

Jesus in Everyday Conversations: Spontaneous Bible Studies with Muslims

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5 Pillars of Muslim Ministry



5 (+1)
Pillars of
Muslim
Ministry





SHIPS



What are some of the major differences between Muslim cultures and Western culture?



Muslim worldview (Parshall, Musk)

	Muslim cultures	Western culture
History	respect for past/tradition	future-orientation
Time	event-oriented	clock-oriented
Hospitality	a sacred duty, and honors the host	an important gesture, and honors the guest
Identity	communal - "you are a part of us...we are a part of you"	individual - "you can be whatever you want"
Gender	male/female separation, different roles	egalitarianism and low boundaries
Communication	often indirect	often direct
Information through...	oral, storytelling	written, fact transfer
Moral emotion	honor/shame, power/fear	innocence/guilt
Religion & life	holism - everything is theological	strong sacred/secular divide
Trustworthy connections	networked - who you know	researched - organizations, reviews

What implications for relationships and witness can you draw from these? What of these stick out to you?

SHIPS

Spiritual conversations build trust.

Hear - aim for the heart, not the head.

Isa - point to Jesus.

Pray for them, with them.

Scripture - get into the Bible.

Honor their culture - plant seeds, not flowerpots.



Spiritual conversations build trust.

- Right from the start: establish your spiritual identity
- Make spiritual statements, and ask spiritual questions
 - “Thank God for this beautiful day!”
 - “I don’t know many Muslims...would you tell me about your faith?”



Heart - aim for the heart, not the head.

- not “What does Islam teach?” but “What does being Muslim mean to you?”
- not “My religion says...your religion says...” but “What do you experience when you pray?”
- not trying to defeat Islam or Muhammad!

“Our aim should be to present the true vine in such a positive way that Muslims desire to gather for themselves the fruit of the gospel.”

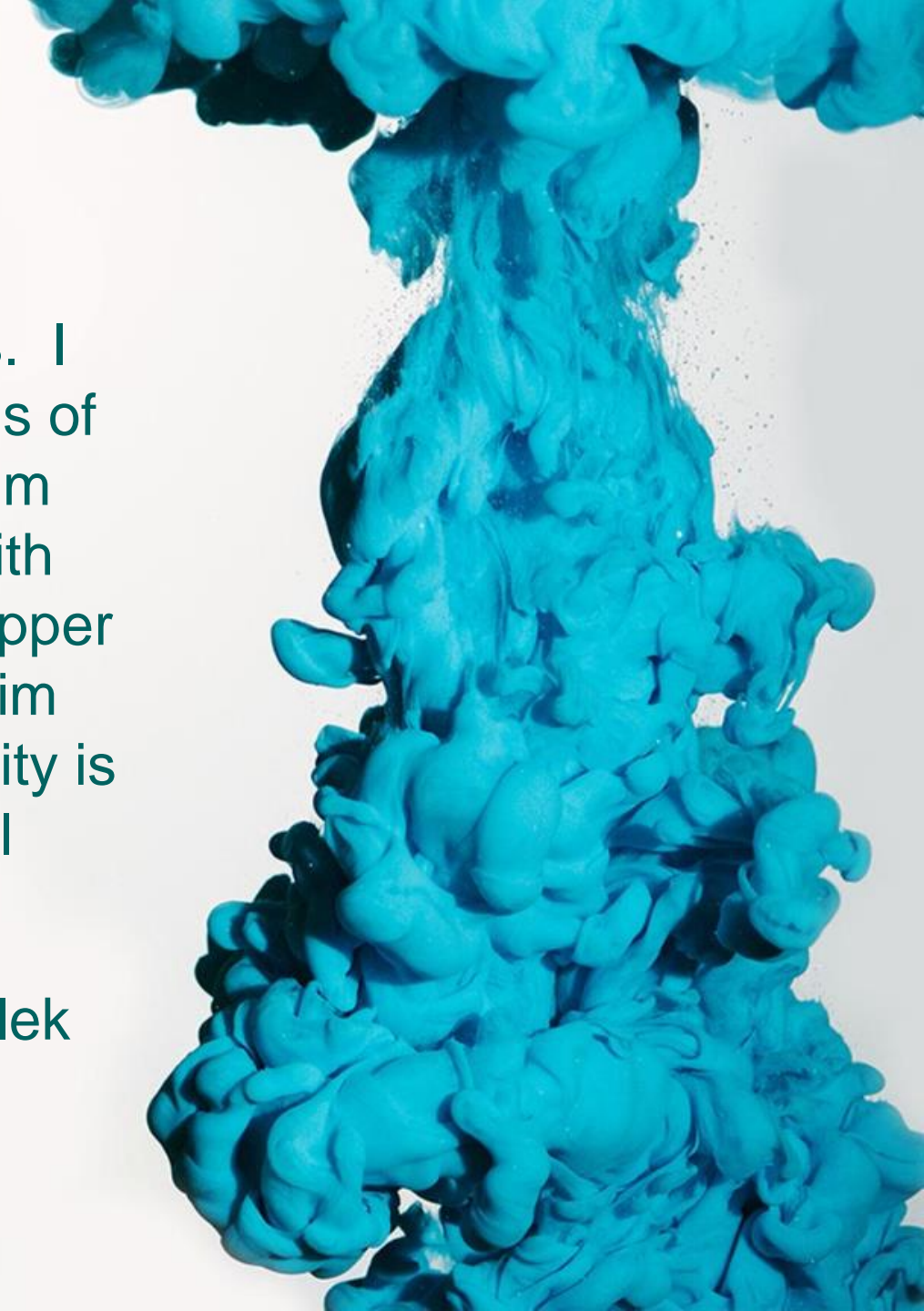
- Charles Marsh



Isa - point to Jesus.

“...take him by the hand and introduce him to Jesus. I want my Muslim friend to walk with Jesus on the hills of Judea, sit with him by the Sea of Galilee, listen to him teach, watch him do miracles, hear him pray, talk with him, see him crucified and watch him come to the upper room alive on resurrection Sunday. I want my Muslim friend to experience Jesus first. ...Biblical Christianity is not a dogma to be learned. It is first of all a personal relationship with Jesus.”

- Sobhi Malek



Isa - point to Jesus.

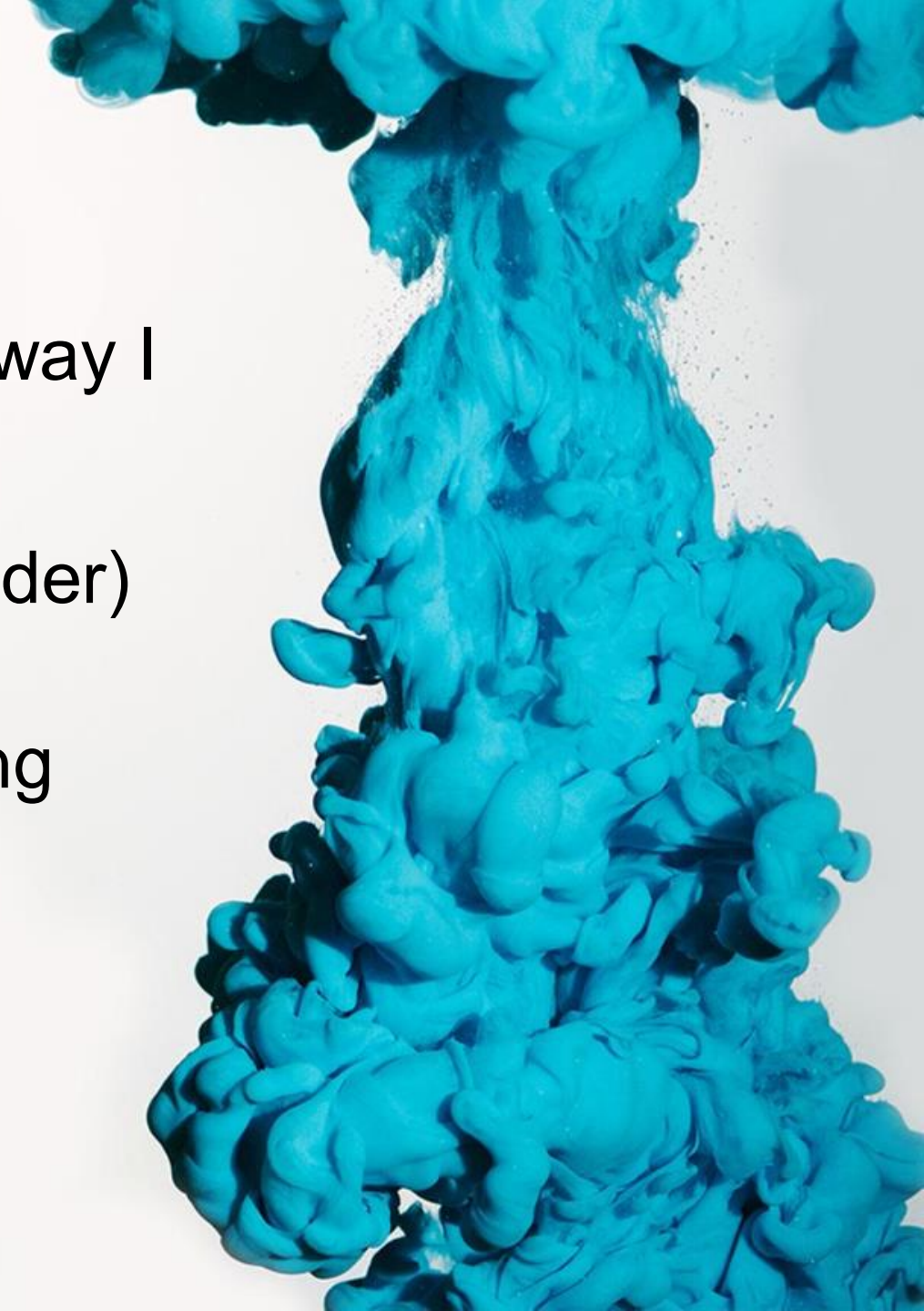
The uniqueness of Isa al Masih in the Qur'an:

- “Messiah”
- born of a virgin
- heals the sick, raises the dead
- sinless
- a sign from God
- a spirit from God / breathed of God's spirit
- the word of God
- alive in heaven
- will return before judgment day
- commands our obedience



Pray for them, with them.

- “Can I pray for you?”, “Now?”, “In the way I know how?”
- In Jesus’ name, with touch (same gender)
- Worry, sickness, blessing, experiencing Holy Spirit



Scripture - Get into the Bible.

- Meeting God in the Word is *the* central step in coming to faith. (GIGs)
- Invites are simple.
- Disciple them to decision—obeying & telling others. (DBS)
- Safe space, safe people
- Draw out the Gospel threads.



Honor their culture - plant seeds, not flowerpots.

"Contextualization is the art of planting the gospel seed in culture's diverse soils without also planting the flowerpot."
- Harvie Conn



Honor their culture - plant seeds, not flowerpots.

- God is the author of culture! (Rev. 7, Acts 17)
- Begin with the end in mind—reentry to a *very* different context.
- Discipleship: helping someone learn to hear the Holy Spirit speaking through the Word.



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In Large Group

What does a Bible Study look like?

What do you need?



**What are cultural
barriers for your
Muslim friend doing
a Bible Study?**



Scripture

With M's, we don't need to have a "formal" Bible Study right away. How can we bring Scripture to them?



Topics of Conversation

- Worry
- Career
- Fear
- Money
- Anger/Enemies

How have you experienced these topics?



Prepare

- **Worry:** Matt 6:25-34 “Seek first His kingdom...”
- **Career:** Mk 8:36 “What does it profit a man....”
- **Fear:** Matt 10:28-31 “So do not be afraid....”
- **Money:** Matt 19:16-30 “The rich young man”
- **Anger/Enemies:** Matt 5:43-44



Spontaneous Bible Study



Pray for an opportunity



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission
- Share the Story



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission
- Share the Story
- Give a Testimony



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission
- Share the Story
- Give a Testimony
- Ask for a Response



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission
- Share the Story
- Give a Testimony
- Ask for a Response
- Pray for them



Spontaneous Bible Study

- Ask Permission
- Share the Story
- Give a Testimony
- Ask for a Response
- Pray for them

You've just had a "Bible study" with your M. friend!



Important Principles

Our job: love people

Holy Spirit's job: convict people



4 Action Steps

- 1. Write down names of M's with whom you can develop a relationship
- 2. What are some topics you've heard M's talk about?
- 3. How has God helped you in a similar situation? Write down a verse or story from the Bible. Be able to tell the story.
- 4. Pray for opportunities to share a story.



Muslim Ministry-Focused Events at Urbana

- December 29th:
 - 2PM: Immigration and Fear: Practical Ways to Love our Muslim Neighbors at AC 231-232
 - 3:30PM: Witnessing to Muslims Through the Qur'an AC275
- December 30th:
 - 2PM: Reaching Muslim Women AC 241-242
 - 3:30PM: Discipling International Students reentering Creative Access Countries Drury Plaza Clark/York
- December 31st:
 - 2PM: Next Steps Kickoff! AC 123



Helpful Links

Muslim Ministry: **tiny.cc/u18muslims**

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

Schedule Coaching: **tiny.cc/ismcoach**

Come up and talk with us to get our private Instagram account.

