

The Camel Method

Muslim Evangelism

Training for Christians



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Chapter One

What Do Muslims Believe?

Inside these pages, you will not find extensive teaching about the religion of Islam. However, you do need to understand some very basic things about what Muslims believe.

Islam is the religion passed down from Mohammed; a **Muslim** is one who practices the religion of Islam. *Islam* literally means “submission” and a *Muslim* is one “who is submitted” or “surrendered.” So a Muslim is one who is surrendered to the will of Allah. Muslims would say that all who have followed God throughout the ages, from Adam until now, are Muslims.

- Muslims believe there is only **one God**. (“*Allah*” in Arabic means “the God.”) They believe in **all the prophets** that are found in the Bible as well as in the Qur’an, but they believe that Mohammed is the last and greatest of the prophets.
- Muslims believe in **angels** including Satan (*shaytaan*) and evil angels (*jinn*).
- Muslims believe there is a coming **Day of Judgment** at which good Muslims will enter paradise, called the “Garden of Delights,” and unbelievers will be cast into hell. Some Muslims do have a concept of a purgatory-like purging of sins after death with most or all Muslims eventually entering paradise.
- Muslims believe there are **four holy books** – the **Tawraat** (Torah), the **Zabuur** (Psalms or Wisdom), the **Injil** (Gospel) and the **Qur’an**.
- Muslims believe that the **Qur’an** (or Qur’an) is the final word of Allah. It was given by revelation to Mohammed and later written down by others because Mohammed was illiterate. The only miracle attributed to Mohammed is that he was able to recite the sacred book that was given by revelation to him, even though he was illiterate. *Al-Qur’an* in Arabic means “the reading”.
- Muslims believe that whether you go to paradise or hell is determined by good works.

The one who wants to do his duty to Allah and go to paradise must perform duties which are called the **Five Pillars of Islam**. These are:

1. **The Confession:** “*There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is His Prophet.*” When, in sincerity, one makes this confession, he becomes a Muslim.
2. **Prayer:** A Muslim is supposed to pray five times a day, at a Mosque if at all possible. The prayers are memorized and repeated and include verses from the Qur’an.
3. **Fasting during Ramadan:** For thirty days during Ramadan, a Muslim is to fast from sunrise to sunset. (He may eat as much as he desires from sunset to sunrise.)
4. **Alms:** Giving to the poor: A Muslim is to give 2.5% (one fortieth) of his income to the poor and/or for Muslim religious activity.
5. **Haj:** Pilgrimage to Mecca: At least once in his life, unless he is too poor to afford it, the Muslim is to make a pilgrimage to Mecca and perform the rituals of Islam there.

In simple terms, Islam is a religion of works. If you do **enough good works** to outweigh your bad works, then hopefully, you will go to paradise. However, even if a Muslim performs these duties to Allah perfectly, he **cannot know for certain** that he or she will go to paradise. Ultimately, he will go to paradise only **if Allah wills!** Muslims have a strong sense of fatalism.

Muslims believe that the **Qur’an** (or “Qur’an”) is the final and complete revelation of Allah to mankind. They believe it was revealed to the prophet Mohammed by the angel Gabriel (*Jabreel*). Mohammed supposedly received 114 of these revelations over a 22 year period from the time he was forty years old until near his death at 62.

Though Muslims say that the Qur'an is the final Word of Allah, almost all of what they believe and practice are based on writings called the **Hadith**. "*Hadith*" means "story, news, report or narrative." While the Qur'an is supposedly the Word of Allah, uttered by Mohammed while he was inspired with the revelation, the Hadith are the **reported** sayings and practices of Mohammed. There are thousands of these Hadith. These were passed down by word of mouth and were not written down in a compilation until almost 250 years after the death of Mohammed. Often Muslims will admit there are mistakes in the Hadith. There is a continuing debate among Muslim scholars about which Hadith are valid and which are not. In places these Hadith even contradict what the Qur'an says. Nevertheless, time and again, when you question a Muslim, you will find that what he believes comes from the Hadith and **not strictly from the Qur'an!**

<u>Time Line of Islam</u>	
570 AD	Birth of Mohammed
632 AD	Death of Mohammed
651 AD	Caliph Othman Official version of the Qur'an
ca 890 AD	First Compilation of Hadith

Introduction to the Camel Method

The most incredible thing that God is doing in the world of Islam today is the Church Planting Movement that is taking place in a predominantly Muslim country in South Asia. Hundreds of thousands are coming to faith in Jesus in the midst of an environment that is very hostile to this movement. For the first time, against all odds, a great movement of God has begun in a Muslim country.

The **primary method** of reaching Muslims in this country is using the **Qur'an as a bridge**. Evangelists use passages in the Qur'an to begin speaking with Muslims about Jesus. Then, when they find those who are interested in hearing more about Jesus, they take them from the Qur'an to the Bible. Using the Qur'an as a bridge is not a theory about what might be effective among Muslims, but a method that has been proven and is in actual practice in this Asian country and other places.

The **Camel Method** is a simple method using **one particular passage in the Qur'an** as a means to confront Muslims with important truths about Who Jesus is. This method came into being out of practical experience with Muslims. The core purpose of this booklet is to teach the Camel Method. It is a tool by which you can begin to speak to Muslims in a very non-threatening way.

We will begin by looking at how Jesus worked and how He taught His disciples to do the work of the Kingdom – by looking for the "*man of peace*." (Luke 10) In order to use the Camel Method, it is essential that you understand this concept of looking for the *person of peace*. Then we will learn the Camel Method itself. In the remainder of the booklet we will consider what to do with this *person of peace* once God has drawn him out and revealed him to you.

Very few national Christians and churches are involved in Muslim evangelism and church planting. Few are venturing over the wall and joining God at work among Muslims. These few are experiencing tremendous joy because when they have found where God is at work, they have found God Himself.

Think about your church. Why are most Christians and churches **not** involved in Muslim evangelism and church planting? What does your church think about Muslim evangelism? How do **you** feel when you think about the possibility of witnessing to a Muslim? Why do you think most Christians are not involved in Muslim evangelism?

Now think about the Bible. Who are some people in the Bible who overcame barriers of prejudice and fear to witness to those from other cultures? How did they overcome the barriers of prejudice, fear, and not knowing what to say?

Muslims have been relegated to living behind a spiritual wall. Yet, Muslims represent a harvest field. Beyond that wall is where God is at work. It is where you will find some of the happiest Christians. But if you want to climb over the wall, you need to learn how to evangelize Muslims.

Chapter Two

Learning from Jesus

Muslims seem so resistant to the Gospel. Even if I wanted to begin to try to reach Muslims with the Gospel, how would I begin? How can we possibly begin to tell them about Jesus?

Jesus has shown us how!

Jesus came into a world that was very hostile to Him. In fact the world of first century Israel had many common characteristics with the Muslim world of today. Most Jews rejected Jesus completely. The Bible says, *“He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.” (John 1:11)* But even in that hostile environment, Jesus found those who did receive him. We see this in John 1:12: *“But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name.”* He took those few who did receive Him and built His Church. His Church then spread very rapidly, even as a hostile world though persecution tried to stop it.

We know that Jesus was fully God, yet He was also fully man. In Philippians 2:6-8, we see that Jesus, though he was in the form of God and equal with God, took on humanity to live among us and to become the atoning sacrifice for our sins. In His humanity, He modeled for us how to live in a constant obedient relationship to God the Father and thus accomplish the work of the Kingdom of God. So let us look and see how Jesus planted His church in a hostile place.

We find the pattern for how Jesus did the work of the Kingdom:

But Jesus responded to them, "My Father is still working, and I am working also." This is why the Jews began trying all the more to kill Him: not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God. Then Jesus replied, "I assure you: The Son is not able to do anything on His own, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, the Son also does these things in the same way. For the Father loves the Son and shows Him everything He is doing, and He will show Him greater works than these so that you will be amazed. John 5:17-20

1. Jesus knew God the Father was at work. *“My Father is still working...”*

Sin came into the world separating men from God. Since that time, God has been working to restore men to Himself. He has been seeking those who are lost. God is already at work among Muslims in your area, preparing their hearts to hear about Jesus and to believe in Him. He is preparing a harvest among Muslims and He is telling us, *“...the harvest is abundant...” Luke 10:2*

2. Jesus was committed to joining the Father wherever He was working. *“...and I am working also...”*

Jesus explained to His disciples that He had come into the world to join the Father in the work of seeking the lost. *“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10* Jesus was committed to work with the Father and join Him *wherever* He was at work (John 6:38). Therefore, He always knew and followed the will of God the Father completely!

Many fail to find the will of God because they are not committed to join God *wherever* He is working. They do not *“will to do His will.”* John 7:17 There are limits on where or how they will follow Jesus. Our natural inclination is to want God to show us His will *and then* we will decide if we will do it. But unless your heart is committed to do the will of God, no matter what He asks you to do, you will never clearly know His will for you. You will not be able to join God where He is at work because you will not be able to see where He is at work.

Is your will surrendered to the will of God, so that you are willing to join God *wherever* He is at work? If so, He will make it very clear to you where He is at work.

3. Jesus knew that apart from the Father He could do nothing. *“...the Son is not able to do anything on His own...”*

If you are not abiding in a close relationship with Jesus, how much can you do for God? In John 15, Jesus described that He is the vine and His followers are the branches. When the branch is separated from the tree, it cannot bear any fruit. The same is true for us spiritually. Unless we are abiding in a close relationship with Jesus, we cannot see where God is at work, nor can we bear any lasting fruit for the kingdom of God.

4. Jesus watched with His spiritual eyes and listened with His spiritual ears to know where the Father was working. *“...but only what He sees the Father doing.”*

Look to see where God is at work! Jesus *saw* where the Father was at work and joined Him where He was working. Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing.

In Ephesians 1:18, Paul prayed that we would be able to see with our spiritual eyes, not just our physical eyes. In 2 Kings 6:14-17, Elisha prayed that God would open his servant's eyes and let him see with spiritual eyes. What does it take to have spiritual eyes for Muslims?

This does not mean that there were times when Jesus was not working with the Father, for He was always in perfect harmony with the will of the Father (John 8:29). It does mean that the Father would direct Jesus to particular people whose hearts the Father had specifically prepared for an encounter with Jesus.

Consider the following stories about Jesus. Think about how He saw with spiritual eyes where the Father was at work and then joined Him. Consider these examples:

Zacchaeus – Luke 19:1-9 Jesus came into Jericho and was surrounded by a large crowd. The tax collector Zacchaeus could not see Jesus, so he climbed into a tree. Jesus saw him and sensed this was where the Father was at work. So he left the crowd and went to Zacchaeus' house.

The Samaritan woman – John 4:1-42 Jesus and the disciples were on their way to Galilee. They took a shortcut through Samaria and stopped near a village. There Jesus talked to a woman and she believed that He was the Messiah. Jesus delayed His trip to Galilee and stayed in Samaria, because that was where the Father was working.

The woman with the flow of blood – Luke 8:41-56 The daughter of Jairus was dying. Jairus pleaded with Jesus to come and heal his daughter. On the way, a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for years touched Jesus' clothing and was healed. Even though Jairus' daughter was at the point of death, Jesus stopped to spend time with the woman. He sensed this was where the Father was working.

*Are your spiritual eyes open to see where God is at work?
Are your spiritual ears open to hear where God is at work?*

God said: *"Indeed, the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing His counsel to His servants the prophets."*
Amos 3:7

Jesus said: *"My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me."* John 10:27 And He also said: *"The one who is from God listens to God's words. This is why you don't listen, because you are not from God."* John 8:47

It is very important that we hear God's voice. If we are of God and want to do the works of God, we must be able to clearly hear Jesus when He speaks to us! We must be able to hear Him when He tells us where He is at work!

Are you hearing the voice of Jesus?

How can you hear the voice of Jesus?

If you have a close relationship with Jesus, He will show you where God is working, and how you can join Him. Jesus said, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me."* John 15:5 I must abide in Jesus if I am going to know His will. Jesus did not say, "I will give you a road map," rather He said, *"...I am the way."* John 14:6 He did not say, "I will tell you how to be fishers of men," but rather, *"Follow Me," Jesus told them, 'and I will make you fish for people!'"* Mark 1:17 And He did not say I will tell My sheep what to do and send them out alone. He said, *"My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me."* John 10:27

When my wife calls me on the phone, she does not have to identify herself. I recognize her voice immediately. Why is that so? It is because I have grown very familiar with her voice by spending much time with her. In the same way, we must become familiar with the voice of Jesus. There are three ways that His voice becomes familiar to us:

- a. **Through Prayer** - As you spend time with Him you grow familiar with His voice.
- b. **Through His Word** – As I fill my heart and mind with the Word of God I grow familiar with His voice. The Bible is God's Word and He always works in accordance with His Word.
- c. **Through Obedience** – Every time I hear a word from God and obey Him, His voice is easier to hear the next time. Every time I hear a word from Him and do not obey it, it becomes more difficult for me to hear His voice the next time.

When we hear His voice, then we can follow Him. If you are in close relationship with Him, He will show you where He is working and how you can join Him.

With your spiritual ears, you can hear where God is at work:

What you might hear Muslims say:

“I feel bad for the sins that I have done.”

“I had a dream or vision.” (about Jesus, Bible, etc)

“I want to know what the truth is.”

“I understand what the Bible is saying.”

“I think that Allah is speaking to me.”

“I want to hear more about Jesus.”

“What will happen to me when I die?”

How God responds:

John 16:8-11

Acts 10:30-33

John 16:13, 17:17

Matthew 13:10-11

John 10:26-27

John 6:44

Hebrews 2:15

If you hear someone say things like these or similar things, your spiritual ears should tell you that God is at work inside him. The Bible tells us that only God can cause a person to have questions and desires like these.

Are your ears open to hear when God tells you where He is working?

5. When Jesus saw where the Father was at work, He joined Him (began to work where the Father was at work). “...the Son also does these things in the same way.”

When God shows you where He is at work, it is His invitation for you to join Him. When you do join Him, you will see the hand of God at work. Then you, and those around you, will marvel at what He does!

You can do nothing apart from God. But as you join God in what He is doing, God does the work. Therefore, it will always be successful in the truest sense. See John 14:10-12, 15:4, John 5:20, and Ephesians 1:11.

In John 5:19-20, Jesus revealed how He did His works that He did. He saw what the Father was doing and joined Him. This is how God wants to work in you! Put your name in the blanks

Then Jesus replied, " I assure you: _____ is not able to do anything on His own, but only what _____ sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, _____ also does these things in the same way. For the Father loves _____ and shows _____ everything He is doing, and He will show _____ greater works than these so that _____ will be amazed."

God wants you to join Him in starting a Church Planting Movement (CPM) among Muslims where you are. He is already at work to start a CPM. He wants to show us where the CPM will start (Amos 3:7). But a CPM will not begin with a mass of people coming to Christ. It will start as God draws out people like Zacchaeus, the Samaritan woman at the well, the woman with the flow of blood, and the disciples, whom He will use to begin a CPM.

Chapter Three

The Person of Peace

Jesus always found a person or persons in whom God was already at work. Then He invested Himself and His time in those people because He knew they were the keys to reaching a community or a group of people. He joined the Father where He was at work.

Jesus taught His disciples to work just like He did. In Luke 10, before He sent His disciples out to do ministry, He taught them how to look for those people within whom God the Father was already at work, so that they could join Him and work with those people.

Jesus taught His disciples how to look for a “*person of peace*.”

Finding a *Person of Peace*

Jesus is our model for finding where God is at work. He took the time to show His disciples how to find where God was at work. In a crowd of people, or in a city or village, God has been at work in someone. We call that someone a “man of peace.” Of course, it could be a “woman of peace” as the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4 or Lydia in Acts 16:12-15. When you find the *man* or *woman of peace*, you have found where God is at work. Usually, this *person of peace* is the one that God will use to establish His Church in that area. Let’s look at how Jesus taught us to find the *person of peace*.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted up to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me. The seventy-two returned with joy and said, Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name. He replied, I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven. Luke 10:1-20(NIV)

The Power of a Person of Peace

As Jesus looked across the crowd, He was looking for someone. There was one particular individual there who held the keys to the heart of the whole city. As Jesus looked for the unusual (where the Father was at work), He saw a short rich man who had climbed up a tree to see Him. This Zacchaeus was well-known in this city because he was a hated tax collector for the Romans. Zacchaeus was changed that day through faith in Jesus. The city was also changed because of the testimony of the change Jesus had brought about in Zacchaeus. Jesus was a stranger in that city; Zacchaeus was not. Jesus was going to leave, but Zacchaeus would remain there as a powerful witness of Jesus long after He had left. (based on Luke 19:1-10)

Understanding Jesus’ Instructions

As Jesus was **sending** His disciples out to **find** workers for the harvest, He told them to tell the Lord of the harvest to “send out” or in some translations, “raise up” workers for the harvest. He was not telling them to stay home and pray for workers, but to go out and seek them, praying that the Father would lead them to those workers!

Part One: Finding the *Person of Peace* (Luke 10:1-8)

Go out two by two. (v. 1)

Jesus sent out the seventy in pairs.

Go in faith believing. (v. 2)

Jesus wanted His followers to believe in the harvest. God wants us to be involved in His work and invites us to do so. Paul captured this concept in a charge to the Christians living in Ephesus:

*Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think—according to the power that works in you—to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.
Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

In these verses, we find:

- The Principle - God always does *more* than we expect!
- The Question - What do **you expect** God to do?
- The Expectation - Expect God to do “God-size” works

Watch out! (v. 3)

Sheep alone are at the mercy of wolves. But remember the shepherd stands between the sheep and the wolves.

Go needy. (v. 4)

God has given you an assignment – find the *person of peace*. God has also given the *person of peace* an assignment – find the person of God. He will find you because you are the needy stranger who has come to town. His job is to take care of you. Do not rob him of his God-given assignment.

In Asia, everyone offers food and drink to strangers. How do I determine who is the *person of peace* when I am overwhelmed with Asian hospitality? Answer: Clearly identify the purpose for which you have come. If the offer for food, drink, or shelter remains, it is possible that you are in the presence of the *person of peace*.

Make your presence known. (vv. 5-6)

To really understand what is happening in this passage, you must understand the historical setting. Typically, in those days, there were no hotels in which strangers could stay when they came to a town or village. A common practice was for someone in the town to show hospitality to a stranger and invite him to stay in his home. God taught His people to take care of the stranger who comes to his town. (See Genesis 19:1-3, Job 31:32, Matthew 25:35, and Hebrews 13:2.) If no one invited the stranger to his home, the stranger would have to sleep out in the open. The stranger would go to the city gate or to the center of the town and wait for someone to invite him to his home. Jesus sent his disciples into the cities and towns where He was going to come later. He sent them to preach the coming of the kingdom of God. So, when they went into a city they went in proclaiming that Jesus was coming and that He was bringing in the Kingdom. So if someone invited the two disciples into his home, he knew what these disciples were going to talk to him about. He was saying by his invitation, “I want to hear more about Jesus.”

How do we “make our presence known” when we go into a new place?

This is what you will be learning when you learn the Camel Method. It is a way to begin to talk about Jesus with Muslims, so that God can then show you the *person of peace*.

Identify the “man of peace.” (vv. 6-8)

He or she will desire to hear more about Jesus. The person is often known as a “sinner.” Expect him or her to make “spiritual hunger” statements such as:

“As I listen, my heart is burning”

“I like what you are saying; I want to hear more”

Praise God that eventually the *person of peace* will believe in Jesus.

Part Two: Once you have found the *Person of Peace* (Luke 10:7-9)

Stay. (v. 7)

A busy schedule is your worst enemy. If God gives you a *person of peace*, He can also give you the time needed to work with him or her.

Eat and heal. (vv. 8-9)

One of the ways that the Lord heals is to give His followers wisdom about what to eat or not eat. Yes, the command is to eat whatever is put before you, but eat only what you see your host eating. You are to eat their food. You may be an answer to your own prayers for your hosts' healing by a loving message of preventative healthcare basics delivered in the name of Jesus.

Finding needs and praying for them in the name of Jesus is often the key to further discussion about Him.

- Diffuses tense situations
- Opens the door to spiritual matters
- Arouses appreciation in those you pray for

Part Three: Results of finding – or not finding – a *Person of Peace* (Luke 10:10-23)**Handle rejection.** (vv. 10-16)

Simply shake the dust off of yourself and move on to the next place you need to visit.

Celebrate results. (vv. 17-23)

The happiest Christians are those who are hearing God, seeing where God is at work, and joining Him. See Luke 2:20, 10:17 and Acts 2:41,46. All the other Christians who are not hearing and seeing God and joining Him are the ones making trouble inside our churches.

SUMMARY

Here are the key principles from Luke 10 for seeking and finding the *person of peace*:

- Go in faith with one or two others in search of where God is working and look for the *man or woman of peace*. Go expecting to encounter Muslims who have been prepared by God in a dream or in other ways to hear your witness.
- Depend on God to supply both your physical and spiritual needs. The more you abandon self-dependence and trust in God the more likely you are to find a *person of peace*.
- Depend on God's guidance. He will show you where to stop and begin to make your presence known.
- Begin to talk about Jesus (starting in the Qur'an, as we will see). As you talk about Jesus, those in whom God is already at work will be drawn to you and will want to hear more about Jesus.
- Offer peace in Jesus. If it is accepted, stay there. If not, move on. Sometimes you will not find the *person of peace* until you walk away. He will pursue you. If your peace is not accepted, move on.
- When you believe you have found the *person of peace*, go to his home. Stay with him. He will provide everything you need. He will open doors of opportunity for you to share with others.
- Eat and drink what your hosts eat and drink when you are with a *man or woman of peace*.
- Whether you are accepted or rejected, always remember that God is with you and the kingdom of God is near. You have not failed if you have done what God has asked and talked with them about Jesus.
- Recognize that your mission is to lead the *person of peace* to receive Christ and to share with his family and friends. He then will share with many more in that region.
- Know that as you depend on Jesus to show you the way, you will see many signs that God was ahead of you, planting seeds and laying a foundation.
- Always remember that your purpose is to find the person of peace, ***not to win an argument about religion***. You may not have an answer for all of their objections. That is okay! Just present Jesus to them and watch and see who God draws (John 6:44).

Chapter Four The Qur'anic Bridge

Use the Qur'an as a bridge to the Gospel. Here are a few reasons why Christians have found that using the Qur'an when encountering Muslims has proved successful. Christians must start where they are. We cannot be blamed for making converts when we use their holy book to confront them with who Jesus is. Using the Qur'an enables a Muslim Background Believer (MBB) to relate to his family and friends and minimizes persecution. We can use the Qur'an to lift Jesus out of "prophet" status and closer to "Savior" status in the mind of a Muslim.

The Qur'an is divided into 114 separate sections or chapters, sometimes called books. In the Camel Method, it is necessary to primarily use one particular passage from the Qur'an: Sura (*chapter*) Al 'Imraan 3:42-55.

Christians don't try to use all of the other verses in the Qur'an that deal with Jesus. It prevents us from abusing or misusing Qur'an verses (poor exegetical interpretation). When we are witnessing to a Muslim, we are usually nervous; we cannot remember all of the verses. We are familiar with the Bible, so we can use many different Scriptures. But, we are not familiar with the Qur'an. We are only looking for a *person of peace* and we only need enough spiritual meat from the Qur'an to draw him or her out. Do not stay too long in the Qur'an because there are anti-Christian verses in it.

Since we believe that only the Bible is the true Word of God, some wonder if using the Qur'an as a bridge is an acceptable means for Christians. Unfortunately, there is a spiritual wall between Muslims and Christians. A Muslim has been taught from childhood that the Qur'an is the only uncorrupted word of God. They may not know the meaning of the Qur'an's text or even what it says, but nonetheless, they believe it is true. When approached with the Bible, Muslims immediately become defensive. A confrontation is imminent. It becomes a matter of your holy book versus their holy book. A Muslim cannot and will not deny the Qur'an. Relating to a Muslim from the Qur'an guarantees a listening ear. If you begin with verses in the Qur'an that talk about Jesus, then you and your new Muslim friend can enter into dialogue on neutral ground.

There are some facts in the Qur'an that Christians also believe to be true. For instance, the Qur'an claims that Jesus was born of a virgin without an earthly father. Is it any less true than when the Bible says the same thing? A valuable piece of paper money placed between two counterfeit pieces of paper money does not make the valuable piece of money less valuable, so long as you know which one is real. Christians know what truth is because we have the standard for truth in the Bible. But we must start where Muslims are and then hopefully bring them to the Bible where they can see the full truth for themselves.

The Camel Method begins by using the Qur'an as a bridge. No one lives on a bridge. It is only a means of getting over an obstacle. To stay in their book too long is fruitless. Our goal is to move them quickly into the Book – the Bible.

Qur'an Terms:

If you want to effectively communicate with Muslims, you'll need to adopt the language of the Qur'an that they will understand. Here are some of the basic terms that are common to Muslims with their equivalents in English. The Qur'an always uses the Arabic names, no matter the local translation. These are the same names that appear in the Arabic Bible, which was translated from the original Hebrew and Greek several hundred years before Islam was begun by Mohammad.

God = *Allah*
 Jesus = *'Isa*
 Messiah = *Masiih* (as in *'Isa Al Masiih*)
 Adam = *Adam*
 Eve = *Hawwa*

Abraham = *Ibrihim*
 Amram = *Al 'Imraan* (father to Moses and Aaron)
 David = *Dawuud*
 Mary = *Maryam*
 John = *Yayah*

These words terms also helpful to know:

Chapter = *Sura* (sometimes called book)
 Verse = *Ayya* (plural *ayyaat*)
 Torah = *Tawraat* (Genesis to Deuteronomy)
 Gospels = *Injiil* (Matthew to John)

Psalms or Wisdom = *Zabuur*
 Muslim = one who submits
 Pastor = *Imaam* (or *mullah*)
 Church = *Jamaat*

Here is **Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55**. As you read it, write down under the “**My Notes**” column anything you see that could be used to lift ‘Isa (Jesus) up in the mind of a Muslim *person of peace*. What truths about ‘Isa do you find in this passage? Note how these truths could help you begin to talk to a Muslim about ‘Isa.

THE QUR’AN

MY NOTES

Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55 (Translation: M. Pickthall)

- 42 And when the angels said: O Maryam! Truly Allah has chosen you, and made you pure, and preferred you above the women of creation.
- 43 O Maryam! Be obedient to your Lord, prostrate yourself and bow with those who bow.
- 44 This is of the tidings of things hidden. We reveal it unto you (Mohammed). You were not present with them when they cast lots to know which of them should be the guardian of Maryam, nor were you present with them when they quarreled.
- 45 (And remember) when the angels said: O Maryam! Truly Allah gives you glad tidings of a word from Him, whose name is the Masiih, ‘Isa Al Masiih, son of Maryam, illustrious in this world and the Hereafter, and he will be one of those brought near (unto Allah).
- 46 He will speak unto mankind in his cradle and in manhood, and he is of the righteous.
- 47 She said: My Lord! How shall I have a child when no man has touched me? He said: So it will be. Allah creates what He will. If He decrees a thing, He says unto it only: Be! And it is.
- 48 And He (Allah) will teach him the Scripture and wisdom, and the Tawraat (Torah) and the Injiil (Gospels).
- 49 And will make him a messenger to the children of Israel saying: Lo, I come unto you with a sign from your Lord. Lo, I fashion for you out of clay the likeness of a bird and I breathe into it, and it is a bird, by Allah’s leave. I heal him who was born blind and the leper, and I raise the dead, by Allah’s leave. And I announce unto you what you eat and what you store up in your houses. Surely herein is a sign for you, if you are to be believers.
- 50 And I come confirming that which was before me of the Tawraat to make lawful to you some that which was forbidden unto you, and I have come unto you with a sign from your Lord. So keep you duty to Allah and obey me.
- 51 Truly, Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. That is the straight path.
- 52 But when ‘Isa knew of their disbelief, he said: “Who will be my helpers in the cause of Allah? The disciples said: We will be Allah’s helpers. We believe in Allah and bear witness that we have surrendered unto Him (Arabic: “we are *muslims*” – meaning “those who submit”).
- 53 Our Lord! We believe in that which You have revealed and we follow Him (‘Isa) whom You have sent; so write us down among those who witness to the truth.
- 54 And they (the disbelievers) schemed and Allah schemed against them; and Allah is the best of schemers.
- 55 And remember when Allah said: O ‘Isa, I am gathering you and causing you to ascend unto Me and am clearing you of those who disbelieve and I am setting those who follow you above those who disbelieve until the Day of Resurrection. Then unto Me you all will return and I shall judge between you in that which you used to differ.

Extra:

- 59 Truly, the likeness of ‘Isa with Allah is as the likeness of Adam. He created him of dust, then He said to him: Be! And he is.

Chapter Five The Camel Method

An ancient Muslim tradition says that Allah has 100 names, but a man can only know 99 of them and only the camel knows the hundredth name. That is why the name “Camel” Method is used in this guide. This is only tradition, but we want Muslims to know what the camel supposedly knows – that unknown name of Allah. We want them to know that hundredth name of Allah – **‘Isa (Jesus)!**

The Camel method uses one particular passage in the Qur’an (Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55) to open the door with a Muslim so that you can begin to share ‘Isa with him.

The Purpose of the Camel Method

It is critical that you understand the purpose of the Camel Method. It is not to lead a Muslim to salvation in Masiih (Christ). It is only to find a *person of peace*. Our purpose is to find those who want to know more about ‘Isa (Jesus) so that we can take them to the Bible and show them the full truth about Him. The Bible says, “*So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the message about Masiih [Christ].*” Romans 10:17

Two Guiding Principles

First – Lift up ‘Isa. By questions and comments about Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55, you will begin to raise ‘Isa up in the mind of the *person of peace*. Focus only on ‘Isa. If possible, do not even mention Mohammed as you discuss Sura 3:42-55. Later, you will learn what to say if someone asks what you think of Mohammed.

Second - Focus on what the Qur’an *actually* says. Encourage your Muslim friend to focus on what the Qur’an says, not what he has heard or been told it says, or what the Hadith says.

CAMEL METHOD OUTLINE

1. **Opening Statement:** *“I have read some amazing things in the Qur’an. Would you read to me Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55 so that I could ask you some questions about it?”*
2. **Three Steps to raising ‘Isa up in the mind of a Muslim**
 - **‘Isa is holy.** – Sura 3:42-47
 - He is the word of Allah. – 45
 - He is “*Ruhullah*” (Spirit of God). – 21:91
 - He is Al Masiih (The Messiah). - 45
 - He is righteous. - 46
 - He is virgin born. – 47

Do you know of any other prophet as holy as ‘Isa?
 - **‘Isa has power over death.** – 3:48-54
 - He gave sight to the blind. – 49
 - He healed lepers. – 49
 - He raised the dead to life again. – 49
 - Your duty to Allah is to obey ‘Isa. – 50
 - To know what ‘Isa told us to do you must read the Injiil. – 48

Do you know of any other prophet as powerful as ‘Isa?
 - **‘Isa knows the way to heaven and can show us the way.** – 3:55
 - Those who believe in ‘Isa are set above; those who disbelieve.
 - ‘Isa is in paradise and knows the way.
3. **Final Question:** *I want to go to paradise when I die. You want to go to paradise when you die. ‘Isa is in paradise and knows the way to paradise. Out of all the prophets, which one is best able to help us get to paradise?*

Three Steps at a Glance

There are three steps to raising ‘Isa (Jesus) up in the mind of a Muslim person of peace. The Camel Method breaks this passage down into three sections with each section making a particular point about ‘Isa. Some call these points the “three humps” in the Camel Method.

- | | | |
|----------------|--|---------------------------|
| Hump 1. | ‘Isa is Holy. | Al ‘Imraan 3:42-47 |
| Hump 2. | ‘Isa has power even over death. | Al ‘Imraan 3:48-54 |
| Hump 3. | ‘Isa knows the way to heaven. | Al ‘Imraan 3:55 |

Step-by-Step Through the Camel Method

How to Begin: After a friendly introduction, there are several possible ways to begin a fruitful discussion. You can say:

I have read some amazing truths in the Qur’an. Would you read Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55, so I could ask you some questions about it?

Or:

The Qur’an says some very interesting things about ‘Isa. Could you read Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55 so that we could talk about it?

It is helpful if you ask your Muslim friend to break the passage up into three separate sections as he reads it – vv. 42-47, 48-54, and 55.¹

Ask your Muslim friend to read Sura 3:42-47. Then discuss with the person what it says about ‘Isa.

1. ‘ISA IS HOLY

Qur’an, Sura 3 Al ‘Imraan

- 42** And when the angels said: O Maryam! Truly, Allah has Maryam chosen by Allah to bear chosen you and made you pure ‘Isa into the world and has preferred you above all the women of creation.
- 43** “O Maryam! Be obedient to your Lord and prostrate yourself and bow down with those who bow down.”
- 44** This is of the tidings of things hidden. We reveal it unto you (O Mohammed). You were not present with them when they cast lots to know which of them should be the guardian of Maryam, nor were you present with them when they quarreled.
- 45** Remember when the angels said: O Maryam! Truly, Allah gives ‘Isa is the *Word of God* you glad tidings of *a Word from* ‘Isa is the *Masiih* which **Him**, whose name will be *Masiih*, means “*chosen one*” ‘Isa (Messiah, Jesus), the son of Maryam, held in honor in this world and the Hereafter, and will be one of those *who are near to Allah*.”
- 46** “He will speak unto mankind in the cradle and in his manhood and ‘Isa is righteous he is of the *righteous*.”
- 47** She said, “O My Lord, **how can I have a child when no man** ‘Isa born of a virgin **has touched me?**” He said, “So (it will be) for Allah creates what He will. If He decrees a thing, He says unto it only: Be! And it is.”

What to say about these verses:

Focus on verses **45-47**. These are the verses that talk about how holy ‘Isa is.

Read 3:45 ‘Isa is “**a word from Allah**” and ‘Isa is the “**Masiih**.”

Ask: “*What does it mean that ‘Isa is a word from Allah?*”

¹ Occasionally, you may find that verse numbers may be off by one or two. For example, this Sura Al ‘Imraan passage begins with the angels speaking to Maryam in verse 42. But when you ask your Muslim friend to read, you find that his verse 42 does not say that. Don’t panic. Simply ask him to read the following verse or two or the verse or two before. You may find that, in his translation, verse 43 or 44 is where this passage begins. So, once you have made sure he is on the right sura and verse (ayya), ask him to read an ayya or two before and after, until you locate the correct verse.

This verse says that ‘Isa is “a word from Allah.” Notice that it does not say that he will only **speak** the words of Allah, but **that He himself is** a word from Allah. With all of the other prophets, Allah told them what to say and they said it. But we see that ‘Isa is very different. He himself is called a “word” from Allah. This “word” had a body and a name – His name was Masiih, ‘Isa (Messiah, Jesus). Unlike any other prophet ‘Isa was a word from Allah.

Ask: “Isn’t ‘Isa called the ‘Ruhullah’?”

Most Muslims will know that this is a common name for ‘Isa. It means “spirit of Allah.” You can show them why from the Qur’an! The Qur’an tells us in Sura Prophets (Nobis) 21:91: *We (Allah) breathed into her of our Spirit and made her (Mary) and her son a token (sign) for all peoples.*

The Qur’an also teaches that ‘Isa is the “**Ruhullah**” (ruh-hoo-lah) which means ‘Isa is the Spirit of Allah. So Allah spoke and His word became flesh in the form of a baby. Therefore, ‘Isa was a word from Allah. Allah breathed on Maryam by His Spirit and she conceived a child who would be a sign for all people. Not just Israel, but all people! Therefore, ‘Isa is called the Spirit of Allah or the “Ruhullah.”

Ask: “‘Isa is called ‘Masiih.’ What does that mean?”

You may receive many answers to this question, but all of them will help you focus on who ‘Isa is. I have heard Muslims say, “Messiah”, “the one who brings us from dark to light”, “the one who heals”, “the one who releases,” etc. All of these lift up ‘Isa. But point out that in all the translations of the Qur’an the word “*Masiih*” is translated “*messiah*.” Focus on ‘Isa being the Messiah. Allah had promised His people a deliverer and savior – a “Messiah.” ‘Isa was that promised savior of Allah’s people. No other prophet is called Masiih. It is a very special and unique title! According to verse 45, ‘Isa will not only be held in honor in this world but also in the one to come.

Ask: “In ayya (verse) 46, ‘Isa is called ‘righteous.’ Did ‘Isa ever sin?”

The answer will always be, “No, ‘Isa never sinned.” Quite often, however, someone will say, “But none of the prophets ever sinned.”

This idea that none of the prophets sinned is a common belief among Muslims, even though the Qur’an does not teach this. In fact, we see in the Qur’an that Adam disobeyed Allah (120:121), that several of the prophets asked forgiveness for their sins (Nuh/Noah – 71:25-28, Musa/Moses 28:15-16, Dawuud/David – 38:24-25, and Solomon – 38:30-35) and that Mohammed himself needed forgiveness of his sins that were past and that were to come (48:2). But still, Muslims are taught that there were 124,000 prophets and that none of them sinned. They may admit that the prophets “made mistakes” but not that they sinned. Sometimes it can be a piercing question for them if you ask, “What is the difference between a mistake and a sin?” Whether you planned to or not, disobeying Allah is still sin. However, it is probably more fruitful at this point to simply focus not just on the fact that ‘Isa never sinned, but upon how righteous he was. For instance, point out that ‘Isa never killed anyone; ‘Isa never married; ‘Isa was poor; he went about healing people and doing only good. When ‘Isa fasted, he fasted for forty days and forty nights. ‘Isa taught us to love even our enemies. Without mentioning the name of Mohammed, you are pointing out how the righteousness of ‘Isa exceeded that of Mohammed or any of the prophets.

3:47 ‘Isa was **born of a virgin**, without an earthly father.

Ask: “What does ayya 47 say about ‘Isa?”

Your Muslim friend will answer that ‘Isa was born of a virgin. All Muslims believe this! What you need to do is try to get them to think about **why ‘Isa** was born of a virgin. Muslims believe there were 124,000 prophets, so use this number for emphasis.

Ask: Billions of people have been born on this earth including 124,000 prophets, yet, only ‘Isa was born of a virgin, without an earthly father! Why was only ‘Isa born this way?”

You need to get your Muslim friend to consider the significance of ‘Isa being born without an earthly father. He may say, “This was just Allah’s special sign for ‘Isa to confirm that he was a prophet.” But you need to keep

pressing the question, “Yes, but why was **only ‘Isa** born of a virgin, without an earthly father?” Do your best to make him think about why ‘Isa is so unique among all the nabi (prophets).

At this point, you need to help your Muslim friend think about **why** ‘Isa was born of a virgin.

Ask: “Do you know of any other prophet that did not have an earthly father?”

The answer, of course, is Adam. The reason why Adam had to come into existence without an earthly father is rather obvious. Allah formed Adam from dust and breathed life into him. In the Qur’an in Al ‘Imraan 3:59 it is stated that ‘Isa is like Adam. This is true, because neither of these prophets had an earthly father.

Allah placed Adam and Hawwa (Eve) in the Garden. It was a perfect place. God forbid them to do only one thing – to eat of the fruit of one tree. Adam walked and talked with God in the Garden. Adam could live and talk with Allah **because he did not have any sin**. At first, Adam was righteous and holy, but then Adam disobeyed Allah.

The two of them (Adam and Hawwa) ate thereof, so that their shame became apparent unto them, they began to hide by heaping on themselves some of the leaves of the Garden. And Adam disobeyed his Lord and so went astray. - Sura Ta Ha 20:121

He and all of his descendants became unholy and could no longer live together with the holy Allah. Adam’s disobedience had brought judgment on all of his descendants. None could go back into the Garden with Allah. But Adam’s sin had also corrupted all of his descendants.

Since Islam is a “works-based” religion, it is good to note that Adam and Hawwa were banned from the Garden and from the presence of Allah because of **one single sin**. Explain what this means: that anyone who has committed only one sin has become a sinner and cannot go to heaven and live in the presence of Allah. Trying to do enough good works to cover each and every sin committed is an impossible task. Adam committed one sin and was cast out of Allah’s presence without any hope of returning there.

From that moment on, Adam’s race became bent toward doing what is wrong; bent away from obedience to Allah. We all as Adam’s descendants have this sin nature (or this heart) that is bent away from what is right and holy. This is obvious! We do not have to teach our children to do wrong. We all have a natural pull to that which is wrong. In fact we must work very hard to try to teach our children to do right.

Now here is the point. Since we are all descendants of Adam, we have all inherited his sinful nature. But in ‘Isa that blood line of Adam was cut! ‘Isa was not of the blood line of Adam, for he had no earthly father. ‘Isa was very different from all the other prophets. In fact, ‘Isa was very different from all people who have ever been born!

You can say something like this: “We are all like Adam because we come from Adam. We come from his bloodline. Generation after generation, we all are like Adam, because we come from Adam; until we get to ‘Isa. Then the line was cut! ‘Isa did not come from Adam. Allah spoke and ‘Isa was conceived; Allah breathed of His Spirit and ‘Isa was conceived. ‘Isa came from Allah!”

Transition Question: “Do you know of any other prophet who is as holy as ‘Isa?”

2. ‘ISA HAS POWER OVER DEATH

Now ask him or her to read Sura 3:48-54.

Qur’an, Sura 3 Al ‘Imraan

- 48** And He (Allah) **will teach him (‘Isa) the Scripture, and the ‘Isa taught the Truth of God wisdom, and the Tawraat (Torah) which we have in the Bible and the Injiil (Gospels).**
- 49** And will make him a messenger unto the children of Israel saying: Lo! I come to you with a sign from the Lord. Lo! I design for you out of clay the likeness of a bird and breathe into it, and it is a bird, by Allah’s will; **I heal him who is born blind [‘Isa heals the blind] and the leper [‘Isa heals the leper] and I raise the dead [‘Isa raises the dead], by Allah’s will.** And I announce unto you what you eat and what you store up in your houses. Surely herein truly is a sign for you, if you are to be believers.
- 50** And I come confirming that which was before me of Tawraat (Torah/Old Testament) and to make ‘Isa came with miraculous lawful some of that which was proofs from God forbidden to you. **I come unto you with a sign from your Lord, so keep your duty to Allah and obey me.** [Duty to Allah is to obey ‘Isa!]
- 51** Truly, Allah is my Lord and your Lord, so worship Him. This is the straight path.

- 52 But when ‘Isa came to know of their disbelief, he said, “Who will be my helpers in the cause of Allah? The disciples said: We will be Allah’s helpers. We believe Allah and bear you witness that we have surrendered. [In Arabic the disciples are literally called “muslims.” They were *muslims* 600 years before Mohammed was born! Literally, it means “ones who are submitted.”]
- 53 Our, Lord! We believe in that which you have revealed and we follow him (‘Isa) whom you have sent so write us down among those who bear witness to the truth.
- 54 And they (the disbelievers) schemed (plotted), and Allah schemed against them; and Allah is the best of schemers...

What to say about these verses:

Focus on verse 49 in this section. This verse tells us about the power of ‘Isa.

Ask: *“In ayya (verse) 49, what did ‘Isa do?”*

Allah demonstrated His power through ‘Isa. The Qur’an says that the lepers were healed and those born blind received their sight. ‘Isa even raised the dead to life again!

Ask: *“What is our greatest enemy?”* [Answer: death!]

Take the opportunity to drive home the fact that ‘Isa has power over our greatest enemy. No one overcomes death – **but ‘Isa did!**

Your Muslim friend will agree that ‘Isa did these things, but he may object that it was only by Allah’s will. Of course, everything comes from Allah and is by His will. But you can point out that ‘Isa did not ask Allah to do these things, but he himself did them. He touched the leper and the blind man and they were healed! ‘Isa Himself commanded the dead to rise and they came to live at his command!

Ask: *“In ayya 50, what does ‘Isa tell us to do?”*

‘Isa said that in order to do our “duty to Allah” (or “to fear Allah” depending on the translation), we must obey Him (‘Isa).

Ask: *“In the Qur’an, ‘Isa is mentioned many times, but the Qur’an does not tell us what ‘Isa commanded us to do. In the Injiil [see Al ‘Imraan 3:48] we can read the commands of ‘Isa. The Qur’an says it is your duty to Allah to obey ‘Isa. How can you obey him if you do not know what He told you to do?”*

You can ask your Muslim friend, “Suppose I asked you to do something for me, but I did not tell you what it was that I wanted you to do. Would you do it?” Of course he must say no. He can’t do what you asked because he does not know what it is! In the same way, he cannot do his duty to Allah and obey ‘Isa because he does not know what ‘Isa has told him to do!

You can use this opportunity to encourage your Muslim friend to read the Injiil (Gospel/New Testament) so that he can find out what ‘Isa told him to do. On many occasions, Muslims I have spoken to have agreed to receive and read the Bible because of this ayya (verse).

At this point, Muslims will usually bring up the objection that the Tawraat and the Injiil (or they may simply say the Bible) have been changed. To see how to respond to this, look at objection # 1 in Appendix 3.

Point out that in 3:52-53, the disciples of ‘Isa are called “Muslims.” Remember that “*muslim*” means “one who is submitted (to God).”

Transition Question: *“Do you know of any other prophet who was as powerful as ‘Isa?”*

3. ‘ISA KNOWS THE WAY TO HEAVEN

Now ask him to read Sura 3:55.

Qur’an, Sura 3 Al ‘Imraan

- 55 And remember when Allah said: **O ‘Isa!** I am gathering you (‘Isa is raised to be with Allah) and causing you to ascend to Me (and am cleansing you of those who disbelieve and) **am setting those who follow you**

(Followers of ‘Isa) set **above those who disbelieve** till the those who don’t believe in Him Day of Resurrection. Then you will return to Me and I shall judge between you as to that wherein you used to differ.

What to say about this ayya:

First, make sure your Muslim friend notices what this verse says about those who follow ‘Isa. You showed your Muslim friend in 3:50 that the Qur’an says he should obey ‘Isa. Here the Qur’an tells him that if he obeys and follows ‘Isa he will be set above those who disbelieve, not until Mohammed comes, but all the way **until the Day of Resurrection!** Second, we have seen from the Qur’an, in Sura 21:91, that ‘Isa is a sign for all people, including Muslims. And here we see that those who follow ‘Isa will be set above those who disbelieve, even *after* the days of Mohammed. Now, you need to ask a very important question.

Ask: *According to ayya 55, where is ‘Isa right now?*

There are only two possible answers. First, he might say, “‘Isa is with Allah.” Then you can ask, “Where is Allah?” Second, he can say, “‘Isa is in paradise.” Either way he must admit that the Qur’an says that ‘Isa is **in paradise with Allah**. At this point you will find this example helpful:

Ask: *Suppose I wanted to get from here to the capital city. Who should I choose to help me? Should I choose someone who has never been there or someone who knows the way and lives there now?*

According to the Qur’an, ‘Isa came from paradise and is in paradise today. Therefore ‘Isa knows the way and can help us get there.

CLOSING QUESTION: *“I want to go to paradise; you want to go to paradise. Isa is in paradise and knows the way to paradise. Of all the prophets, which one is best able to help us get to paradise?”*

Know the “MVQ” (Most Valuable Question). Throughout this discussion and especially when you ask if there is another prophet as powerful as ‘Isa, you may hear some very interesting stories or ideas that seem to contradict what you are saying. They may begin to tell you about how this prophet did this or another prophet did that. Very few of these stories will actually be in the Qur’an. Most of them come from what are called the *Hadith*. As we saw earlier, Muslims say that the Qur’an came to Mohammed by direct revelation through the angel Gabriel (*Jabreel*), whereas the *Hadith* are the supposed sayings and deeds of Mohammed that were passed down orally and finally compiled over 250 years after Mohammed died. To Muslims, they shed light on the Qur’an and are like a commentary on the Qur’an. Remember that you want to encourage your Muslim friend to face what the Qur’an actually says. When you begin to hear these stories of things the prophets did or said, statements about what Muslims believe, use this very important yet simple question:

The MVQ (Most Valuable Question): *“Is that in the Qur’an, or is that in the Hadith?”*

Most of the time Muslims will explain something they know by saying, “Oh, that is explained in the Hadith.” Whenever this happens, simply respond with something like this:

Response: *“You believe that the Qur’an is the complete and final word of Allah, don’t you? So, let’s focus on what the Qur’an says.”*

If they tell you that the story is in the Qur’an you can say:

“That is very interesting; I am learning about the Qur’an. Could you show me where that is in the Qur’an? I would like to read it.”

In almost every instance, they will not know where it is. Quite often this is because it is not in the Qur’an. If they cannot show you where it is simply say:

“Let’s keep looking at what we see right here in the Qur’an.”

Now What? Is there a *person of peace* here?

At this point you thank your Muslim friend or friends for taking the time to talk with you about what the Qur'an says. Then you look to see where God is at work. **After presenting and handling the Closing Question, ask yourself, "Is this person a person of peace?"** How might the Lord show me a *man or woman of peace*?

Review of the Camel Method

Opening statement: _____

Would you please read verses _____ first?

Sura 3:46

- Isa is _____
- Sura 21:91 – 'Isa is _____
- He is called 'Isa _____

"What do these mean?"

Sura 3:46

- Isa is _____

"Did 'Isa ever sin?"

Sura 3:47

- Isa was _____

"Why, out of all the prophets, was **only** 'Isa born of a virgin?"

Transition: "Do you know of any prophet as holy as 'Isa?"

Would you please read verses _____ next?

Sura 3:49 "What did 'Isa do?"

- He _____
- He _____
- He _____

Sura 3:50

- "What is our duty to Allah?" _____
- "How can you obey 'Isa if you don't know what He tells you?"
- "How can you know unless you read the Injiil?"

Transition: "Do you know of any prophet as powerful as 'Isa?"

Now would you please read verse _____?

Sura 3:55

- "What did Allah say he would do for those who believe in 'Isa?"

- "Where is 'Isa right now?" _____
- "If I wanted to go to the capital city, who would I ask?"

Closing Question: _____

Chapter Six Before You Go

1. Before you go, pray!

Pray in faith expecting results. Realize that Allah is already at work in this community and that there are already *men of peace* who are open to hear more about 'Isa.

2. Before you go, know what you will do (and not do) with the Qur'an.

It is better that you **not** walk into a conversation with a copy of the Qur'an; you're only likely to offend Muslims. Instead, ask them to open their Qur'an and read the passages in question. This will draw them into the conversation while preventing you from offending them. It is always the best option to have your Muslim friend read to you from his Qur'an.

The question often comes up, "*What do I do if my Muslim friend does not have a Qur'an?*" There are several things that you can do if this is the case. First, you can make an appointment to talk to him at another time, when he can bring his Qur'an with him. Or, you can offer your Qur'an to him to read. I usually carry a Qur'an in a backpack, out of sight, so that I can bring it out if my Muslim friend agrees to that. Finally, if none of these options are available, I can simply tell him what I read in the Qur'an and ask my questions from there. This way I can discuss what the Qur'an says, even if my Muslim cannot read or does not have a Qur'an.

3. Before you go, always keep a gentle spirit.

In your encounter with Muslims, it is better to ask questions and draw the truth out of them than to preach the truth at them. As they read what the Qur'an says and try to answer your questions, they are forced to think about who 'Isa is. There is **not** enough light in the Qur'an to bring them to salvation, but there are enough flickers of truth to draw out God's *person of peace* from among them.

Maintaining a quite, peaceful attitude is the key to keeping the conversation open and avoiding hostility. As long as you stay within the Qur'an and ask questions, they can't blame or attack you for teaching Christianity. However, once you have drawn out the *person of peace*, you will be able to leave the Qur'an behind and teach the Word of God.

4. Before you go, remember that you are not trying to win arguments; just trying to find the *person of peace!*

In Camel Method training sessions, many Christians begin to voice this objection: "*But, they will say...*" and then they state arguments that they think Muslims will use against them. I always encourage them to remember the purpose of the Camel Method. The purpose is to present truth about 'Isa and let Allah show you where He is already at work. Let Allah show you the person of peace. When you fish with a rod or a pole, you are not trying to catch all the fish in the lake; you are trying to catch one particular fish. With the Camel Method you are trying to find one man or woman – a *person of peace*. Try to answer objections, but remember we will never see a Muslim brought to faith in 'Isa by our brilliant arguments. 'Isa said, "*No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him...*" *John 6:44* Simply present truth and let God do the drawing.

5. Before you go, you should know what Muslims may say about the Qur'an.

When you mention the Qur'an, you should be aware that Muslims believe the only true Qur'an is the one in Arabic. They believe that any translation of the Qur'an is a paraphrase or deviation from the original. Some may use this to discount your claim to know what the Qur'an actually says and means. You will find suggestions on how to handle this objection in Appendix 3 – Objection # 6.

6. Before you go, know what you think about Mohammad.

At times you may be asked by Muslims: "*Who do you say Mohammad is?*" An answer to this question that belittles Mohammad could be dangerous, as well as take the focus away from 'Isa. Muslims feel a strong sense of obligation to protect Mohammad's honor. Here is a suggested answer to this explosive question.

Response: "*I say Mohammed is who he said he was in the Qur'an. Let's look at Sura Ahqaaf (The Wind Curved Sand Hills) 46:9 to see what Mohammed said about himself.*"

Sura 46:9 *“I am no new thing among the messengers; nor do I know what will be done with me or with you, I do but follow that which is inspired in me and I am only a plain warner.”*

Take the time to point out the three parts to this verse:

1. He is not any different from the messengers before him. He is not the greatest.
2. He does not know what will happen to himself or his followers.
3. He is only a person who warns others; a “warner.”

Then, contrast what Mohammed says with what ‘Isa says:

He who believes in Me (‘Isa) has everlasting life. John 6:47 (NKJV)

I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you I will come again and receive you unto Myself that where I am there you may be also. I am the way No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:2-3, 6 (NKJV)

‘Isa knows where He is going and He knows where His followers are going. They are going to paradise to be with ‘Isa! And He told His followers exactly how to get there – through faith in Him!

7. Before you go, prepare to meet the Person of Peace.

When you find the *person of peace*, you must then get him into the Bible so you can present the Gospel to him. There are two verses in the Qur’an that we can use to help your Muslim friend understand that Allah’s Truth is perfectly in the Bible. In the Qur’an the Bible is called “the “Scripture before” (*i.e.*, before the Qur’an) and the Jews are called the “People of the Scripture.” First look at **Sura Yunnis (Jonah) 10:94**:

10:94: *And if you (Mohammed) are in doubt concerning that which We reveal unto you, then question those who read the Scripture before you. Verily the Truth from your Lord has come unto you. So be not of the waverers.*

Allah tells Mohammed, that if he had doubts, he should question “those who read the Scripture (that was) before you,” because the Truth is found in those Scriptures. He urges Mohammed not to be among the waverers.

At this point your Muslim friend will usually bring up the objection that those Scriptures have been changed or corrupted. The Qur’an does not say this. It only says that the Jews twisted the meaning of these Scriptures, not that they actually changed the Scriptures themselves. In fact the Qur’an actually affirms the truth of all the Scriptures! Point out to your Muslim friend **Sura An-‘aam (Cattle) 6:115**.

6:115: *Perfected is the Word of the Lord in truth and justice. There is nothing that can change His words. He is the Hearer, the Knower.*

So, Allah assured Mohammed that the Scripture (prior to the Qur’an) was given by Him. Allah said it is perfect and no one can change it.

Be sure to point out that the Tawraat and Injiil that you are sharing with your friend have been translated from their original languages and from the oldest manuscripts, which were in existence long before Mohammed was born. You can also tell your Muslim friends that when Mohammed received the “before Scriptures”, he was satisfied that they were uncorrupted.

Once you have drawn out Allah’s man *of peace*, you must shift from the Qur’an to the Bible. The Qur’an can be an effective bridge for Muslims, but you don’t want to camp on the bridge! Once you have crossed the bridge leave it and move on. You can say something like this: “In the Qur’an there are only a few details about the prophets like Adam, Noah (*Nuh*), Abraham (*Ibrihim*), Moses (*Musa*), David (*Dawuud*), but the Tawraat tells us much more about their lives and what they taught us. In the Qur’an there are only a few ayaat (verses) about ‘Isa, but in the Injiil we are told about all that he did and taught and commanded us to do. As you go to the Tawraat, Zabuur, and Injiil you can hear about the wonderful things that Allah has done and taught us!”

Here are two other ayyaat that can be helpful:

Sura Nisaaa' (Women) 4:136:

4:136: *O you who believe! Believe in Allah and His messenger and the Scripture which He has revealed unto His messenger, and **the Scripture which He revealed aforetime**. Whosoever **disbelieves** in Allah and His angels and His **Scriptures** and His messengers and the Last day, he verily has wandered far astray.*

Point out to your friend that, according to the Qur'an, if he does not believe the "*Scripture which He (Allah) revealed aforetime*" that he has wandered far from Allah.

Sura Maa-'idah (the Table Spread) 5:65-66:

If your friend asks, where the Qur'an says that the Tawraat and the Injiil are the "before Scriptures," ask him to read:

Sura 5:65-66: *If only the People of the Scripture (the Jews – see verse 64) would believe and ward off evil, we would remit their sins from them and surely We would bring them into Gardens of Delight. If they had observed the **Tawraat (Torah) and the Injiil (Gospel)** and that which was revealed unto them by their Lord, then they would have been nourished from above them and from beneath their feet.*

Many of the objections and arguments that Muslims bring up will only be overcome as they go to the Bible (Torah and Injiil). Though there is some truth about 'Isa in the Qur'an, there is not enough truth to explain to a Muslim why he needs a Savior and how he can be saved.

Very rarely will a Muslim be ready to receive 'Isa after his first encounter with the truth about Him. We have already seen that once you find a *person of peace*, you stay and work with him until he comes to faith in 'Isa. To do that, read from the Bible.

Then beginning with Musa (Moses) and all the Nabiiyyiin (Prophets), He ('Isa) interpreted for them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. Luke 24:27

Ask: "How did 'Isa bring these two disciples to saving faith in Himself?"

We can do the same thing 'Isa did! Once you have brought him to the Bible, begin to teach him, from the Scriptures, about the penalty of sin and the need of a Savior--the Lord 'Isa Al Masiih (Jesus Christ). Another passage reinforces it:

Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. He also said to them, "This is what is written: the Masiih would suffer and rise from the dead the third day, and repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:45-47

Ask: "What else did 'Isa do for the two disciples?"

As you open the Bible and speak to the *person of peace*, pray boldly for him and expect his understanding to be opened.

...since the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but are powerful through Allah for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of Allah, taking every thought captive to the obedience of 'Isa. And we are ready to punish any disobedience, once your obedience is complete. 2 Corinthians 10:4-6

The two spiritual weapons we have are the **Word of Allah** (which is called the "sword of the spirit" in Ephesians 6:17) and **prayer**.

Chapter Seven

A Suggested Story List for the Person of Peace

Here are seven Bible stories suggested to use with the *person of peace* to help them discover his or her need for 'Isa as Savior and Lord.

1. **Adam and Hawwa (Eve)** Genesis 2:1-3:24

- Adam was in perfect relationship with Allah (God) in the Garden. He saw Allah, talked with Allah and knew what Allah was like.
- Allah commanded Adam not to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Allah told him that in the day that he ate from it he would die.
- Shaytaan (Satan) tempted Hawwa (Eve) and she ate of the forbidden fruit and she offered it to Adam and he ate of it also. Immediately they felt shame, tried to cover their nakedness and hid from Allah.
- That day, Adam and Hawwa did not die physically. However, that day, they were cast out of the Garden and separated from Allah. In Romans 3:23, the Bible tells us that the penalty of sin is death. Death means separation from Allah who is our life. Physical death entered the world because of sin, but the death Adam and Hawwa experienced that day was separation from Allah. The primary penalty of sin is that it separates a person from Allah.
- Adam and Hawwa's attempt to cover their shame was useless. But Allah killed an animal and covered them in animal skin. In order for their shame to be covered, a blood sacrifice was required.

Summary: Sin produces death. Death means separation from Allah who is our life. A blood sacrifice was necessary as a covering for sin and its shame.

2. **Cain and Abel** Genesis 4:1-16

- Cain and Abel brought offerings/sacrifices before the Lord. Cain was a farmer so he brought produce from his fields. Abel was a shepherd so he brought an animal sacrifice.
- Allah was pleased with Abel's sacrifice which was a blood sacrifice. He was not pleased with Cain's bloodless offering. Allah showed that He required a blood sacrifice.
- Rather than learn from this experience what kind of offering Allah required, Cain became jealous and killed his brother.
- Cain's sin and rebellion brought punishment and caused him to be driven even further from the presence of the Lord.

Summary: The blood sacrifice that Abel brought established the requirement of a blood sacrifice until the coming of 'Isa (see Hebrews 12:24). Sin brings death which is separation from Allah.

3. **Nuh (Noah)** Genesis chapters 6-8

- Once man was separated from the presence of Allah, shaytaan began to flood the earth with false ideas about who Allah is and what He requires of man. (see John 8:44 and Revelation 12:9) The wickedness of man became so great that Allah decided to destroy mankind from off the earth.
- Allah chose to spare Nuh (Noah) and his family because Nuh was a just man.
- Allah told Nuh to build an ark (a huge box that would float) because He was going to destroy the earth by a flood.
- Nuh obeyed Allah and built the ark.
- When Allah flooded the earth, Nuh and his family were lifted by the ark above the watery judgment of Allah against wicked and unbelieving mankind.

Summary: Sin brings judgment and death. Those who believe Allah and apply his appointed means of deliverance will be saved from Allah's judgment upon sin.

4. **Ibrihim (Abraham)** Genesis chapters 12-25

- To counter the false ideas about Allah that shaytaan (Satan) had flooded the world with, Allah chose to raise up a people through whom He would reveal what He is like and what He requires of man.
- Allah chose Ibrihim as the father of His people.

- Allah told Ibrihim that he would give him multitudes of physical descendants and that, through his descendants, Allah would bless all the families of the earth. So Ibrihim believed Allah and followed Him to the land of Canaan.
- Ibrihim and his wife Sarah had gotten very old (physically too old to have a child) and they still had no child through whom Allah could give Ibrihim many descendants. But one night, Allah took Ibrihim outside and showed him the stars in the sky and told him that the number of his descendants would be like the stars. Ibrihim believed Allah and it was counted unto him for righteousness.
- When Ibrihim was 100 years old, Allah gave him a son named Isaac. This was the son that Allah had promised.
- Later, Allah commanded Ibrihim to go and offer Isaac as a sacrifice to Allah. Ibrihim obeyed Allah, but before he could put the knife to Isaac the Angel of the Lord stopped him. Instead of Isaac, Allah provided a ram for the substitute sacrifice.

Summary: Allah wants us to know what He is like and what He requires of us. In Ibrihim, we see that right standing before Allah requires faith. (see Romans 4:1-5) Also, we see that Allah would not allow Ibrihim to offer his son as a sacrifice. Allah provided a substitute. But one day Allah would offer His Son Who would be the substitute for all people of faith. (see John 3:16)

5. **Musa (Moses)** Exodus chapters 12-20

- Allah's people went and settled in Egypt. They were treated kindly there at first, but later they were made to be slaves and were treated harshly.
- Allah raised up Musa (Moses) to deliver His people from their bondage in Egypt.
- At Musa's command, nine terrible plagues came on Egypt, but Fir'awn (Pharaoh, king of Egypt) would not let Allah's people go.
- Allah decided to send one final plague on Egypt – the first born of every creature was to die. Allah told his people that they were to sacrifice a lamb and splatter its blood on the doorposts of their houses. Allah would pass over the houses of those who believed Him and applied the lamb's blood; the firstborn there would not die, but live.
- Through this last plague Allah delivered His people and caused them to pass from Egypt, through the Red Sea and into the wilderness.
- Allah took His people to Mount Sinai and there he gave them His Law. As we saw, Satan had filled the minds of men with false ideas about what Allah is like and what He requires of people. The purpose of His Law was to reveal His righteousness and what He required of mankind.
- Immediately after Allah gave Musa His commandments, He told Musa to build an altar so that when the people sinned they might bring a blood sacrifice as an offering for sin.
- For the next 1,500 years, until 'Isa came, every day the people of Israel saw the penalty of sin – death!
- Those who would be in right standing before Allah had to bring the offering that Allah required for their sin.

Summary: In the very fabric of the existence of His people Israel, Allah wove the picture of the blood sacrifice. The Passover feast that celebrated their deliverance from bondage reminded them of the lamb that died and became the substitute for them. The constant sacrifices for sin reminded them of the penalty of sin, which was death. The sacrificial animals died in their place. The one who would be in right standing before Allah and have his sins forgiven had to believe Allah and offer the proper sacrifice for his sins.

6. **Dawuud (David)** 1 Samuel 16-17 and 2 Samuel 5-7

- Allah chose Dawuud to be king of His people Israel, because Dawuud was a man after Allah's own heart.
- Allah enabled Dawuud to defeat Goliath and to do many other mighty feats to lift Dawuud up in the eyes of the people.
- Allah told Dawuud that his throne (rule, authority) would be an everlasting throne. (2 Samuel 7:12-13 and Psalms 89:3-4)

Summary: The Messiah or Deliverer that was to come to Allah's people would be a descendant of Dawuud. He would be the King of kings and the Lord of lords, as well as a Savior and Deliverer.

7. **'Isa (Jesus)** Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

- John the Baptist came to Allah's people telling them the Masiih (Messiah) that Allah had promised was coming and the Kingdom of Allah was at hand.

- When 'Isa came to John to be baptized, John looked at Him and said, "*Behold the Lamb of Allah that takes away the sin of the world*". Remember that Allah's people had a picture burned in their minds which is this: sin produces death, which is separation from Allah - Allah provides a substitute which is a blood sacrifice - Those who believe Allah and offer the proper offering are restored to right standing before Allah. So when John said the "Lamb of Allah" they knew he meant a sacrifice. But this one, John proclaimed could take away the sin of the whole world!
- 'Isa taught the people the truth of Allah. In Matthew chapter five he taught us that sin is not just our outward actions, but also the thoughts and intents of our hearts. As Allah told Samuel, *the Lord looks at the heart*.
- 'Isa lived a sinless life (Hebrews 4:15). Therefore, He did not owe the penalty of sin (Romans 6:23) that each descendant of Adam owes.
- 'Isa said that He came to pay the penalty of sin. He said, "*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life —a ransom for many.*" *Mark 10:45*
- When 'Isa died on the cross, he was not dying to pay for His sin, but for our sin. Right before he died, he said, "*It is finished.*" *John 19:30* In the original language of the New Testament, this phrase which is translated "it is finished" was one word. It was written on a bill when the final payment was made. It meant literally "paid in full." 'Isa was saying that as He died our sin debt was paid in full.
- Allah confirmed that 'Isa had indeed paid our penalty for sin by raising Him from the dead. (Romans 1:4 and Acts 17:31)

Summary: 'Isa came to be the sacrifice for our sins. 'Isa told us that He was going to die for our sins and then He died for us. Allah confirmed that He had accepted the sacrifice of 'Isa for the penalty of sin by raising Him from the dead. After He was raised from the dead 'Isa appeared to His disciples over a period of forty days. Then he ascended back to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father. Before He ascended, he told His disciples to go and preach the Gospel ("good news" see also 1 Corinthians 15:1-4) to all people.

Making a decision

By now you should be ready to confront your Muslim friend with his need to receive 'Isa as Savior. Here are some verses you can use:

*Then He ('Isa) said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever **believes** and is **baptized** will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be **condemned**." Mark 16:15-16*

*For Allah loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that **everyone** who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16*

*If you **confess** with your mouth, "Isa is Lord," and **believe** in your heart that Allah raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9*

Chapter Eight

The Qurbaan Plan of Salvation

Rarely does a Muslim in the first evangelistic encounter acknowledge that he is ready to receive Christ as his Savior. When he does display an interest, you should be ready to tell him how to be saved from his sin. An excellent tool for conveying the truth that 'Isa died as the sacrifice for our sins is what has become known as the Qurbaan Plan of Salvation.

"*Qurbaan*" is the Islamic word for "sacrifice." Each year Muslims are required to offer a sacrifice after Ramadan, one of the five Muslim pillars. The sacrifice can be a goat, sheep, cow, or camel. It can be offered for an individual, but is usually offered for a family. Whether Muslims actually do this or not, often depends on whether they can afford it. A Muslim is supposed to do this every year, but at least once in his lifetime. Ibrihim (Abraham) is seen as the father of Islam. The *qurbaan* is based on Ibrihim's offer to sacrifice his son and the substitute sacrifice he offered. Just as Ibrihim offered a sacrifice to God, so the Muslim sacrifices this animal and pours out its blood. Since Muslims perform the sacrifice, they must have some realization that their sin has a penalty and that there must be a death for their sin. They have at least some understanding that the blood has power or they would not bother with the *qurbaan*. Therefore we can use the *qurbaan* as a way to convey to them the meaning of Christ's death as the substitute for the penalty of their sins, and Christ's blood as having power to save them.

Point 1: Ibrihim Offered a *Qurbaan*.

Ask these questions:

- Do you know the story of Hazrat² Ibrihim when he was told to do *qurbaan* with his son? What did Hazrat Ibrihim do?
Answer: *Ibrihim took his son to offer as a qurbaan.*
- What did Allah do at the last minute?
Answer: *He sent an angel to stop the qurbaan*
- What test was Allah giving to Ibrihim?
Answer: *To see how much Ibrihim loved Allah.*
- As Ibrihim and his son walked up the mountain, what did his son ask Ibrihim?
Answer: *"The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Genesis 22:7*
- What did Hazrat Ibrihim say in return to his son?
Answer: *"Ibrihim (Abraham) answered, 'Allah (God) Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.' Then the two of them walked on together." Genesis 22:8*

Point 2: The Meaning of *Qurbaan*

Ask this question: *"What is the meaning behind the practice of qurbaan?"*

After he gives his answer, say this: *"I have studied the Tawraat and Injiil and have come to understand what true qurbaan is and how it should be done."*

- The *qurbaan* animal must be pure and have no blemishes. The animal represents innocence. It cannot be purchased with corrupt money or from the black market.
- The act of *qurbaan* is a picture of one who is innocent taking the punishment of one who is guilty. Hazrat Dawuud (David) said that the best *qurbaan* is one that takes place on the inside of a person. - Psalms 51:16-17. Feeling sorry for your sin is the best *qurbaan*.
- The act of *qurbaan* is a symbol of the punishment we deserve for our sins.
- Followers of 'Isa stopped the practice of sacrificing animals.

Ask: *Does this sound to you like the correct qurbaan prayer?*

² *Hazrat* = a term of honor like "sir"

Then say: *When we lay our hands on the animal, we should say, “Allah, I know that I am a sinner and that the required punishment is my death. Take the blood of this animal as a substitute for my punishment and forgive me and my family’s sins.”*

Point 3: Isa – Qurbaan for the Whole World!

After ‘Isa died, His followers stopped doing animal *qurbaan*. Why was this so? Before ‘Isa died, he told his Muslim followers that Allah had decided to do *qurbaan* for the sins of the entire world, thus showing His love for all mankind. Just as Allah had provided the sacrifice for Ibrihim, He Himself would provide the sacrifice for all of mankind. Allah had stopped Ibrihim from sacrificing his son, but Allah did not stop the sacrifice or *qurbaan* of ‘Isa.

There are too many poor Muslims who cannot afford *qurbaan* and too many Muslims who do not understand what true *qurbaan* is. But, far more important than this is the fact that no one could do enough *qurbaan* to cover his sins!

To do a *qurbaan* to cover the entire world, Allah decided to sacrifice the most innocent, holy, and powerful blood this world has ever seen. ‘Isa was that *qurbaan* who died for the sins of the whole world!

Ask: *How do we know that Allah has accepted the qurbaan of ‘Isa to cover the sins of all people?*

Response: *God showed that He accepted the qurbaan of ‘Isa by raising Him from the dead!*

He (Allah) has provided proof of this to everyone by raising Him (‘Isa) from the dead. Acts 17:31

Point 4: Eternal Life through Faith in ‘Isa

There are four things a Muslim needs to know:

First, we have sinned and cannot do enough to cover our sins. One sin put Adam out of Allah’s presence in the Garden of Eden. We have sinned many times. [See: Romans 3:10-12, 3:23.]

Second, ‘Isa was born without sin and never sinned. He is the very “*Ruhullah*” (Spirit of Allah) and “*Kalamtullah*” (Word of Allah). His blood is innocent because he did not inherit Adam’s sin or commit any sin while alive. His blood is holy, and powerful. Allah asked Ibrihim to show his love for Allah by sacrificing his precious son. In the same way, to show His love for man, Allah decided to do *qurbaan* for all of mankind by sacrificing ‘Isa. [See: Romans 5:6-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22; and 1 John 3:5.]

Third, ‘Isa died on the cross as the *qurbaan* for our sins. The Injiil tells us: “*For Masiih (Christ) also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring you to Allah (God).*” 1 Peter 3:18

Fourth, If you believe in ‘Isa, you will be forgiven of your sins and have eternal life. In the Injiil, are written these words, “*For Allah (God) loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.*” John 3:16 Through ‘Isa we can go to Heaven when we die and live eternally with Allah. ‘Isa knows the way and is the way. If you truly believe that Allah did *qurbaan* by using the blood of ‘Isa to cover your sins, you can join ‘Isa in heaven.

Raise your hands to Allah and say these words:

“Allah, I believe that you are One. I believe that you love all people. I understand that I am a sinner and that I deserve to be forever separated from you when I die. I thank You that you showed Your love and mercy for me by doing qurbaan for me. I believe that you used ‘Isa’s blood as the substitute for my blood and punishment. I believe that it is through ‘Isa that I can come to you when I die.”

Chapter Nine Begin Reaching Out

You have several tools that you can use to reach out to Muslims. You have learned **what to say**:

“I have read some amazing things in the Qur’an. Would you read to me Sura Al ‘Imraan 3:42-55 so that I could ask you some questions about it?”

Now, **who do you say it to?** Using the Camel Method you can begin a conversation with a Muslim or group of Muslims almost anywhere. As you go through Sura 3:42-55, keep your spiritual eyes open. God will be working in the heart of someone there. It might not be the person you are speaking to. Someone around you in the group that has gathered to hear may be the one God is at work in.

Get a partner.

‘Isa sent His disciples out two by two. First get a partner who has the same desire to reach out to Muslims. Make an appointment to go together to speak to some Muslims that you know or to go to a place where Muslims gather (Mosques, shops, village centers etc.) This is critical. If you do not determine to use this Camel method, plan a time to do it, and partner with someone to do it with you, you will probably never use it.

Make a list.

Make a list of 7 Muslims you know. If you don’t know any Muslims, then make a list of some places where Muslims might gather. Choose 2 from the list.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Circle three people or places on the list above where you want to start.

Go and do it.

- Set a time to share the Camel Method with the three people, or at the three places.³
- Begin to work with any *persons of peace* you find.
- Keep an active list of three people with whom to share the Camel Method.

Work toward a Church Planting Movement.

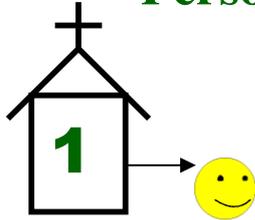
Take those Muslims who come to faith in Christ and teach them these things that you have learned.

And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2 Timothy 2:2

Refer to the helpful chart on page 28 on moving from finding the *person of peace* to planting a *jamaat* (church).

³ If one of those places happens to be a mosque, keep in mind that women are often restricted from entry. Check with your local mosque.

How to Get From the “Person of Peace” to a *Jamaat* (Church)

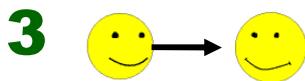


This is YOU on your way to join God at work among Muslims. Make a list of 7 Muslims.



Each week

- Choose 2 from the list of 7.
- Share the Camel Method.
- Re-visit to see if God is working in this person.

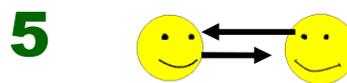


Help the Person of Peace understand that most will reject him. When a Person of Peace is found:

- disciple him or her.
- have him or her make a list of Muslims.
- share the Camel with those on the list.



Have the Person of Peace write down the names of 7 Muslims. Teach the Camel Method. Assign him or her to share the Camel with those on their list. Report back in 2 weeks.

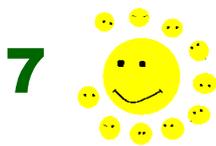


Meet once a week with the person of peace to keep training him or her:

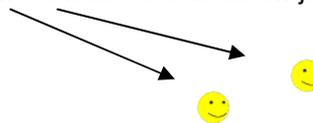
- Receive reports of his sharing experiences.
- Give training.
- Train him with “Your New Life in ‘Isa.” (See Appendix 1.)



When you find the *Person of Peace*, stay with him or her! Tell him or her the 7 Bible stories as you meet together. Baptize him or her upon their confession of 'Isa as the only Savior.



Appoint one new believer to be the *imaam* (pastor). Teach the new believers to form a *jamaat* (church) that meets weekly for worship. Teach them that they should start new jamaats. When the jamaat grows to ten members, ask two to leave to start a new jamaat.



Appendix 1

YOUR NEW LIFE IN 'ISA

Basic Discipleship Studies
Crafted for New Muslim Background Believers
By Randy Owens

INTRODUCTION

In each of these ten lessons:

1. Tell the Injiil Story.
2. Discuss the difference between the old life in Islam and the new life in 'Isa.
3. Read or quote the Scriptures and discuss them.
4. Ask questions. Here are some suggestions:
 - *What truth is 'Isa teaching me?*
 - *How does that truth change my life?*
 - *What must I do in response to this truth?*
5. Begin to learn the Memory Verse(s).

Be sure to begin each lesson by praying and asking the Holy Spirit to guide you into the truth. Also be sure to end each lesson with a time of prayer and giving praise and thanks to God for what He has done in the lives of each of those involved in the lessons.

CENTRAL THEME

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

1. A New Confession

INJIIL STORY: Paul Believes in 'Isa - Acts 9:1-11

Saul, a chief teacher among the Jews, rejected the resurrection of 'Isa and severely persecuted those who followed 'Isa. On his way to Damascus to arrest the 'Isahi, 'Isa appeared to Saul. Saul asked 'Isa, "*Who are you, Lord?*" 'Isa answered, "*I am 'Isa, whom you persecute.*" Saul said, "*What would you have me to do Lord?*" 'Isa told him to go into Damascus where he would be told what to do. There, 'Isa sent a man named Ananias to Saul. Ananias baptized Saul in the name of 'Isa. Saul, who later became known as Paul, began to preach the resurrection of 'Isa and the forgiveness of sin and eternal life through faith in 'Isa. People were amazed that this Saul, who had persecuted the 'Isahi, was now calling them to confess 'Isa as Lord and follow Him! Allah later used Paul to start many jamaatat (churches) and write a large part of the Injiil. Who knows how Allah might choose to use you?

Old confession: "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is His prophet."

New Confession: "'Isa is Lord."

"You are the only true Allah. If they know you, and 'Isa Al Masiih whom you sent, they will live for ever." John 17:3

(Peter speaking) "Allah has made this 'Isa, whom you crucified, both Lord and Masiih!" When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles: "Brothers, what must we do?" "Repent," Peter said to them, "and be baptized, each of you, in the name of 'Isa Al Masiih for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:36-38

If you confess with your mouth, "Isa is Lord," and believe in your heart that Allah raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

'Isa Al Masiih ...There is no other name under heaven given to people by which we must be saved. Acts 4:10-12
'Isa told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

For this reason Allah also highly exalted Him and gave Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of 'Isa every knee should bow—of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth—and every tongue should confess that 'Isa Al Masih is Lord, to the glory of Allah the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

QUESTIONS:

- What did you learn about 'Isa in this story?
- What was Saul's response on the road when confronted by 'Isahi?
- >>> What does it mean to consider 'Isa to be your "Lord"?
- What were the duties that Ananias was asked to perform?
- Describe what Paul told the people that he encountered.
- Describe ways that Allah can use you in His service.

MEMORY VERSES

If you confess with your mouth, "Isa is Lord," and believe in your heart that Allah raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. With the heart one believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses, resulting in salvation. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Romans 10:9-10 and 13

2. A New and Certain Hope of Eternal Life

INJIIL STORY: The Good Shepherd – John 10:1-30

'Isa compares His love and care for us to that of a good shepherd. Sheep come to know the voice of their shepherd and they will not follow a strange voice. Their shepherd feeds them, cares for them and protects them from their enemies. A good shepherd will lay down his life to protect his sheep. 'Isa laid down his life for us so that we could be forgiven of our sins and have eternal life. Now our good shepherd, 'Isa, nurtures and leads us so that we can experience abundant life through Him. We must learn to hear His voice because, according to John 10:10, all the other voices are those of thieves and robbers. They only want to kill by eternal death and separation from Allah, and steal and destroy the abundant life He wants us to experience in 'Isa.

Note: Two possible stories are included here. You can use one or both of them to help establish this important truth of the assurance of salvation.

INJIIL STORY: The Dying Criminal – Luke 23:32-43

When 'Isa was put to death on the cross (crucified) two criminals were crucified with him, one on either side. One mocked and ridiculed 'Isa, saying, "If you are the Masih save yourself and us!" However, the other criminal, rebuked the first criminal. He admitted that he deserved to be there dying for his crimes, but that 'Isa had done nothing wrong. Then he looked to 'Isa for mercy and asked Him to remember him when He entered into His Kingdom. 'Isa said to him, "Today you shall be with Me in paradise." The criminal received a promise of eternal life in paradise with 'Isa. These three crosses represent all of humanity. Through 'Isa, Allah entered the human race to deliver humanity from the condemnation of sin and the power of the shaytaan. Many, like one of the criminals, reject 'Isa and die in their sin, eternally separated from Allah. But those who believe, like the good thief on the cross, are given eternal life in 'Isa.

Old Hope of Paradise: Observe the five pillars of Islam. Do good works. Then, maybe, Allah will accept you into paradise. However, only if Allah wills! One cannot know.

New Hope of Paradise: 'Isa has died to pay the penalty of your sin. You are forgiven and made right before Allah. By faith in 'Isa you have the sure hope of eternal life in paradise.

For Masih also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring you to Allah. 1 Peter 3:18

I assure you: Anyone who believes has eternal life. John 6:47

['Isa speaking] My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish —ever! No one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one." John 10:27-30

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will have the power to separate us from the love of Allah that is in 'Isa Al Masiih our Lord! Romans 8:38-39

QUESTIONS:

- What did you learn about 'Isa in this story?
- What did the two thieves on the crosses next to 'Isa have to say?
- Why did 'Isa tell one of the men that he would be with 'Isa in paradise that very day?
- Follow-up: Was there anything that this man did to earn salvation?
- >> Describe in your own words why it was necessary for 'Isa to die for your sins.
- What hope do 'Isahi have after they die?

MEMORY VERSES:

['Isa speaking] My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish – ever! No one will snatch them out of My hand. John 10:27-28

3. A New Family

INJIIL STORY: The First Jamaat– Acts 2:38-47

In this section of the Injiil, we get to see the very first Jamaat of 'Isa and what it was like. We find it was like a family who loved one another and cared for the needs of one another. They frequently gathered together to study the teachings of 'Isa that had been preserved for them by the apostles of 'Isa. (We have the teaching of 'Isa preserved for us in the Injiil). They also had fellowship with one another and prayed together. They took the bread and juice of the Lord's Supper to remember the body and blood of 'Isa and what 'Isa had done for them in His death on the cross. The members baptized the new believers. They were filled with joy and praised Allah together. They were obeying the command of 'Isa to love Allah and love one another.

Old Family: You were born into a physical family.

New Family: You are now part of the family of Allah through the Jamaat of 'Isa.

Note: This does not mean you forsake the family you were born into. But rather, it means that you have the expanded blessings of being part of Allah's family in the world and having all the other followers of 'Isa as brothers and sisters in Him. Sadly, friends and family may sometimes forsake the new follower of 'Isa, but Allah gives you a wonderful promise in His Word: *“Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD cares for me.” Psalm 27:10*

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. Ephesians 3:14-15

['Isa speaking] This is My command: love one another as I have loved you. John 15:12

Let brotherly love continue. Hebrews 13:1

Therefore, as we have opportunity, we must work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as Allah also forgave you in Masiih. Ephesians 4:32

QUESTIONS:

- Who belonged to the first jamat?
- How did the first 'Isahi behave toward each other?
- What help did the believers give to one another?
- >> What people on earth form the family of Allah through Jamaat of 'Isa?
- What command of 'Isa led to this new family?
- What does this story tell you about 'Isa?

MEMORY VERSES:

[‘Isa speaking] I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. John 13:34-35

4. A New Way to Pray**INJIIL STORY: Teach Us To Pray - Matthew 6:5-14**

The disciples of ‘Isa often watched Him as He prayed. They asked Him to teach them to pray (Luke 11:1) This section of the Injiil, in the Gospel of Matthew, tells us the way ‘Isa taught us to pray. He told us that we should not be like the outwardly religious people who pray so that others would see them. He said that we should go into a secret place and pray to our Father in heaven. He also taught us not to repeat empty memorized words and phrases, but to pray from the heart like a child speaking to his Father and asking something of him. He said we don’t have to beg and plead with the Father, because He knows what we need even before we ask. Then he taught his disciples a prayer. This, of course, is not a prayer to be repeated for ‘Isa had just said not to use empty repetition. It is instead a pattern of how we should pray. Finally, he reminded us that if we expect to Allah hear us when we ask His supply, forgiveness, and help, we must be willing to forgive those who have harmed us.

Old Way To Pray: Pray five times daily, repeating memorized prayers. Answers were seldom or never seen.

New Way to Pray: Talk to Allah as a child speaks to his father, asking Him to work in your life and expecting Him to answer your prayers.

Because ‘Isa has removed our sin by His blood we can now boldly enter into the very presence of Allah. We see this in Ephesians 3:12 where Paul says: *“In [‘Isa Al Masiih] we have boldness, access, and confidence through faith in Him.”*

Keep asking, and it will be given to you. Keep searching, and you will find. Keep knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who searches finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What man among you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! Matthew 7:7-11

I assure you: The one who believes in Me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. John 14:12-14

Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to Allah. And the peace of Allah, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and your minds in ‘Isa Al Masiih. Philippians 4:6-7

Pray constantly. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Therefore let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us at the proper time. Hebrews 4:16

QUESTIONS:

- What does this story say about prayer?
- What does this story say about the relationship between Allah and ‘Isahi?
- Is there something in this story that bothers you?
- >> How will you pray differently because of this story?

MEMORY VERSE:

[‘Isa speaking] Until now you have asked for nothing in My name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be complete. John 16:24

5. A New Access to Truth

INJIIL STORY: The Vine and the Branches - John 15:1-8

'Isa compared the relationship we have with Him to the connection between a vine (or tree) and its branches. Through 'Isa we are connected to the very life of Allah. His life flowing through us produces the fruit of 'Isa in our lives. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit without the vine, or tree, even so we cannot bear eternal fruit apart from 'Isa. 'Isa tells us how this relationship works. He said, *"If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples. (John 15:7-8)* The follower of 'Isa needs to fill his mind and heart with the truth of the Injiil. The words of 'Isa remain in us through a process the Bible calls "meditation." It simply means "to repeat over and over again," or "to think upon," or "to ponder". Meditating upon the words of 'Isa is very simple to do, but it will have a great impact upon your life. To meditate involves four simple steps. First you must hear a section of the Injiil; then you must memorize it; then you must ponder it (think upon it) over and over until 'Isa gives you understanding; then you must do what it says. By this process of abiding in 'Isa through prayer, and His words abiding in you through meditation, you will become a "true branch" through which 'Isa produces eternal fruit.

The Old Access to Truth: Memorize the Qur'an and repeat the words without understanding them.

The New Access to Truth: Read and understand the Tawraat, Zabuur, *Nabiyyiin* (Prophets) and the Injiil. Meditate upon the truths you learn and obey them and then see eternal fruit produced in your life.

How happy is the man who does not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path of sinners, or join a group of mockers! Instead, his delight is in the LORD's instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. Psalms 1:1-2

So 'Isa said to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32

Finally brothers, whatever is true, ... dwell on these things. Do what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8-9

Until I arrive, be sure to keep on reading the Scriptures in worship, and don't stop preaching and teaching. Use the gift you were given when the prophets spoke and the group of church leaders blessed you by placing their hands on you. Remember these things and think about them, so everyone can see how well you are doing. 1 Timothy 4:13-15 (CEV)

QUESTIONS:

- How is 'Isa like the vine and the 'Isahi like the branches?
- What is the fruit that 'Isa wants the 'Isahi to produce?
- >>> Describe how you feel knowing that Allah wants us to understand His Word and apply it to our lives?
- How can an 'Isahi fill his mind and heart with the truth of the Injiil?
- What changes in your life will you need to make to spend time understanding all of Allah's teaching?

MEMORY VERSES:

['Isa said] If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples. John 15:7-8

6. A New Freedom

INJIIL STORY: Stand Firm in Your Freedom

Galatians 2:16-21, 5:1-14, Philippians 3:3

Paul, the apostle of 'Isa, had gone into a region called Galatia, preached the good news of eternal life in 'Isa and as a result, had started several jamaatat there. He had clearly taught them that salvation and eternal life came through simple faith in 'Isa, the sacrifice (*qurbaan*) for their sin, and not by religious works. Later, some false teachers had come to the churches. They told them that if they wanted to go to paradise, they needed to add to their faith in 'Isa a strict observance of the Jewish laws. Paul wrote them a letter to teach the truth. It is the letter to the Galatians in the Injiil. He told them that their faith and hope of eternal life rested upon the fact that 'Isa had died for their sins. The righteous anger of Allah against sin had been satisfied in 'Isa's sacrifice and their salvation was the

gift of His grace. He said, "I do not set aside the grace of Allah, for if righteousness comes by the law, then Masiih died in vain (for nothing)." Paul told them not to become entangled again in a yoke of bondage of religious works, or even good works, to try to earn Allah's favor. Allah's favor rests on those who trust in 'Isa. We have been saved and set free from the penalty of sin and the bondage of works. He warned them to be careful, however, not to use their freedom as an opportunity to indulge the flesh in things such as sexual immorality, drunkenness, and greed, but rather to use their freedom to serve 'Isa and to love one another.

Old Bondage: Strictly observe the five pillars of Islam, try to do good works and hope that somehow it will be enough and Allah will be pleased with you.

New Freedom: Trust in 'Isa and put no hope at all in your good works, knowing that eternal life in paradise is a gift from Him. You are free! Rejoice in your freedom in 'Isa and use it to serve Him and to love you brothers and sisters in 'Isa.

For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of Allah, boast in 'Isa Al Masiih, and do not put confidence in the flesh. Philippians 3:3

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Philippians 4:4

For it is Allah's will that you, by doing good, silence the ignorance of foolish people. As Allah's slaves, [live] as free people, but don't use your freedom as a way to conceal evil. 1 Peter 2:15-16

QUESTIONS:

- What did you learn about Allah, His Spirit, and 'Isa in this story?
- Can anything substitute for what 'Isa did by dying on the cross for your sins?
- What does this story say about meaningless rituals?
- >>Does freedom have limits for the 'Isahi?
- What meaningless rituals do you perform that you should stop?

MEMORY VERSES:

Masiih has liberated us into freedom. Therefore stand firm and don't submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you are called to freedom, brothers; only don't use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but serve one another through love. Galatians 5:1 and 13

7. A New Relationship to God

INJIIL STORY: A Rushing Mighty Wind – Acts 2:1-41

The night before 'Isa was crucified he told His disciples, "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. He is the Spirit of truth. ... I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will see Me no longer, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live too. In that day you will know that I am in My Father, you are in Me, and I am in you." (John 14:16-20) When the Romans soldiers took 'Isa to crucify Him, His disciples ran away. While he was buried in the tomb, they hid in fear. After 'Isa rose from the dead, He appeared to the 'Isahi. He reminded them that when He ascended back to the Father in paradise, He would send another Helper to live in them – the Holy Spirit of Allah. To His fearful disciples, He said, "You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses to Me ... to the ends of the earth." (KJV) Then the Holy Spirit came upon them like a mighty rushing wind. They were never the same after that. They suddenly became bold and fearless witnesses of 'Isa, who spread the Gospel of 'Isa throughout the world.

Old Relationship: Allah is a distant presence, unknowable to men. A man can not have a close relationship with Allah.

New Relationship: 'Isa dwells in you through the Holy Spirit of Allah. He is your Comforter, Friend, and Helper as you serve Him each day.

"Repent," Peter said to them, "and be baptized, each of you, in the name of 'Isa Al Masiih for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation—in Him when you believed—were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. Ephesians 1:13

['Isa said] Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth. It is for your benefit that I go away, because if I don't go away the Counselor will not come to you. If I go, I will send Him to you. John 16:7

I will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5b

There is a friend that stays closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24b

QUESTIONS:

- What is the meaning of this story?
- >>Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do?
- What promises does this story talk about that are available to all 'Isahi?
- >>What difference does it make to know Allah on a personal basis?
- Where is your Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth?
- What is a witness?
- Under Who's power and authority can you be a witness for our Lord?
- Is there anything that you need to change in order to obey the teachings in this story?

MEMORY VERSE:

Don't you know that you are Allah's sanctuary and that the Spirit of Allah lives in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16

8. A New Purpose in Life

INJIL STORY: Fishing for Men - Luke 5:1-11

Peter was a fisherman. One day 'Isa came where Peter fished, got into his boat and asked Peter if he would put his boat out a little way from the shore so that 'Isa could teach the crowds that pressed around Him. After he had finished teaching the people, 'Isa asked Peter to launch his boat out into the deep water and drop his nets to catch fish. Peter told 'Isa he had been fishing all night and had caught nothing. But because 'Isa asked him, Peter and his partners went back out fishing. When they let down their nets, they caught so many fish that their nets were breaking and their boats were about to sink. When they got back to shore, Peter fell down at 'Isa's feet and said, "Go away from me, because I'm a sinful man, Lord!" 'Isa told Peter, "Don't be afraid. From now on you will be catching people." (Luke 5:8, 11) At 'Isa's call, Peter left all he had and followed 'Isa. Peter's life was never the same! After 'Isa was raised from the dead and ascended in heaven, Peter was used powerfully by Allah to proclaim the good news of salvation in 'Isa and to bring many to salvation in 'Isa. Peter's life made an incredible eternal impact on this world! Allah can also use you to bring many to faith in 'Isa.

Old Purpose in Life: Try to do enough good works to go to paradise and then hope you will make it. Do your best to survive from day-to-day.

New Purpose in Life: You are called to worship Allah, grow as a disciple of 'Isa, and make new disciples. Your life now takes on eternal significance.

Then 'Isa came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord—you serve the Lord Masiih. Colossians 3:23-24

Now brothers, I want to clarify for you the gospel I proclaimed to you; you received it and have taken your stand on it. You are also saved by it, if you hold to the message I proclaimed to you—unless you believed to no purpose. For I passed on to you as most important what I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

QUESTIONS:

- What did 'Isa do before calling Peter to following Him?
- What was Peter's response when 'Isa called him to be a disciple?
- >>Does 'Isa still call people to follow Him? If so, how or through whom does He work?
- What change in lifestyle does this story call you to obey and change?

MEMORY VERSE:

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Masiih; certain that Allah is appealing through us, we plead on Masiih's behalf, "Be reconciled to Allah." He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of Allah in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

9. A New Hope of Reward**INJIL STORY: The Faithful Servants – Luke 19:11-27**

Isa told this story to show us what we can expect when the Day of Judgment comes. Read these two verses and then tell the story.

[Allah] has set a day on which He is going to judge the world in righteousness by the Man He has appointed. He has provided proof of this to everyone by raising Him from the dead." Acts 17:31

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may be repaid for what he has done in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10

A wealthy man traveled to a far country. He called in his servants and distributed his goods to them and told them to do his business while he was gone. He gave to some more than others, in the same way that we all have different levels of wealth, abilities and opportunities. When he returned, he called his servants in to give an account. Those who faithfully sought to do his business received great rewards. The master did not rebuke the servant with five talents for not making ten. 'Isa holds you accountable only for what he has given you, not what he has given another. Each faithful servant of 'Isa can look forward to hearing these blessed words, "Well done, good and faithful slave! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy!" (Matthew 25:23)

Old Hope of Reward: Will I even enter paradise? Will there be any eternal rewards for me?

New Hope of Reward: 'Isa has already secured for me my entry into paradise. Now by His Spirit, He will help me to serve Him and then eternally reward my faithful service to Him.

But Allah ... made us alive with the Masiih ... so that in the coming ages He might display the immeasurable riches of His grace in [His] kindness to us in 'Isa Al Masiih. Ephesians 2:4-7

['Isa said] Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of Me. Matthew 5:11

['Isa said] Look! I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me to repay each person according to what he has done. Revelation 22:12

QUESTIONS:

- What is the purpose of this parable told by 'Isa?
- Are good works necessary for salvation? (Optional: If possible, how many good works would it take for an 'Isahi to achieve the perfection required for access to paradise?)
- If 'Isahi receive eternal life as a free gift, why should they do any good works at all?
- What does it mean to be an 'Isahi that is found faithful when "working with a few things"?
- What responsibilities has the Lord entrusted you to oversee?
- What changes do you need to make in your lifestyle to become faithful today?

MEMORY VERSE:

Well done, good and faithful slave! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy! Matthew 25:23

10. A New Resistance**INJIIL STORY: Counting the Costs – Luke 14:25-33**

Because he healed the sick, taught with authority and spoke of eternal life and rewards, great crowds followed 'Isa everywhere He went. But 'Isa did not deceive anyone about the cost of following Him. One day he stopped, turned to the crowd and said, "*If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be My disciple.*" (Luke 14:26) What an astounding statement! Of course He did not literally mean we were to hate our family. The Injiil itself commands you to honor your father and mother, and love your wife like 'Isa has loved us. What 'Isa meant was that we must love Him supremely. If we have to choose between family and 'Isa we must choose 'Isa. To come and follow 'Isa is to choose Him above all else. The cost of following 'Isa is often very high. Consider these Scriptures:

['Isa said] If you were of the world, the world would love [you as] its own. However, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of it, the world hates you. Remember the word I spoke to you: "A slave is not greater than his master." If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will also keep yours. John 15:19-20

In fact, all those who want to live a godly life in Masiih 'Isa will be persecuted. 2 Timothy 3:12

Old Resistance: There was little or no resistance. There is an old proverb that says, "Let sleeping dogs lie." Before you came to 'Isa and began to tell of the good news of eternal life in 'Isa, shaytaan left you alone for you caused his kingdom no harm.

New Resistance: Because you now belong to 'Isa and seek to tell others about Him, shaytaan attacks you through those that belong to shaytaan.

'Isa told the crowd that followed Him that they should consider the costs of following Him. One would not begin to build a house if he knew he did not have enough money to finish it. Neither should we follow after 'Isa, unless we are willing to accept the cost. This is very hard to hear, but listen to the good news of the verses that follow:

The Spirit Himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ—seeing that we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. Romans 8:16-18

For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory. So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen; for what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

So He ['Isa] said to them, " I assure you: There is no one who has left a house, wife or brothers, parents or children because of the kingdom of God, who will not receive many times more at this time, and eternal life in the age to come." Luke 18:29-30

QUESTIONS:

- What does being an 'Isahi require?
- Who is the true family of 'Isa?
- >> What changes do you need to make to put your love for 'Isa above all other priorities?
- What is the reward for being a faithful follower of 'Isa?

MEMORY VERSE:

['Isa said] Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of Me. Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5:11-12

Appendix 2

Discipleship Studies in Acts

Take new Muslim background believers through these chapters in Acts to help them understand that 'Isa has commanded them to take the good news of salvation into the world around them, even in the face of intense persecution.

Seven Questions to ask about each story from the Book of Acts

1. What did Allah do?
2. How did the 'Isahi respond?
3. How did those who were not followers of 'Isa respond?
4. Was the *Jamaat* (Church) of 'Isa helped or hurt?
5. What do you like about this story?
6. What troubles you about this story?
7. Through this story, what is Allah telling you to do?

Stories from the Book of Acts

1. Acts 1:1-11

'Isa appears to His followers and tells them to wait for the Holy Spirit to come and empower them to be His witnesses. Their witness of 'Isa will begin where they are, in Jerusalem, but will expand throughout the world. Then, He ascends into heaven.

2. Acts 2:1-41

The Holy Spirit comes upon the disciples and they preach with power and in languages they do not know. Peter preaches and 3,000 people believe in 'Isa and are baptized in one day.

3. Acts 2:41-47

The first *jamaat* is formed and we can see what it is like.

4. Acts 3

A lame man is healed and Peter uses the opportunity to tell the good news of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life in 'Isa. The new *Jamaat* has little money and no buildings but it has great power through the Holy Spirit dwelling in them.

5. Acts 4

The religious leaders in Jerusalem, who rejected 'Isa, begin to stand up against the preaching of the good news of 'Isa.

6. Acts 5:1-16

Isa purifies His *Jamaat* of the sin of hypocrisy (pretending to be what you are not in order to receive the honor of men).

7. Acts 5:17-42

Persecution from the religious leaders begins to rise up against the new *jamaat* in Jerusalem.

8. Acts 6:1-7

Having first failed to corrupt the new *Jamaat* (Acts 5:1-6), shaytaan attempts to cause divisions among them. The young *Jamaat* finds a way to deal with its problems.

9. Acts 6:8-7:60

Stephen becomes the first martyr of the *jamaat*. A martyr is one who is killed directly because of his faith in 'Isa.

10. Acts 8

Persecution of the followers of 'Isa becomes intense, so many of them begin to go and proclaim the good news of 'Isa in other places, just as 'Isa had said in Acts 1:8. Philip leads a non-Israelite to faith in 'Isa and baptizes him.

11. Acts 9

Saul the chief persecutor of the Jamaat of 'Isa is confronted by 'Isa and comes to faith in Him. His name is changed to Paul (Acts 13:9) and He becomes the main agent for taking the good news of 'Isa to the Gentiles (non-Jews).

12. Acts 10

Peter is commanded by Allah to take the good news of 'Isa to a Gentile named Cornelius. Cornelius and his household believe in 'Isa and are baptized. The door is thus opened to take the good news of 'Isa into the whole world.

Appendix 3

DEALING WITH COMMON OBJECTIONS

Objection #1: *“The Bible has been changed.”*

You will hear this objection over and over again as you work with Muslims, but there is an effective answer found in the Qur’an itself. Simply ask your Muslim friend to turn to Sura 6:115.

Sura 6:115 *Perfected is the Word of the Lord in truth and justice. There is nothing that can change His words. He is the hearer and the knower.*

There is really no effective response to this. The Qur’an confirms that the Tawraat and Injiil are the words of the Lord. Allah taught them directly to ‘Isa - Sura 3:50. If the Jews would have observed the Tawraat and the Injiil they would have had their sins forgiven and been brought to heaven (Gardens of Delight) – Sura 5:65-66. So either the Muslim must admit that the Qur’an is wrong and the Tawraat and Injiil have been changed, or that that Qur’an is true and the Tawraat and Injiil have not been changed.

You can also have him turn to Sura 10:94.

Sura 10:94 *If you are in doubt concerning that which We reveal unto you, then question those who read the Scripture before you. Verily the Truth from the Lord has come unto you so be not of the waverers.*

The “before Scriptures” were to be searched out because the Truth was found in them. The Tawraat and Injiil (Bible) that we read today are translated from manuscripts dating from before the time of Mohammed. So if they were true and uncorrupted in Mohammed’s day, and nothing can change Allah’s words then they must be true and uncorrupted today as well.

Objection #2: *“But ‘Isa is not the ‘Son of Allah’.”*

It is true that the Qur’an says that Allah has no son and that ‘Isa is nothing more than a prophet. Suras 6:101, 17:111, and 23:91 are examples of many verses in the Qur’an that say the same thing. But we have already said that a Muslim will not come to saving faith in ‘Isa through the Qur’an. So if a Muslim insists on clinging to the Qur’an, he will never be saved, because he will never understand that ‘Isa is the Son of Allah Who died for his sins.

However, there are some things you can say to answer this objection.

First, point out to a Muslim what their Qur’an does say about ‘Isa:

Sura 21:91 *We breathed into her (Maryam) of our Spirit and made her and her son a token (sign) for all peoples.*

Sura 3:45 *O Maryam! Lo! Allah gives you glad tidings of a word from Him whose name is the ‘Isa Al Masih.*

Next, ask him this series of questions:

Question #1: *A Muslim boy goes to school on the first day. What two questions do they ask him?*

Expected Answer: What is your name; what is your father’s name?

Question #2: *If ‘Isa went to school the first day, He would say, “My name is ‘Isa.” What would He say that His father’s name is?*

Expected Answer: [no answer!]

Of course, he will have no answer! The only answer he can give is that Allah is ‘Isa’s Father and he will probably not say that. However it does make him think!

Then, explain to him what the Injiil teaches about ‘Isa. Show him that these two verses in the Qur’an **actually affirm** what the Injiil says about ‘Isa.

*The angel said to her (Maryam), “the **Holy Spirit shall come upon you**, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you, **therefore**, also that Holy One who is to be born of you will be called the Son of Allah.” Luke 1:35*

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with Allah and the Word was Allah ... and the Word became flesh (human) and dwelt among us. John 1:1, 14

The problem is that when a Muslim hears the term “son of Allah.” He hears this: “Allah had sexual relations with Maryam and had a son.” That, of course, is not what the Bible teaches.

Explain to him that Allah designed the world so that no woman would ever spontaneously have a child. Her seed must be acted upon from the outside. In every case but one that outside action was the seed of a man. ‘Isa’s birth was not spontaneous either. Maryam’s seed was acted upon from the outside. Allah spoke and Maryam conceived. Allah breathed of His Spirit and Maryam conceived. ‘Isa came from Allah, therefore the Injiil says that ‘Isa is the Son of Allah.

Ultimately, the Muslim will have to reject what the Qur’an says and embrace the fact that ‘Isa is the Son of Allah, if he will be saved. But, if you begin with what the Qur’an does say about ‘Isa, you can plant the seed of truth about who ‘Isa really is.

Objection #3: “But, ‘Isa didn’t die on the cross.”

Muslims commonly believe that ‘Isa didn’t die on the cross. They have been taught that somehow Allah blinded those who tried to crucify ‘Isa and put someone else in his place who looked like ‘Isa. It is critical that we do our best to answer this objection because the fact that ‘Isa died is at the very core of the Gospel. It is important to note that the Qur’an **does not** state that ‘Isa did not die! Here is the passage in the Qur’an the Muslims use to prove ‘Isa didn’t die.

***Sura 4:157** And because of their (the people of the Scripture - Jews) saying: “We slew the Messiah ‘Isa, the son of Maryam, Allah’s messenger – They slew him not nor crucified, but **it appeared** so unto them; Lo! Those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they have no knowledge thereof except pursuit of a conjecture; they **slew him not for certain.**”*

Point out to him that this passage does not say that ‘Isa did not die. It only says that the Jews did not kill him. The Injiil agrees! The Jews did not crucify ‘Isa. They did not have the authority to crucify Him. They were under Roman occupation and Roman authority. They could have killed Him, but not legally. They had to turn ‘Isa over to the Romans and hope that the Romans would crucify ‘Isa for them. And the Romans, not the Jews, did crucify Him! The next verse in the Qur’an (4:158) states that Allah took ‘Isa up to Himself. The Injiil agrees, but goes on to explain that ‘Isa was resurrected **after** He died.

But the Qur’an also seems to indicate that ‘Isa died. From **Sura 3:55**, ask if your Muslim friend knows the Arabic word for “death.” If he has the Arabic Qur’an, ask him to read verse 55.

Phonetically, it would sound like this:

***3:55:** Iz qa_lalla_hu ya_’isa_inni **mutawaffika** wa ra_fi’uka ilayya wa mutahhiruka minal lazina kafaru_wa ja_’ilul_lazinattaba’u_ka fauqal_lazina kafaru_ila_yaumil_qiya_mah(ti), summa ilayya marji’ukum fa ahkumu bainakum fima_kuntum fihi takhtalifu_n(a).*

Ask what the Arabic word, “**mutawaffika**” means. The root of the word is “**tawaffa**”. It is most often translated “to die” in the Qur’an. He should answer, “to die” or “death.”

Ask: “Does ayya 55 say that Allah would cause ‘Isa to die then raise him?”

Notice that 4:157 says that, “*those who disagree **are in doubt** thereof....”* At best 4:157 is unclear as to whether ‘Isa died, and 3:55 seems to indicate that he did. Remember that the Qur’an says, “**If you are in doubt concerning that which We reveal unto you question those who read the Scripture (that was).**” If a Muslim doubts or does not understand if ‘Isa died, he should listen to what the “before Scriptures” (Injiil) say! And the before Scriptures are very clear – ‘Isa died!

Objection #4: *“Mohammed is the greatest prophet.”*

Ask: *“Where does it say that in the Qur’an?”*

The Qur’an does not say that Mohammed is the greatest prophet. It does say that he is the “seal of the prophets” in Sura 33:40, seal means only the last, not the greatest. (Note: We are not saying that Mohammed is a true prophet or the seal of the prophets. We are only making you aware of what you might face from the Qur’an.)

Then ask him to read Sura 46:9 and Sura 3:144.

Sura 46:9 I am no new thing among the messengers, nor know I what will be done with me or with you ... I am but a plain warner.

Sura 3:144 Mohammed is but a messenger, messengers (the like of whom) have passed away before him.

We see in these passages that neither Mohammed nor his followers claimed that he was the greatest prophet.

Then you can ask this question: *“What is the greatest question in life?”* Of course the greatest question in all of life is, “What will happen to me when I die?” We see from Sura 46:9 that Mohammed **did not claim** to have a certain answer to that question, for himself or for his followers. Then you can take your Muslim friend to the Injiil. Show him passages such as John 6:47 and especially John 14:1-6. Here we see that ‘Isa **did claim** to have a certain answer to life’s greatest question. The greatest prophet should have the answer to life’s greatest question!

Objection #5: *“Mohammed has superseded ‘Isa.”*

Again, you want to point out to your Muslim friend that the Qur’an does not say this. You can show him these passages:

Sura 21:91 *And she who was chaste (Maryam), therefore We breathed into her of our Spirit and made her and her son a token for all peoples.*

Sura 3:55 *I am setting those who follow you (Isa) above those who disbelieve **until the day of resurrection.***

The Qur’an says that ‘Isa is to be followed and honored, not only until Mohammed comes, but all the way until the final day of resurrection!

In a similar way to this, Muslims will say that the Qur’an has superseded the Tawraat and Injiil. They were to be read until the Qur’an came, but now that we have the Qur’an they are no longer necessary, like a student uses the seventh grade textbook until he goes to the eighth grade, then he sets it aside and uses the eighth grade textbook. Again, challenge them to show you where the Qur’an says this. What the Qur’an actually says is to believe the before Scriptures (Sura 4:136); to clear up doubts by consulting the before Scriptures (Sura 10:94); and to obey those before Scriptures so that you can have forgiveness of sin and a home in heaven (Sura 3:50 and 5:65-66).

Objection #6: *“One can only really understand the Qur’an if he understands Arabic.”*

This objection is used quite often, especially if the Muslims you are talking to are unable to give answers to the questions you raise about ‘Isa. They say, “Oh, if only you knew and understood Arabic, then you would understand.”

First, explain that one of the most common translations of the Qur’an (and the one you see in this booklet) is the one done by Marmaduke Mohammed Pickthall (1875-1936). He was an Arabic language scholar from London, England. He understood Arabic very well, **so he did understand what it means!** And his translation, which we are reading, gives us his understanding of what it says. So it is with other Muslim Arabic scholars. As I read their translations, I read their understanding of what the Qur’an, **in Arabic**, says. As I read and compare the translations, then I can get a very clear understanding of what the **Qur’an, in Arabic**, says and means.

However, what a Muslim often means by this objection is that **only** when the Qur’an is **read or recited in Arabic** does it have true meaning. They mean that Arabic is the language of Allah and that you receive blessing by

hearing the Qur'an in Arabic, even if you do not understand it! It is very common for Muslims to believe that you do not have to understand the Qur'an, but only to hear it to receive its blessing.

You can address this by having him read to you **Sura Shuura (Counsel) 42:7** which says:

42:7 *“And thus We have inspired in you a lecture in Arabic **that you may warn** the mother-town (Mecca) and those around it of a day of assembling whereof there is no doubt. A host will be in the Garden, and a host of them shall be in the Flame.”*

It is clear that the purpose of the words of Mohammed being in Arabic was because the hearers spoke Arabic. It was so that they would understand him. It was not so that they would receive some blessing for simply hearing the words in a language they did not understand! Mohammed said that he was a “plain warner” in Sura 46:9. What good is a warner **unless** you can understand what he says?

Then you can make mention of the fact that the late Saudi Arabian King Fahd, during his lifetime, invested millions of dollars in having the Qur'an translated into the languages of the Muslim people so that they can read it and understand what it says. Why did he do that if the Qur'an can only be understood if you read it in Arabic?

Offer to tell the story of the Factory Owner: (optional)

A foreigner owned a garment factory in your country. All of the workers were from your country and spoke only your language and did not understand English. The owner of the factory spoke only English, so he had hired a factory manager who could read and write both your language and English. For months the workers had been making only red T-shirts. Then the owner received a new order for yellow T-shirts. The owner wrote a letter to his factory workers telling them to begin on Monday making yellow T-shirts. If they did this successfully they would all receive a good bonus. The owner gave the letter to the manager. The manager called all of the workers together and told them that they had a letter from the owner. Then he set it on the table in front of them and left. The workers were very excited that the owner had written them, but they did not know what he said to them. So, on Monday they continued to make red T-shirts! The manager was fired and the workers didn't get their bonuses!

Ask: Was it of any help to the workers to receive a message from the owner if they didn't understand it? What good is it for us to have an important message if we do not understand what it says?

This story should help prepare the way for your Muslim friends to read the Qur'an in a local or English language translation.

Objection #7: “Ibrihim (Abraham) offered Ishmael as a sacrifice, not Isaac.”

This is the commonly held belief among Muslims, but the Qur'an does not say this. Ask your Muslim friend to read Sura 37:100-113. Then ask him if the Qur'an says the name of the son that Ibrihim (Abraham) offered. It does not! You might possibly come across a translation that has Ishmael in parenthesis. Explain to your Muslim friend that a parenthesis means that the word or name **is not in the original text**. This is someone's **interpretation** that has been added to the text!

When he agrees that the Qur'an does not say which son Ibrihim offered, ask him to read Sura 10:94. Then ask him what Sura 10:94 tells him to do if he does not understand something in the Qur'an. Of course, it tells him to find out what the before Scriptures say!

Then ask him if you can show him what the Tawraat says. You may have to first deal with the issue of the Tawraat being changed, if he brings this up. Then ask him to read Genesis 22:1-18. There in the Tawraat he will see that it clearly states that the son offered was Isaac

Objection #8: “But, I have no doubts about what is in the Qur'an or what it says.”

You need to use this opportunity to remind your Muslim friend that he does, in fact, have some doubts.

Ask: “Do you know for sure that you are going to paradise when you die?”

He will have to answer no, because Muslims do not believe you can know for sure if you are going to paradise. You can then say to him: “Did you know that the Injil (the before Scriptures) tells us that we can **know** we are going to paradise?”

I have written these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of Allah, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:13

Ask: “Do you know the things that ‘Isa commanded you to do?”

In Sura 3:50, the Qur’an says that it is our duty to Allah to obey ‘Isa. The Qur’an *does not* tell us what those commands of ‘Isa are. But the Injiil *does* tell us what ‘Isa commanded us to do.

So, you have doubts about whether you will go to paradise when you die and you have doubts about how to fulfill your duty to Allah. The Qur’an tells you what to do if you have doubts about what is revealed in the Qur’an. In Sura 10:94 it tells you to go to the “before Scriptures” and find out what they say.