



# making GOD known

missions sunday 9.17.23



# **The opportunity in “Medina of America”**



## **Our response:**

- **Confront our own bias**
- **Connect relationally**
- **Connect culturally**
- **Connect spiritually**



# Confront Our Own Bias

**When I hear about the number of Muslims living in my city, what comes to my mind?**

**When I hear the words, “Muslim” or “Islam” what comes to my mind?**

**When I hear about a global terrorist attack, what comes to my mind?**

**When I see a veiled woman or a man in cultural robe, what come to my mind?**

**What superior attitudes, prejudices or lies are prohibiting me from engaging with Muslims?**



# Confront Our Own Bias

- Name it, so God can claim it!



# Confront Our Own Bias

- Name it, so God can claim it!
- Replace lies with truth
  - Created in God's image
  - God loves them
  - You are his witness



# Connect Relationally

- Not a project or “end to a means”
- Discover common ground
- Be a friend and let them be a friend to you



# Connect Culturally

- Listen and observe
- Adapt and prefer
- Be intentional and learn



## Connect Culturally: Listen & Observe

"Let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak..." James 1:19a

"The purpose in a man's heart is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out." Proverbs 20:5



## Connect Culturally: Adapt & Prefer

“Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God’s law but am under Christ’s law), so as to win those not having the law. To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. **I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.”** 1 Corinthians 9:19-23



## What does this look like practically?

- Clothing
- Ramadan
- Greetings
- Hospitality



## Connect Culturally: Be Intentional & Learn

- History, political, social situation
- Read a book about an MBB
- Cook/Try a native recipe
- Learn some of their language



# Connect Spiritually

## Three types of Muslims:

- Cultural
- Converted
- Committed



# Connect Spiritually

## Muslims are misinformed

- Our Bible has been changed
- We worship three gods
- That we are an immoral people



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“They did not form any proper estimate of Allah when they said: Allah has not revealed anything to any man.” Ask them: Who then sent down the Book which Moses brought- **a light and guidance to man.**” Surah 6:9



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“Your Lord knows all who dwell in the heavens and the earth. We have exalted some Prophets over others, **and gave the Psalms to David.**”

Surah 17:55



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“Then in the footsteps of the prophets, we sent Jesus, son of Mary, **confirming the Torah revealed before him.** And we gave him the Gospel containing guidance and light and confirming what was revealed in the Torah—**a guide and a lesson to the God-fearing.** So let the people of the Gospel judge by what Allah has revealed in it. And those who do not judge by what Allah has revealed are truly the rebellious. Surah 5:46-47



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“Now, if you are in doubt concerning what we have revealed to you, then ask those who have been reading the Book before you. **It is the truth that has come to you from your Lord, so do never become one of those who doubt.**” Surah 10:94, 3:2–3



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“And the word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice. **None can alter His words**, and He is the Hearing, the Knowing.”  
Surah 6:115

“Your word, O Lord is eternal and stands firm in the heavens.” Psalms 119:89

“But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail.” Luke 16:17



# Our Bible Has Not Been Changed

“If Muslims are consistent with their own teachings, they must accept the Torah, Psalms and Gospels as uncorrupted revelations from God.”

Fouad Masari



# We Don't Worship Three Gods

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and **the Spirit of God** was hovering over the waters." Genesis 1:1-3

"Hear, O Israel: **The LORD our God, the Lord is one.** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Deuteronomy 6:4-5



# We Don't Worship Three Gods

We believe in the Triune God:  
God, Jesus, Holy Spirit



## What do Muslims Believe About Jesus?

- Issa, son of Mary, was virgin born (Surah 4:171, 3:45)
- Intercessor on Judgement day
- He is a healer
- Jesus is the word of God *"Allah gives you the good news of John, as a confirmer of a Word from God, eminent and chaste, a prophet, among the righteous."* Surah 3:39



# Christians are Repentant People

- Original sin vs. accumulative sin
- Works vs. Faith



# Practical Next Steps

- Share your testimony
- Pray
- Build bridges
- Read/listen to stories of MBBs
- Discuss your bias' and relational opportunities with your HG/CG
- Visit a mosque
- Encountering the World of Islam
- Connect x3



# Resources: Books

- Seeking Allah Finding Jesus- Nabeel Qureshi
- A Wind in the House of Islam- David Garrison
- Captive in Iran- Maryam Rostampour
- I Dared Called Him Father- Bilquis Sheikh



## Resources: Other

- [podcasts.pioneers.org/podcast-series/maverick](https://podcasts.pioneers.org/podcast-series/maverick)
- Sign up for AWM Media or MTM's newsletters
- Encountering the World of Islam 6 part online course



# Final Thoughts

'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' Matthew 22:27-39

“The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native born. Love them as yourself.”  
Leviticus 19:34

go to next  
breakout  
now



parents  
get kids  
now

