

Sharing the Love of Christ with a Muslim

Intro:

1. Being a Witness for Christ is basic to the lifestyle of any faithful follower of Jesus. He said of His followers, "you shall be my witnesses..."

2. We witness three ways:

Life= our life message 1st Peter 2:12

Love= how we relate to others 1st Peter 2:15

Lips= what we say. 1st Peter 3:15

All three are needed and important to being a faithful witness to anyone. We must be prepared to effectively share the gospel

3. Special approaches needed with Muslims

Do not attack their religion. (only 1-5% of USA Muslims ever visit a Mosque.)
It is fruitless to attack the Prophet Muhammad or the Koran.

Do not argue.

We are witnesses not prosecutors. Only the Holy Spirit can change a heart.

Do not associate Islam with terrorism

You are witnessing to an individual for whom Christ died, not a "system."

Focus on what do we have in common, not what are our differences.

4. Things we agree on:

The Koran says:

Jesus was Virgin born

He lived without sin

He was a miracle worker

He did acts of love, & healing.

He ascended into Heaven

He is the word of God

He is the Messiah

He is coming in Judgment.

5. Things we do NOT agree with us on:

Muslims reject that Christ is the Son of God= Allah has no Sons.

Muslims reject that Christ is God & feel the idea of Trinity is an abomination.

Christ did not die on the cross, Judas died in his place.

Christ did not rise from the dead.

Salvation is not by faith in Christ alone.

Muhammad is a superior prophet to Jesus, because he is God's final prophet.

6. Where to begin a witness:

1) Praise him for what is commendable=his devotion & sincerity.

2) The peaceful spirit seen in so many Muslims.

3) Admit the shortcomings of so many Christians.

4) Show a mutual respect & love.

5) Muslims are very hospitable= invite him to your home for dinner or go to his.

Question: What do you think of the prophet Jesus?

Use key "Suras" that speak of Jesus. 2:253 =Jesus son of Mary, blessed with the Holy Spirit.

3:45=Jesus virgin Born son of Mary. 3:84 =Jesus a prophet like Moses& Abraham

Note: Avoid saying Jesus is the Son of God or the Deity of Christ in the beginning.

4:157-58= Jesus did not die on the cross, Allah rescued him.

4:171= Believe in Allah & his messengers, and say not "three"-cease! See 5:73

Question: What do you believe about the Bible?

Because the Koran honors the "people of the Book" & says the Scriptures are the Word of God, Most Muslims will acknowledge the sacredness of the Bible though few have read from it.

5:46= Allah gave the Gospel to Jesus & the Torah. Also 5:68

Objection: It is common teaching that Jews & Christians "corrupted" the Bible. 2:42, 3:71, 3:78

- 1) This corruption teaching comes from much later Muslim teaching.
- 2) Sura 10:95-96= God tells Muhammad to trust the Scriptures revealed to the Jews.
- 3) Sura 4:136= says believe the Scriptures as equal to Koran!
- 4) Sura 2:136= says their in no distinction between Koran & Scriptures.

Answer: Who corrupted the Scriptures & can you prove it? Muhammad never saw a text of Bible in Arabic and could not read. The only text popular in Arabia in the 7th century was a Syrian text that was very corrupted and many legends abounded.

John Beatty Papyri= A full New Testament text by 250 CE

Vatican Codex=Complete Old testament Text by 325 CE

"If the Jews of Arabia, aided by their 7th Century Christian opponents, managed to corrupt the Biblical manuscripts within their reach, how about the many beyond their reach, humanly speaking? Again, how could all available manuscripts of the Bible have been corrupted so completely and worldwide that not a single authentic copy survived/ such a preposterous vandalism could never have gone undetected in history recorded both by friend and foe."

-Abdiyah Akbar Abdul-Haqq

Objection: When Muslim claims that Jesus prophesied the coming of Muhammad=Sura 61:7 & John 16:7

The "comforter is not Muhammad, but the Holy Spirit. John 16:14 & 15 :26 tell us that the Comforter comes in Jesus name to glorify Jesus. Surely Muhammad did not come in Jesus name.

Question: *As a Muslim, how do you get your sins forgiven to know you are going to paradise when you die?*

So how does the Muslim ever do enough good works? He must do the five pillars of Islam.

Five Pillars:

Confess Allah

Give to the poor

Make a pilgrimage to Mecca

Observe Ramadan

Pray three times a day.

He still has no assurance of salvation!

Answer:

Show him God's grace to us in Jesus sacrifice for us.

- 1) Man is a sinner and cannot save himself Romans 3:10-20
- 2) God offers us a free gift Ephesians 2:8,9.& Romans 6:23
- 3) Christ died for us Luke 19:10 & Romans 6:23
- 4) You must receive forgiveness by receiving Christ as your savior. John 1:12

If you do not lead him to Christ, encourage him to continue to read God's Word. I recommend Luke's Gospel. **Jeremiah 29:13 & John 5:39** "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life. it is these that testify of me."