ All Arabs are **not** Muslim.
- ◆ All Muslims are **not** the same.
- ◆ Jesus was **not** an American.
- ◆ Jesus came to save **everyone**, including Arabs and Americans.
- ◆ This is a heart issue, not a **political** one.

Appropriate Christian response to Islam:

- 1) Study and seek to **understand** instead of merely fearing Islam.
- 2) Develop **relationships and friendships** with Muslims.
- 3) Reach out in **unconditional** love.
- 4) Share Your **testimony**.
- 5) Live Holy, with **integrity** and **piety**.

The Five Pillars of Islamic Practice are centered on displays of reverence for God. One of the major complaints Muslims have about the West is that people live too loose – going places and saying things they should not. Christians must not **maligne or mis-represent** the holiness of God.

- 6) Pray for the **miracles** works of Jesus.

Muhammad did no miracles except write the Koran. So when the miracles of God are seen, Jesus is **glorified**.

- 7) **Intercede or pray** radically

Why a Muslim should consider receiving Jesus as their personal savior:

- 1) **Intimacy** with God is possible.
- 2) Forgiveness and **Assurance** are possible.
- 3) Historical sources regarding the **crucifixion** are many and reliable.
- 4) God is **love**.
- 5) Jesus Christ has **resurrected** from the dead.