

BEFRIEND·A·FAM

SHARING OUR FAITH WITH OUR MUSLIM FRIENDS

MARSHALL AND TAMMY STOY // GLOBAL GATES

THE BIG IDEA
MUHAMMAD
QUR'AN & HADITH
BELIEFS
SOME WAYS TO SHARE
NEXT STEPS

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Luke 10:49-52

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

A couple of observations

1. Jesus met the man's physical need
2. The man wanted to follow Jesus

HEY! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

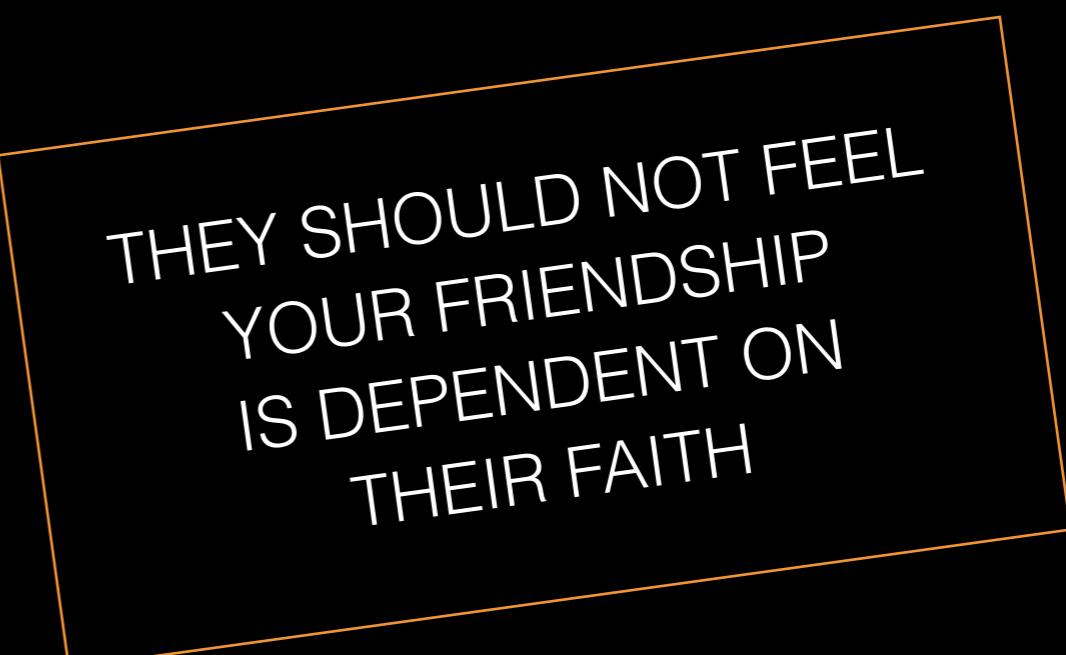
Our desires are two-fold:

1. To serve the **worldly** need of our new neighbors.
2. To see them follow Christ, serving their **spiritual** need.

WHAT'S NOT THE BIG IDEA?

The goal is ***not*** to

1. Give them stuff ***so that***
2. They will believe



THEY SHOULD NOT FEEL
YOUR FRIENDSHIP
IS DEPENDENT ON
THEIR FAITH

YOUR IDENTITY?

Don't let them think of you as...

1. their social worker
2. their parent
3. their provider

YOUR IDENTITY?

Let them think of you as...

1. their friend
2. who can help them
3. in a new culture and country

YOUR IDENTITY?

How to be their friend...

1. call them for no reason but to say “hi”
2. have some meals together (picnic?)
3. if needs come up, let them do so organically
4. receive their generosity and hospitality and
5. reciprocate in like manner

TO RECAP: WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

The goal **is** to

1. Love them by meeting their needs
2. With an eye towards seeing them follow Jesus

AN EXAMPLE...

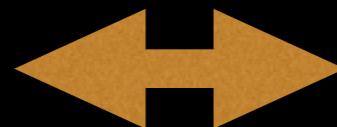
AL FAHDI TESTIMONY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VURXI97G0hA>

THE PROCESS

1. Believer Meets Refugee

Through Marshall & Tammy, through you serving with a settlement agency, through your own initiative

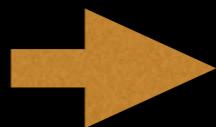


2. Believer Gets Trained

We offer TWO crash course trainings; one on cultural considerations, other on evangelism

3. Believer Reaches Out

Face to face when possible, texting each day, You are their American friend, not with the settlement agency. Don't be preachy, but some time early on let them know you are praying for them and you're a follower of Jesus. Try to get a feel for what the settlement agency is *not* doing and see if you can fill in the gaps.



4. Believer Shares Jesus

Given the trauma they've been through, the distrust they may have and the wide difference between our worldview, it may be best to share incrementally. But listen to the Holy Spirit. For all you know, this person has been dreaming about Jesus for years and needs an introduction sooner rather than later. No formulas here.

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QUESTION

**What is the Christian view on when
and how one should be baptized?**









MUHAMMAD'S EARLY YEARS

570 - born in Mecca into Quraysh tribe

Father (Abdullah) died before birth

Mother (Amina) died when Muhammad was 6yrs

Muhammad raised by his trader uncle, Abu Talib

At about 25, meets, marries Khadijah, rich merchant and they work Syria and Arabia

MUHAMMAD'S RISE

Meets resistance preaching against idolatry in Mecca.

Prior to him, Kaaba used for polytheistic fertility worship.

After 13 years, flees to Medina with small band. (Hijra).
(This is year “0” on the Islamic calendar. 622 for us).

In Medina, he becomes a religio-political leader

In 629 Muhammad (relatively peacefully) takes Mecca -
after a raiding caravans, battling Jewish tribes and
gaining wealth in Medina.

AFTER MUHAMMAD'S DEATH

An almost immediate divide over successor

Sunni (lawful): Those for Abu Bakr, a companion to Muhammad and the father Aisha, of one of his wives. Abu Bakr ends up becoming the first caliph

Shia (Ali's party): Those for Ali, Muhammad's cousin. Ali ends up becoming the fourth caliph
...followed by 12 infallible imams (Shias)

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THE QUR'AN'S RECEPTION

At 40, Muhammad began receiving it from Jibreel at 40.

He was meditating in cave called *Hira*.

An angel tells him to read, but he cannot. Three times.

He was afraid and sought comfort from Khadijah.

Sahih al Bukari vol1:book1:v3

He received revelations for 23 years.

Contents of these revelations were recited and written on whatever could be found.

THE QUR'AN: AFTER MUHAMMAD'S DEATH

632 Muhammad dies

632 also Battle of Yamama, after which Zaid Thabit was commissioned to collect the prophet's sayings, on bones, by memory etc.

The third caliph, Uthman heard of complaints of various versions of the Qur'an being recited.

About 20 yrs after Muhammad died, Uthman redacted into one form and burned rest.

THE QUR'AN: OTHER STUFF

114 chapters (suwar - surah = singular)

Arranged from the longest to the shortest - mostly

Quranic proof: 2:23, 24 (see also 10:38)

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HADITH

Writings of all that Muhammad and companions did
His actions, sayings, what he accepted or rejected.

Helps Muslims apply the Qur'an. If the Qur'an is the skeleton, the Hadith are the meat on the skeleton. More detailed and application oriented.

Not divine, but having authority, depending on how good the attestation, or *isnad*.

The most respected and quoted is Sahih al-Bukhari (810-870). Said to have examined over 600,000 sayings, retaining only 7,397.

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THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

Shahada

There is only one God and
Mohammed is his prophet.

Salat

Prescribed prayer, five
times a day.

Zakat

Giving of 2.5% of income to
the needy.

Sawm

Fasting and self-control
during Ramadan.

Hajj

Pilgrimage to Mecca

SIX ARTICLES OF FAITH

Allah

There is only one God and
Mohammed is his prophet.

Angels

Jibrail has particular
importance.

Books

The Qur'an, but also the Taurat,
Zabur and Injil. (10:94, 4:136, 6:115)

Prophets

Muhammed (final) also Adam,
Ibrahim, Musa and others.

Day of Judgement

Deeds weighed; righteous
to janna, others to jahannam.

Allah's Will

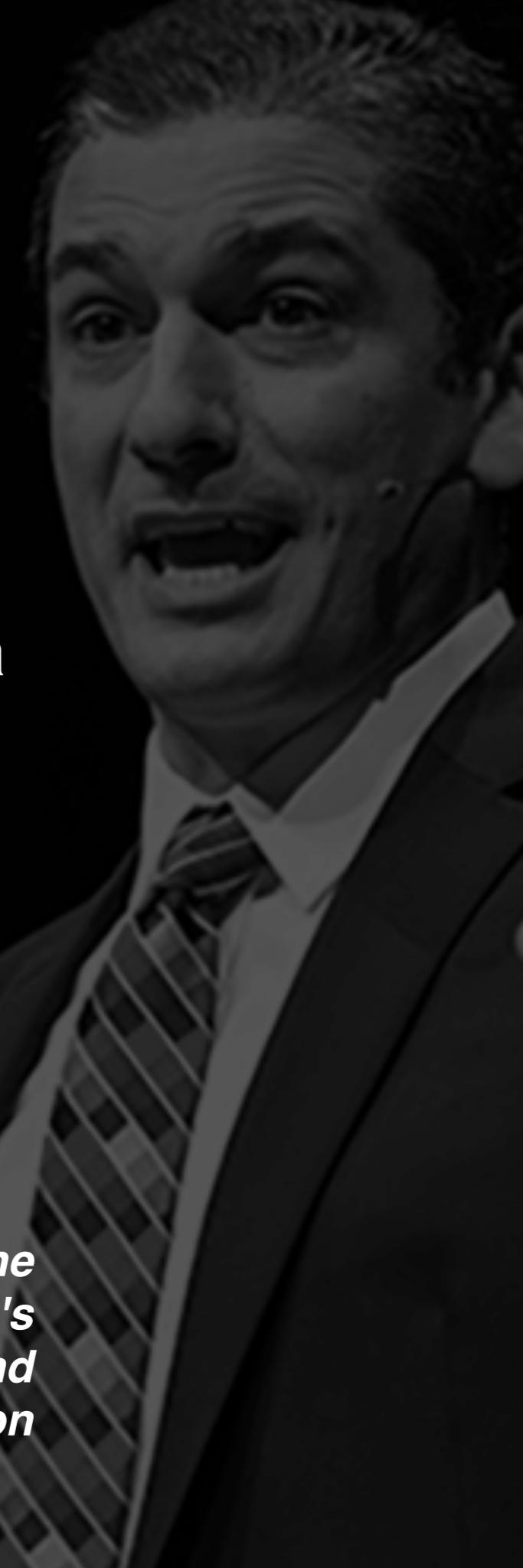
God's predestined,
divine decree.

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

I don't know any former Muslim who became a Christian who has said to me, 'I was just cornered in a debate, and it made sense that Islam was crazy and I became a Christian.' Every former Muslim that I know who's a Christian -- every one of them -- points to a person who loved them.

*former Muslim Afshin Ziafat said at the
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission's
Leadership Summit on the Gospel and
Racial Reconciliation*



AN AFGHAN SPECIFIC CAVEAT STUFF TO THINK ABOUT GIVEN THE SITUATION

Don't say, "Look at what Islam has done to Afghanistan."
Received like, "Look what Christianity has done to Hollywood."

Don't pressure them into hearing about your faith right away.

Given their trauma, going slowly may make more sense, but...

LISTEN for the Spirit's prompting.

AfghanSharing_Farzaaneh1
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JIBh7wmgdTo>
8:40 - 10:05
and
11:55 - 12:47

SHREKS

Adapted from Mike Shipman's book, **Any3**. The good stuff is his. The stuff you don't like, probably from me. :^)

As mentioned during the training, this was not developed for refugee scenarios per se, but I think can be adapted for it. For example, the first two steps ("S" and "H") will likely take care of themselves.

As always, remember that this is simply a tool. PLEASE do not forget to ask the Spirit (before and during engagement) for His direction. He knows the best approach. The following is a tool, not God.

SMALL TALK

You have social skills. Use them. It can be jarring for people if you jump in too quickly.

This may be especially true for your Afghan families who have been through recent trauma.

Similarly, part of Afghan culture is to ask how the person is, how their families are etc.

HOMELAND

Ask about some of the differences between life here and there. What are the foods of Afghanistan like? What are the people like? How is life different?

***How do people practice their faith there?
Oh, so most people are Muslim? Are you?***

Asking about where they've come from can be used as a means of bringing up faith.

RELIGIOUS SIMILARITIES

Many Muslims here feel that their faith has been grossly mischaracterized by the media. When they tell you they practice Islam, it may be done so tentatively, expecting push back.

There will be time enough later to disagree, but for now...

I think there are some similarities in many faiths. One of them is: man has done shameful things (sins), and needs forgiveness from God has never sinned.

EVIL DEEDS B4 THE KING

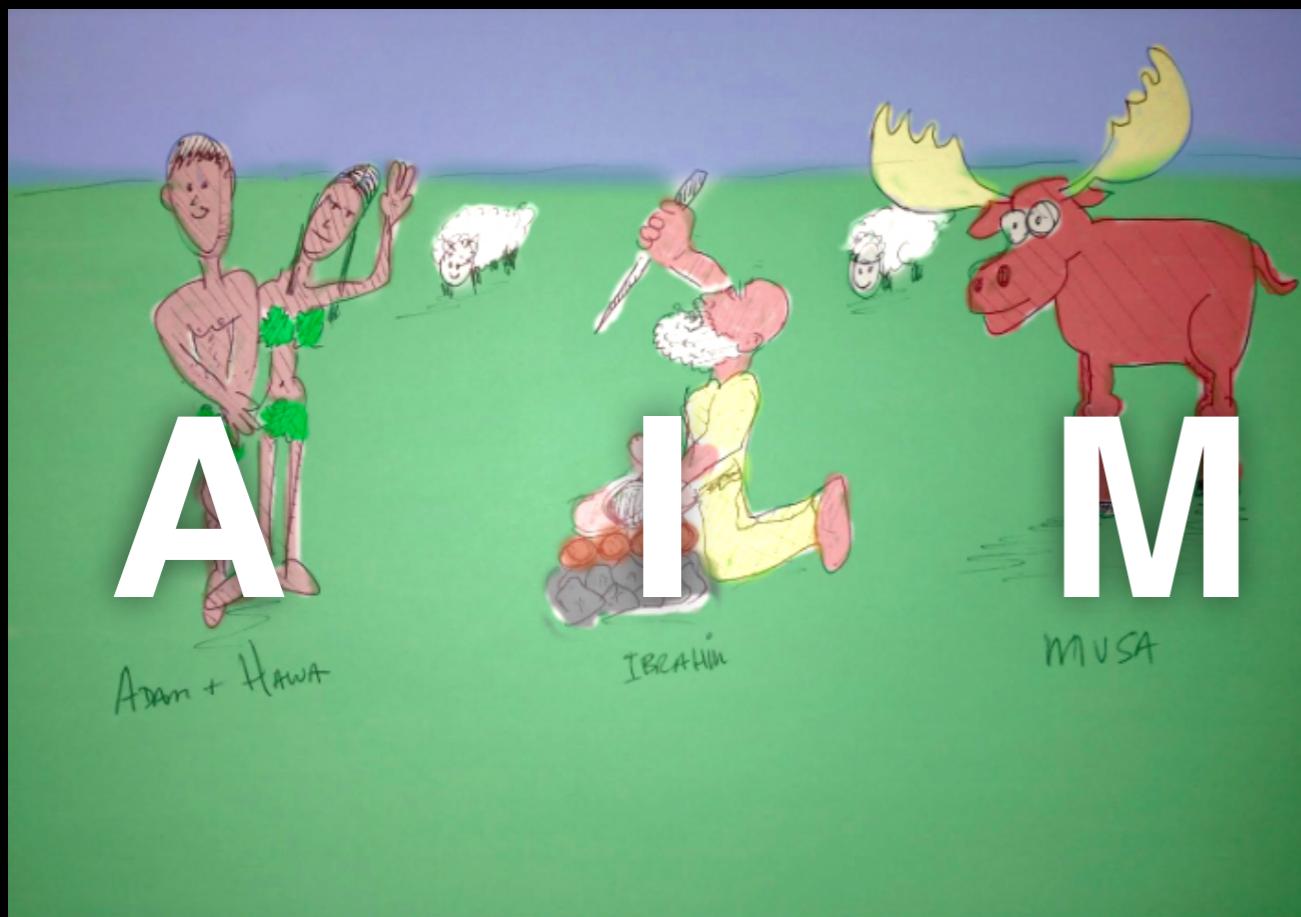
After establishing that mankind has a sin problem and needs forgiveness from God, ask them.

How about you? God forbid that you die, but one day we all will. On the day of judgement, what hope do you have that God will forgive you?

SACRIFICE STORIES

After listening to how they hope to have their evil deeds before the king resolved...

Thank for sharing. I believe something different. You may have done more good deeds than I, but I believe my sins will be forgiven because of God's plan. To understand this plan, we must go back to the beginning. Do you remember...



M



Yahoo!



Adam + Hawa

ADAM & HAWA

Do you remember how God told them to **eat from any tree except one**, but they disobeyed?

Remember how they had shame because they realized they had no clothes on?

Remember how they tried to cover their own shame with leaves? But leaves aren't enough to cover our shame.

So God took the skin of an innocent animal to cover their shame. They tried to cover their own, but they could not. God did it for them.

IBRAHIM

Do you remember when Ibrahim was going to sacrifice his son? [For now, leave the Isaac vs Ishmael debate for later].

Did he sacrifice his son? No. Why?

Yes, because he was stopped, but there is another reason.



After Ibrahim was stopped, he saw an animal that was stuck.

Ibrahim took that animal and sacrificed it instead of sacrificing his child.

[Reiterate with them]

Instead of Adam and Hawa having shame, *the animal died* and...

Instead of Abraham's child dying, *the animal died*.

MUSA

Do you remember prophet Musa?

The people he was leading did many bad, shameful things.

God told Musa to take an innocent animal and have it killed so that the sins of the people would be forgiven.

See Leviticus 4. Can use Passover story, but this is already getting a little long.



YAHYA



Do you remember prophet Yahya? One day, he called Jesus an unusual name. He said that Jesus is “the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.”

Why would Yahya call him this? It is because it was always God’s plan for Jesus to die on the cross for our shame and sin.

YAHYA



Just as the innocent animal died to cover Adam and Hawa's sin, just like the innocent animal died so Ibrahim's son would not have to, just like the innocent animal died instead of the people Musa was leading, so too Jesus died instead of us. We were the ones who have sinned, but he never has. This was God's plan all along. Yes, I do good things, but not for forgiveness. It's because I love Him.

GIVE THEM SOME OPTIONS

They may vehemently disagree. They might be intrigued. (Or both!) Give some next steps.

**What do you think about what this?
Some of what I shared was in the Qur'an
but other parts from the Taurat, Zabur and
the Injil. Have you ever studied these
books from God?**

AGAIN...

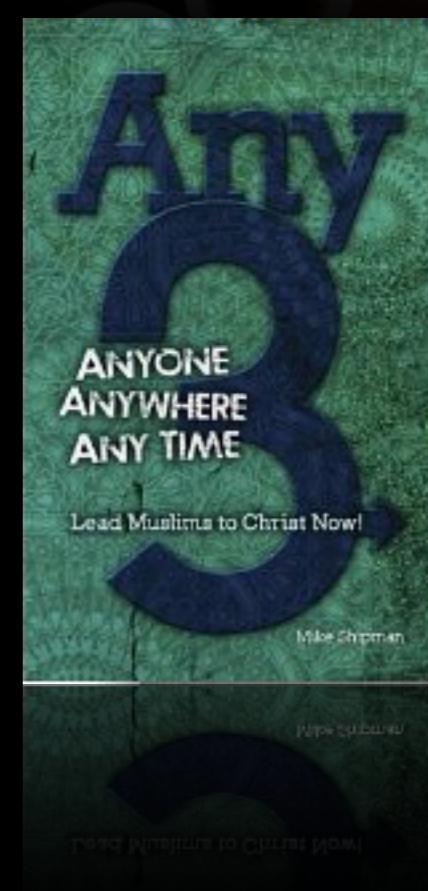
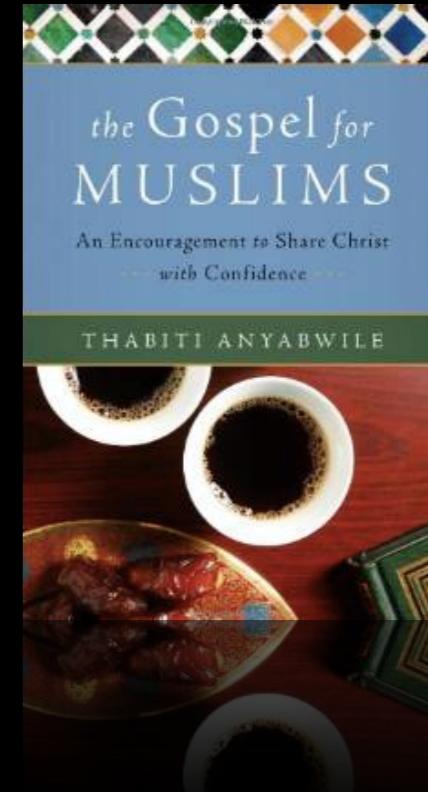
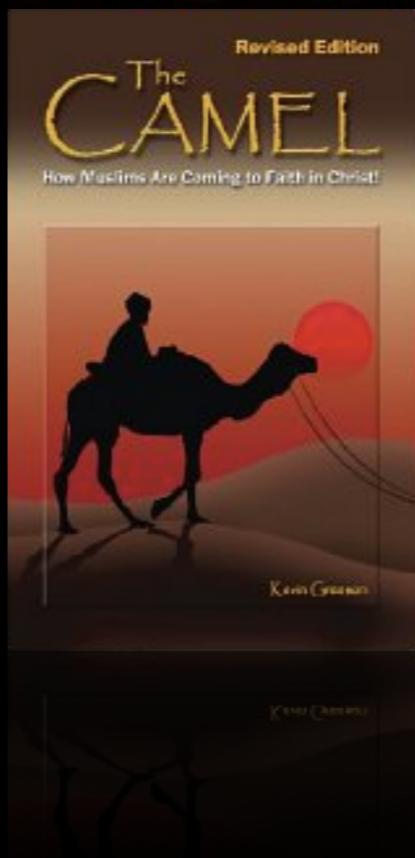
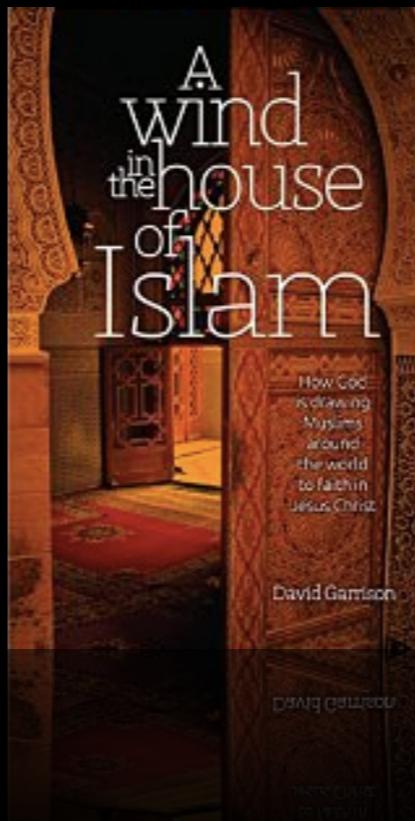
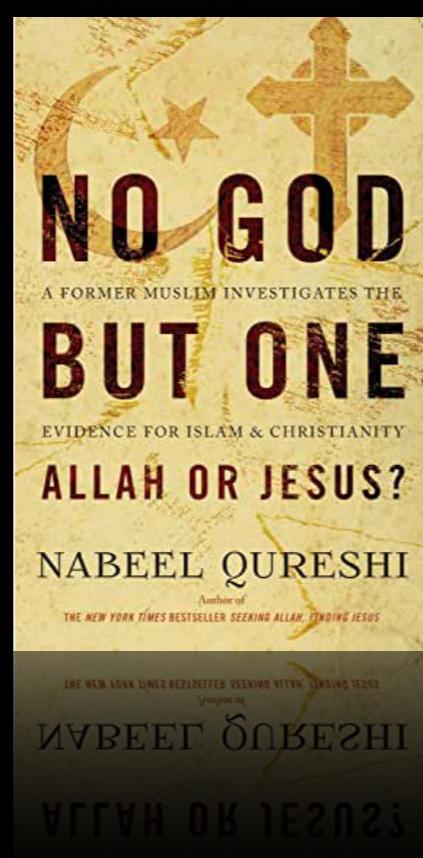
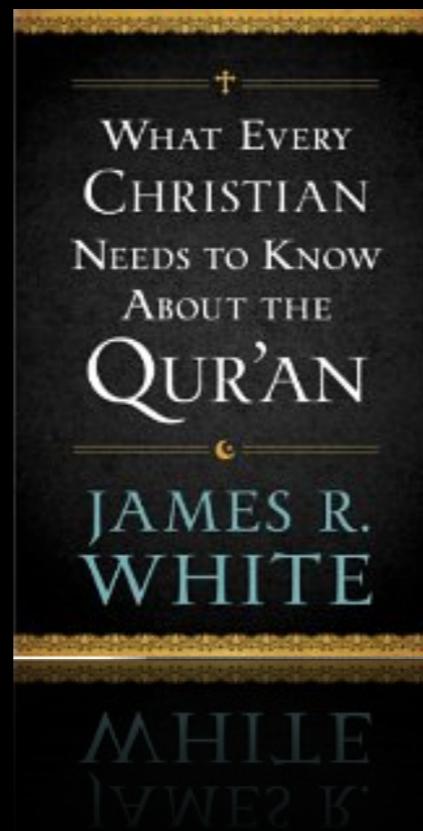
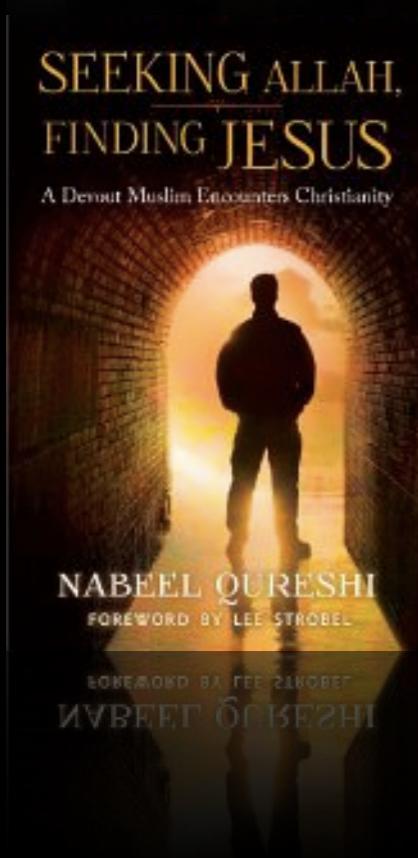
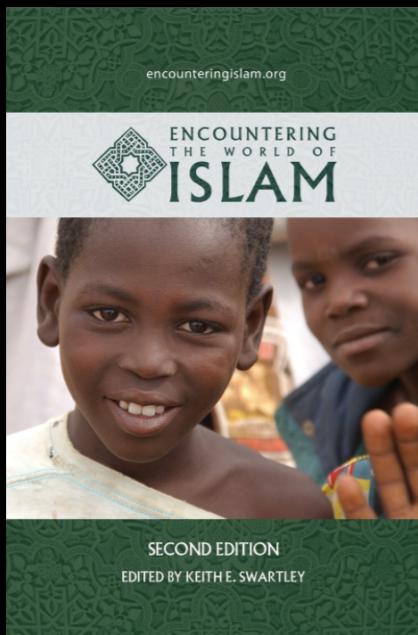
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Are You Connected?

If we've not connected you yet we will soon. Let us know if you're anxious and want to get started with out us.

NO

Get Trained and Sit Tight

There are **two** trainings (*Cultural Considerations* and *Sharing Your Faith with Muslims*). We will connect you with a family as soon as we are able. In the meantime, you may wish to check out *Hearts for Sale* by Farzana Marie. We can also point you to some apartments where you can prayer walk and perhaps meet Afghans.

YES

Love on Your Peeps

As discussed earlier, keep in touch with them by text, see them face to face when you can.

Monthly Meeting?

This is still being discussed, but we are considering having a regular meeting to encourage each other and discuss ideas for serving and sharing our new neighbors.

Prayer

Every Wednesday morning from 7:00 - 8:00 we pray for Afghans. Please join us.

TRAINING 1**CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS WHILE REACHING OUT TO AFGHANS**

Covers some dos and don't, just a tad of language as well as reminder of why and who we are doing this. Offered two dates:

Thursday, September 2, 2021 (7:00 - 9:00PM)

TRAINING 2**SHARING YOUR FAITH WITH MUSLIMS**

Covers a super-duper quick intro to the Islamic worldview as well as a tool or two when sharing the Lord with our dear Muslim friends. Offered two dates:

Monday, September 13, 2021 (7:00 - 9:00PM)