

Sharing the Good News with Muslims

The following short articles offer practical ways to lovingly share the Lord with Muslims. Included in the footnotes are the Koran and Hadith references, as well as the Biblical references. The seventh paper is a straight forward Gospel presentation.

Sharing with Muslims using the Ten Commandments

Sharing with a Muslim can be difficult. If you question the teachings of Muhammad or the Koran, many will become enraged and not listen because in Islamic countries criticism of Muhammad or the Koran is not tolerated. However there is an easy and effective way to share with Muslims.

The Bible explains that every person has a God-given conscience which reveals God's moral law.¹ So ask your Muslim friend if they think they are good enough to enter paradise. Most will say yes. Then ask if you may go through a few of the Ten Commandments with them. Ask if they've ever told a lie or if they've ever been greedy. Ask if they've ever had hatred in their heart or looked at a woman with lust. As you go through the commandments, explain that the Bible reveals that one lie makes us liars, stealing anything makes us thieves, having hatred even once makes us murderers at heart, and looking with lust is adultery. Then explain that God, through the prophet Moses – who Muslims believe in – states that the penalty for being a liar or thief or murderer or adulterer is death.²

If they object, remind them that the Ten Commandments are not only in the Bible, but they are found scattered throughout the Koran.³ Furthermore, the Koran claims that it is the continuation of the Bible and will not contradict it.⁴ Therefore they have violated God's law and the penalty must be paid. Once the Holy Spirit convicts them, then you can explain the Good News. And that there is only one person in history who was sinless, had His life prophesied, suffered and died for our sins, and then rose from the dead to save all who repent and personally trust in Him – Jesus Christ!

¹ Romans 2:14-15

² Genesis 2:17; Deuteronomy 24:16

³ Suras 2:62-63; 4:14-17; 4:32; 4:154; 5:7-8; 5:37-38; 7:145; 7:154; 16:2; 16:36; 17:23-24; 17:32; 24:2; 24:7; 25:68; 26:221-223; 29:16; 29:25; 31:14; 46:15; 60:12; 87:1; 96:13-16

⁴ Sura 2:136

Comparing Isa (Jesus) with Muhammad

The Koran was written six centuries after the Bible was completed.¹ Muhammad had interactions with both Jews and Christians, therefore it is no surprise that many biblical truths are found interspersed throughout the Koran.

Jesus is called Isa in the Koran. The Koran teaches that Isa is holy and righteous.² In contrast, Muhammad is told to ask forgiveness for his faults.³ The Koran denies that Isa is the Son of God, denies the Trinity, and denies Christ's substitutionary death and resurrection.⁴

However, the Koran does teach that Isa was born miraculously of the Virgin Mary, that He taught the Torah and the Gospel, that He performed miracles, and even raised the dead.⁵ The Koran even calls Isa the Messiah.⁶

In contrast, Muhammad never performed any miracles, his life was not prophesied, nor was he an intercessor or a savior.⁷ In fact, in Sura 18:110, Muhammad is commanded by Allah to say "I am but a man like yourselves." Sadly, Muhammad condoned violence, murder and robbery in the Koran.⁸ Furthermore, Sura 33 reports that Muhammad took another man's wife,⁹ and in Sura 4 Muhammad commands husbands to beat disobedient wives.¹⁰

Finally, Muhammad had no premonition of his death. And when he died, he stayed dead. In contrast, the Bible and history provides overwhelming evidence that Jesus not only anticipated His death and resurrection, but rose bodily from the dead. Even the Koran admits that God raised Isa from the dead and that Isa will return for the Last Judgment.¹¹ When witnessing, even a basic knowledge of what Islam believes can provide a springboard to share with Muslims.

For Resurrection evidence read:

www.eternal-productions.org/PDFS/articles/Resurrection%20evidence.pdf

¹ Muhammad was born in 570 A.D., died in 632 A.D., and the Koran was compiled in the years following his death. The Bible was completed in the First Century A.D.

² Suras 3:46; 19:19-34; 43:61-63; 61:6. See also Hadith Vol. 4, no. 506

³ Suras 18:110; 40:55; 48:1-2.

⁴ Suras 4:169; 5:19; 4:157

⁵ Suras 3:47; 19:17-21; 3:48; 5:46; 61:6; 2:253; 3:49

⁶ Suras 3:45; 4:171-172

⁷ Suras 6:51, 70; 10:3

⁸ Suras 2:191-193; 4:74; 5:33; 9:5; 47:4

⁹ Sura 33:36-38

¹⁰ Sura 4:34

¹¹ Suras 3:55; 4:158; 19:33; 43:61-63

Sharing Isa (Jesus) with Muslims

Over the years I've shared with quite a few Muslims. Most Muslims I've spoken with are only aware of Islam's basic tenets, recited prayers, and familiar passages from the Koran.

An easy way to start a conversation is to ask questions concerning their religion. One question that will get their attention is: "What do you think about Isa?" Isa is the name for Jesus in the Koran, and Muslims will be happily surprised that you know this. Listen as they answer and then ask: "Did you know the Koran teaches that Isa is holy and righteous,¹ but Muhammad is told to ask forgiveness for his faults?"² Be sure you have the Koran references – which you can find in the footnotes below – because most Muslims will be angered to discover that their prophet was a sinner. Then explain that the Bible teaches that we are all sinners except God Himself. They will agree that God is holy. Then go through several of the Ten Commandments to show to your listener that we have all sinned against God. Then explain that, according to the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament Apostles, Jesus is the only sinless man. From here you can explain why Jesus had to die for our sins and the evidence for His resurrection. You can also reference Bible prophecies which demonstrate that the Bible alone is inspired by God.

Before concluding ask if they have a Bible and encourage them to read it – reminding them that the Koran constantly refers to the Bible as God's Word.³ You will have planted an eternal seed and God is sure to water.

¹ Suras 3:46; 19:19-34; 43:61-63; 61:6. See also Hadith Vol. 4, no. 506

² Suras 18:110; 40:55; 48:1-2.

³ Suras 2:13,16,17,20,21,23,25,26,28,29,32,34,35,39-48,53,54,61,62,66,74,80,87,98, etc.

Comparing the Bible with the Koran

The Bible claims to be the Word of God. But how do we know? We know it by its fulfilled prophecies. There are dozens concerning Christ that came true when He was on earth. In addition, there are hundreds of prophecies concerning Israel and the nations that have come to pass.¹ In contrast, the Koran has no specific, detailed prophecies that have been fulfilled.

The Bible was written by 40 different men spanning 2000 years and yet it has one unified theme beginning in Genesis and culminating in Revelation. In contrast the Koran has no beginning or ending; presents many historical errors; offers no chronological order; and its chapters are jumbled and confused. The Koran claims it is a continuation of the Bible and will not contradict it,² however the contradictions are numerous. For example, the Koran says the global flood occurred in Moses' day.³ It claims Nimrod threw Abraham into a fire – though Nimrod was dead centuries before Abraham was born.⁴ It even confuses the mother of Jesus with Miriam the sister of Moses and Aaron.⁵ And while the Bible contains scores of scientific insights, the Koran contains many errors – even stating that the sun sets in a muddy pond.⁶

Furthermore, the Bible is the only book that explains the origin of everything – particularly why there is death and suffering in the world. It is also the only book that offers a reasonable solution to sin and death. In contrast, the Koran does not explain the cause or origin of sin, death, or suffering, and offers no specific solution to mankind's problems. Refer to the footnote references for many more reasons to trust the Bible alone as the inspired Word of God.⁷

¹ See: www.aboutbibleprophecy.com

Refer also to the booklets *Final Destiny* and *101 Last Days Prophecies* on our site: <http://www.eternal-productions.org/101prophecy.html>

² Sura 2:136

³ Suras 7:136; 7:59

⁴ Suras 21:68-69 and 9:69

⁵ Sura 19:27-28

⁶ <http://www.eternal-productions.org/101science.html> Job 26:7; Job 38:16; Psalm 19:6; Sura 18:86; See also: Suras 7:73-85; 91:14; 54:29; 2:65; 7:163-166; 18:9-26; 3:106-107; 41:9-12; 105; 20:87,95; etc.

⁷ For scores of documented errors and contradictions in the Koran and Hadith, refer to: Dr. Robert Morey, *Islamic Invasion*, Eugene, OR, Harvest House Publishers, 1992.

For scientific insights in the Bible refer to: *101 Scientific Facts & Foreknowledge* on our website: <http://www.eternal-productions.org/101science.html>

Assurance of Heaven for Muslims

According to the Koran, those whose good deeds weigh heavy on the Day of Judgment shall dwell in Paradise.¹ But just how many good deeds are required is never specified. Because of this, most Muslims do not have any assurance of their salvation. Even Muhammad had no assurance of his salvation. In the Hadith the Prophet is quoted as saying, "Though I am the Apostle of Allah, yet I do not know what Allah will do to me."²

The Koran and Hadith do assure admittance into Paradise for those who fight for Allah, or are slain for Allah.³ For example, Sura 47 states: "When you meet in battle [unbelievers], then smite their necks until you have overcome them, then make (them) prisoners, ... and for those who are slain in the way of Allah, He will by no means allow their deeds to perish. He will guide them ... and cause them to enter the Garden."⁴ And the Hadith repeatedly states: "Allah guarantees to the person who carries out Jihad for His cause ... that He will either admit him into Paradise or return him with his reward."⁵

Despite this fact, the majority of Muslims are hoping to gain entrance to Paradise by their profession of faith in Allah and his prophet Muhammad, by following the tenets of their religion, and by doing good works. Therefore an easy way to share with Muslims is to ask, "How does a person reach heaven according to Islam?" Then use the Ten Commandments to show them their need for the Savior, and then share the gospel of grace found in Jesus Christ alone.

So an important question to ask is "Are you sure you will go to paradise (heaven) when you die?" Most Muslims have no certain assurance of going to heaven. But the true God promises eternal life all who trust in Jesus: "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life."⁶ "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."⁷

¹ Suras 7:8; 42:17; 101:6-9

² (Sahih Bukhari: Volume 5, Book 58, Number 266).

³ Suras 4:74; 47:4-7; Hadith (Sahih Bukhari) Volume 1, Book 2, Number 35; Volume 4, Book 33, Number 352; Volume 9, Book 93, Number 519. For example Hadith Volume 9, Book 93, Number 549 states: "Allah's Apostle said, 'Allah guarantees to the person who carries out Jihad for His Cause and nothing compelled him to go out but the Jihad in His Cause, and belief in His Words, that He will either admit him into Paradise or return him with his reward or the booty he has earned to his residence from where he went out.'" Another example is found in Hadith Volume 4, Book 53, Number 386 which states "Our Prophet, the Messenger of our Lord, has ordered us to fight you till you worship Allah Alone or give Jizya (i.e. tribute); and our Prophet has informed us that our Lord says:-- "Whoever amongst us is killed (i.e. martyred), shall go to Paradise to lead such a luxurious life as he has never seen, and whoever amongst us remain alive, shall become your master."

⁴ Sura 47:4-7, 15

⁵ Hadith (Sahih Bukhari) Volume 9, Book 93, Number 549

⁶ 1 John 5:13

⁷ John 10:28

Sharing the Love of God with Muslims

In Muslim countries criticism of Islam is viewed as a criminal offense punishable by death. Therefore convincing a Muslim of his need for the Savior can be precarious.

One day while going door-to-door handing out VBS flyers, I met a Muslim man and his son. I asked the man if he had read the Koran or the Bible. He said “Of course.” Then I asked “Did you know that both the Koran and Bible teach that Jesus is holy and sinless?” He nodded, not surprised, because Muslims believe that the Prophets are righteous. When I mentioned that the Bible taught that Jesus was the only man who was sinless¹ and that Allah commanded Muhammad to confess his sins in the Koran,² this man became enraged, saying I was blaspheming. I offered to email him the passages, but he was irate and would not hear it. Then I explained that Jesus taught that to have hatred in our heart made us guilty of murder in God’s eyes.³ I continued “Jesus even said ‘love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.’⁴ In contrast, the Koran commands Muslims to fight and kill unbelievers.”⁵

Though the father was burning with anger, his son appeared ashamed of his father’s reaction and convicted. I said to his son, “Jesus wins hearts through love – never by force.” I then encouraged them to read the Bible. Please pray that the Lord would save them.

Perhaps the best approach and most important question to ask is “Please explain who God (Allah) is to you?” and “Do you know that God is your Father who personally loves you?” The Koran never says God is love, but the Bible assures us that “God is love”⁶ and He is our Father who loves all His children.⁷ And, “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”⁸

¹ Isaiah 53:6-12 Romans 5:19; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22-24; 1 John 3:5

² Suras 18:110; 40:55; 48:1-2

³ Matthew 5:21-22; 1 John 3:15

⁴ Matthew 5:44

⁵ Suras 47:4-7; 2:191; 5:33; 9:5; etc.

⁶ 1 John 4:16

⁷ Galatians 4:6

⁸ Romans 5:8

The Gospel

Gospel means *Good News*. And in a world of sin and suffering, we each desperately need God's Good News. But before we can understand the Gospel, we must understand the bad news.

In the beginning God created everything very good.ⁱ The Lord placed man in a garden paradise.ⁱⁱ However man was given a free will and a choice.ⁱⁱⁱ Though mankind lived in a perfect environment, he chose to rebel against His Creator.^{iv} As God warned Adam, sin resulted in suffering and death. The curse described in Genesis affected all creation, and today we see the horrible results.^v

Scripture also explains that, like Adam, we have all “sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”^{vi} To see if this applies to you, please review God's Ten Commandments.^{vii} Have you ever told a lie? One lie makes us a liar in God's eyes. Jesus explained that lust was equivalent to adultery.^{viii} Have you ever had lustful thoughts? Scripture explains, “Whoever hates his brother is a murderer.”^{ix} Have you ever despised another person? The Lord even warned: “But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.”^x Have you ever gossiped or spoken foolishly?

Whether our sin is envy, greed, pride (which was Lucifer's sin),^{xi} or using God's name lightly – we must admit that we are all guilty of sinning against our Creator. The Bible explains that the penalty for any sin is death – both physical death and spiritual death – which is eternal separation from God.^{xii} The final destiny for those who spurn their Creator is the lake of fire, which is the second death: “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”^{xiii}

However, there is Good News! Before time began God had a plan to rescue mankind.^{xiv} Because the penalty for sin is death, the Creator came to earth as a man,^{xv} lived a sinless life,^{xvi} and died to pay the penalty for our sins.^{xvii} He then rose from the dead – defeating death – and offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will trust Him.^{xviii}

Scripture states that God is love.^{xix} And He demonstrated His own love toward us by stepping down from heaven to offer His life so that we might be reconciled to Him forever!^{xx} Jesus Christ is the Creator.^{xxi} On the cross He bore our sins and then rose for our justification.^{xxii} The Lord now offers everlasting life to all who will repent from their sins and trust in Him personally.^{xxiii}

By placing your faith in Jesus Christ you can enter into a relationship with the Creator of the universe that will last forever! This is His free gift and His desire for you.^{xxiv}

God our Savior “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”^{xxv} But remember, because God is completely just and holy,^{xxvi} every sin will meet with a just punishment.^{xxvii} Therefore, only Jesus – who alone is perfect and righteous, who alone died for our sins, who alone rose from the dead – can save you.^{xxviii} If you neglect God's great salvation, the consequences are eternal. Scripture warns “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the

living God.”^{xxix} God will pour out His “indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil.”^{xxx}

Therefore, “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.”^{xxxi} Instead, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.”^{xxxii} If you do, you will live in Heaven with our awesome Creator forever!

ⁱ Genesis 1

ⁱⁱ Genesis 2

ⁱⁱⁱ Genesis 2:16-17

^{iv} Genesis 3

^v Genesis 3:17; Romans 8:20-22. In fact only the Bible explains the origin of Creation, sin, death, suffering, conscience, and a host of other fundamental truths.

^{vi} Romans 3:23

^{vii} Exodus 20

^{viii} Matthew 5:27-28

^{ix} 1 John 3:15

^x Matthew 12:36

^{xi} Isaiah 14:12-15; 1 Timothy 3:6

^{xii} Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23

^{xiii} Revelation 21:8

^{xiv} 1 Peter 1:20

^{xv} Matthew 1:23

^{xvi} 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 John 3:5

^{xvii} 1 Corinthians 15:3; Romans 6:10; Hebrews 10:10

^{xviii} Matthew 28:6-7; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Romans 10:9

^{xix} 1 John 4:8

^{xx} Romans 5:8

^{xxi} John 1; Colossians 1; Hebrews 1

^{xxii} Isaiah 53; Romans 4:25

^{xxiii} John 3:36

^{xxiv} Romans 5:15-18

^{xxv} 1 Timothy 2:3-4

^{xxvi} Leviticus 19:2; Psalm 37:28

^{xxvii} Matthew 10:26; Revelation 20:12

^{xxviii} John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 2 Corinthians 5:21

^{xxix} Hebrews 10:31

^{xxx} Romans 2:8-9

^{xxxi} Hebrews 3:15

^{xxxii} Mark 1:15