

**Immigration and Fear:
Practical Ways to Love our
Muslim Neighbors**

tiny.cc/u18muslims

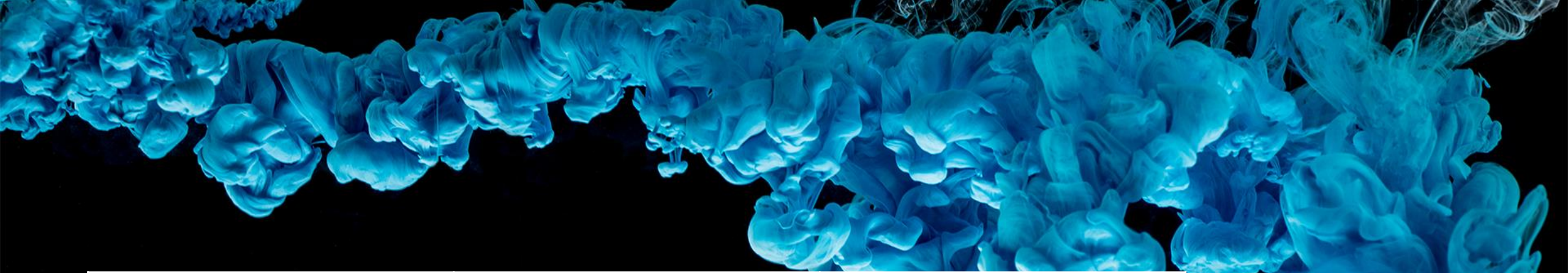
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**LOVE
YOUR
MUSLIM
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A Word on Last Night

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How do Muslim refugees view the refugee crisis in the Middle East/North Africa?	How do redneck** Americans view the refugee crisis?	How should Christians view the refugee crisis?
Life and death Heartbreaking Traumatic Hopelessly unfair Family Crippling Criminal Atrocity to humanity	Not a crisis Not our problem Afraid Disappointing Defensive Reaping what they've sowed A threat to us	As people Lament All God's children Give them hope Made in God's image Generosity Without fear Open Arms With love



Reflection

- Imagine you're a Muslim international, newly arrived.
- What are your hopes? Fears? Concerns about coming to the USA?



Plan for the rest of the time

- Share viewpoints of Muslims coming to the US
- Practical way to meet Muslims on campus/in majority Muslim neighborhoods
- Practical way to have deeper spiritual conversations that shows love
- Come up with an individual/team plan to go home with
- Q&A

Examples of Muslim Internationals' Views of coming to the USA

- “The immigration ban made me feel unwelcome.”-Iraqi male green card holder
- “After hearing from some of my friends about their experiences, I was afraid of any racism I might suffer from”- Egyptian female international student
- “I was afraid after 9/11.”-Saudi female international student
 - Note: In pre-2001 America, American Muslims were heartened by perceptible indications of their growing visibility in public and official space...By the late morning of 11 September 2001 those perceptions had been severely shaken and essentially up-ended.” Asma Afsaruddin in Contemporary Issues of Islam

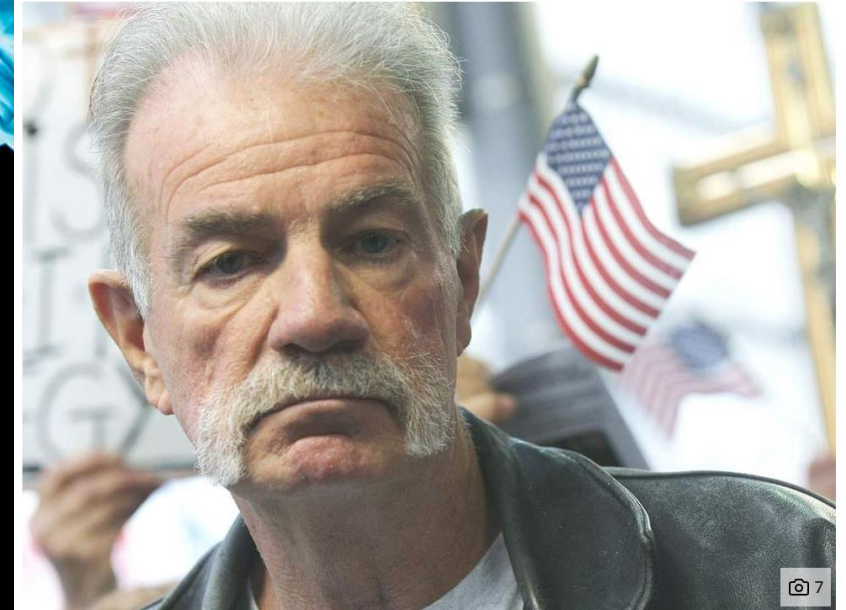
Terry Jones: Controversial US pastor insists 'burning the Koran is not radical'

Jones is known for his plans to burn nearly 3,000 copies of the Koran as part of 9/11 memorial plans in 2010

Anne Hull | Sunday 18 January 2015 13:49 | 6 comments



Like Click to follow The Independent US



20 March 2011: Florida Pastor Terry Jones douses a Koran in kerosene and sets fire to it after a mock trial. There is a violent backlash in Afghanistan and at least 14 people, including seven UN workers, are killed in the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, as well a (Getty Images)



Three things to know:

- Embrace the awkward of a spontaneous connection
- Be kind and non-threatening. Desire to learn about their culture.
- It's good to establish your spiritual identity from the start, rather than waiting for later.



Take a minute in pairs

- How welcoming is your campus/church/neighborhood to Muslims
- What makes it welcoming or not welcoming?

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- <http://tiny.cc/lymn-campaign>

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LAYOUT

INTERACTIVE PANEL

Which of the three was a neighbor?



Male



Female



INTERACTIVE PANEL

How Welcoming Is Our Campus?





LYMN Campaign Purpose and Goals:

- Purpose
 - Live out Jesus' words by loving Muslim students at a time when many feel particularly unwelcome in America.
- Goals:
 - Build trust and friendships between Christian and Muslim students on campus.
 - Discuss how welcoming your campus is and invite students to be good neighbors to people different from them—particularly Muslims and international students.
 - Christians and non-Christians alike experience the relevancy and goodness of obeying Jesus' words.



These [blurred] Tech students and they are American! When they heard about the US government resolution! They came to my house and show their support and that touch my heart and hearts all Libyans! This is [blurred] Tech and this is what makes United States a great country!



12 minutes ago · Unlike ·  4



What are Peace Feasts?

-A meal bringing Christian & Muslim students together to talk about faith & culture and start friendships

-A flexible format event that can be adapted for different campuses and contexts—from 4 to 400!



What are the goals?

- Honor Muslims and show a different view of Christians
- 1st/2nd threshold engagement - No pressuring or arguing is allowed...but sharing stories & traditions is encouraged.
- Multiplication - more Christians get involved engaging Muslims
- Leadership development - helping students learn storytelling and cross-cultural communication
- Begin new friendships that will continue beyond the event

What do you need?

- Openness
- A safe space (not at a Christian space)
- Even ratio of Muslims to Christians or more Muslims than Christians
- Christians who are willing to invest in relationship beyond this event
- Follow up plan



Two Different Types

- “Peace Feast 101”
 - More focused on basic questions about faith or events in country/culture of Muslim students
- “Peace Feast 201”
 - Focused on side by side discussion of the Bible/Qur’an



Peace Feast 101 Topics



- Consider your community, audience & current events
- “Getting to know the ‘other’”
- “Peace in our faith traditions”
- “Hearing Muslim stories” – culture, refugees, immigration, experience in America as international students



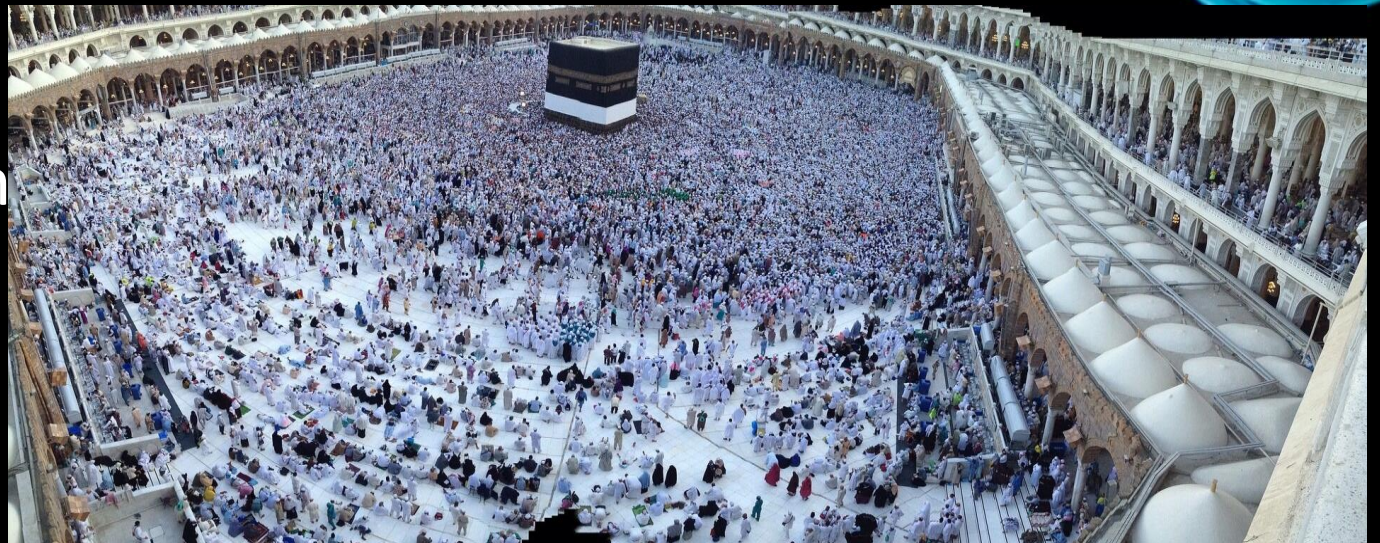
Peace in our Faith Traditions

Questions:

- How does your faith promote peace?
- Have you seen examples of good inter-faith friendships?
- What is it like being a Muslim/Christian in the United States?
- Who has been the most significant living person in your faith journey?
- Outside of Muhammad (Peace be upon him) or Jesus, what person of faith would you most like to emulate?
- What is your favorite story from your Holy Book?
- What is your favorite attribute of Allah/God?
- Why do you think God put you on Earth?

Peace Feast 201 Topics

- Jesus' Birth
- Eid al-Adha
- Ramadan/Fasting
- Shared prophets: Moses, Abraham, Jonah, etc.





Planning

- Ideally done with Muslims and Christians together
- Invite Christians selectively; not just anyone
- Prepare both Christians and Muslims together
- Prepare Christian participants: Consider having a training event, or at least a detailed FB group message beforehand
- PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!



Peace Feast Story



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Format

- Atmosphere: Food, music, decorations
- Consider seating layout carefully! Small clusters or something that lends itself to personal conversation. Direct Christians to spread out, sit strategically, with same gender...be proactive.
- Welcome and intro to the purpose of the event. If a Muslim leader is present, let them speak.
- Invite a Muslim and a Christian to pray for the food and evening.
- Provide question prompts on handouts at tables, or from the front.





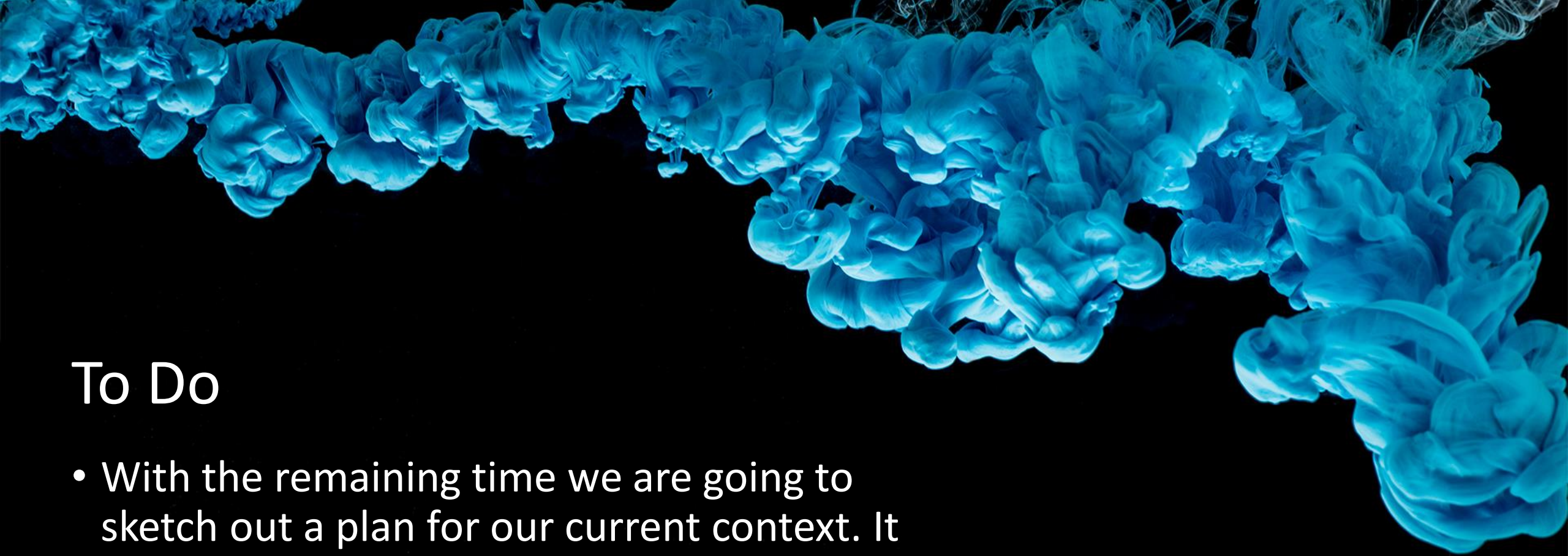
Format

- Allow free discussion through the night, or alternate between small group and larger group “What did you discuss?” sharing
- Offer coffee/tea after eating, or continue over coffee/tea in a coffee shop or home if you have to vacate the room
- Prayer for Muslim friends may be appropriate, depending on the sharing and topic of the night
- Offer an official closing and thanks; and reiterate desire for ongoing connections



Follow Up

- Message your Christians immediately after:
 - How was the experience? Stories or shout-outs?
 - What are your next steps?
 - When are you meeting again?
- Coach your Christians:
 - - Relationships, relationships, relationships
- Use the 5 Thresholds and identify where your Muslim friends are
- Follow up with each Muslim within 24 hours to open communication lines and set up the next thing.
 - 1:1 coffee or tea within a week
 - Casual group social gatherings in homes, with coffee/tea
 - Intentional, but casual
- Practical: English language help, take them shopping
- If there was curiosity, invite to a 1:1 or small group Bible Study
- Plan future events: 2nd PF or other, but don't treat events as the ministry!



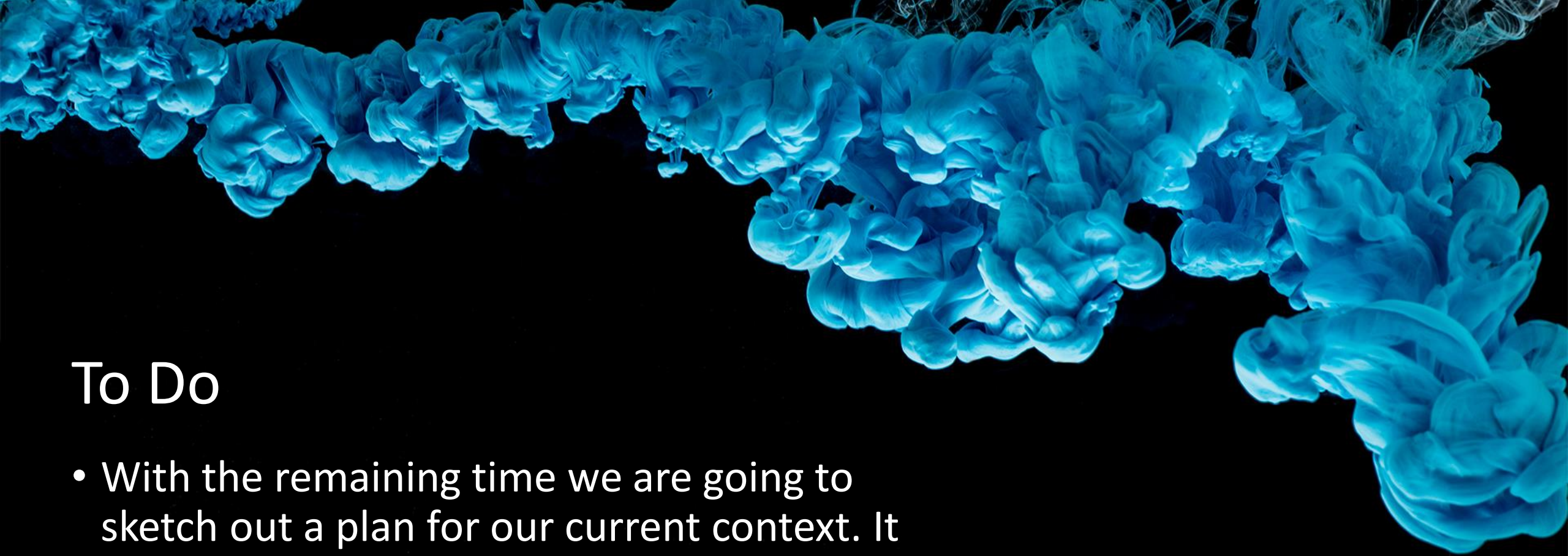
To Do

- With the remaining time we are going to sketch out a plan for our current context. It could be a Peace Feast. It could be the LYMN campaign. Or it could be something similar.



Questions?

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Questions?

Helpful Links:

Muslim Ministry: tiny.cc/u18muslims

Info Sign-Up Form: tiny.cc/pc-ism

Schedule Coaching: tiny.cc/ismcoach

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