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## Muslim Background Believers

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**Muslims make up more than a quarter of the world's population with 2.2 billion people. Most of them have never heard the true story of Jesus, and 86% have never been exposed to the Gospel.**



In many Muslim-majority countries, Christians and Christian leaders live in close proximity to their Muslim neighbors. However, a significant challenge they face is a lack of proper biblical training and uncertainty about how to effectively share the Gospel with Muslims.

iTEE Global is stepping up by partnering with Christians living among Muslims, helping to equip them to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and respond to theological challenges, such as, "Where in the Bible does Jesus say, 'I am God, worship me?'"

iTEE Global is currently addressing this need by developing a comprehensive Course specifically designed to support churches in Muslim contexts to become disciple-makers.

Join us in this project by visiting <https://iteeg.org/mbb/> or scanning the QR code to learn how you can be part of our team!





# God at Work

God is at work in revealing Himself to Muslims. Many around the world are coming to Christ through dreams and visions of “The Man in White Robes.” They instinctively know that it’s Jesus (ironically, none of the Muslims even presume it is their prophet, Muhammad). These divine revelations often turn the Muslims into believers who want to know about Christ and His Word. With limited access to discipleship, these new Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) turn to televangelists and social media to learn more about Jesus and His Word. More often than not, these tools fall short of discipleship, thereby creating shallow Christians who do not know how to weather storms of life and persecution for Christ. iTEE Global’s strategy of Multiplying Disciple Makers would be the right fit for many of these MBBs.



## Introducing Mark Engel

Mark joined iTEE Global in 2022 after he and his wife faced the expiration of their visas in the second Middle Eastern country they were living in.

With 25 years of mission experience, including 16 years working with immigrant Muslims in the U.S., Mark was drawn to iTEE Global’s mission of teaching the Bible to disciple-makers—those already positioned for this role but without formal biblical education.

He was especially excited about iTEE Global’s focus on multiplying disciple-makers, and saw the potential to strengthen and expand the body of Christ in the Muslim world.

Inspired by this vision, Mark joined iTEE Global and is now working to implement this mission in India, Pakistan, Uganda, Kenya, Egypt, and among Muslim Background Believers in the U.S.



## Introducing Philip Ansari

Philip Ansari joined iTEE Global just this year. He was born and raised in a Muslim family in India, but at 17, he had a miraculous encounter with Jesus Christ. Despite facing severe persecution, including beatings, starvation and being on the verge of losing his life multiple times, he remained steadfast in his faith.

For over 30 years, Philip has ministered to Muslims across India, Asia Pacific, and the Middle East, spending 15 years in a restricted Arab country. Although he now suffers with fibrotic lungs and breathing issues due to COVID, he continues to pursue the mission God has given him.

Philip’s vision, through iTEE Global, is to network with Muslim Background Believers who lack discipleship, to offer training, and to partner with churches burdened to reach Muslims.





# Christians Living Among Muslims

## Pakistan

In Pakistan, Christians face persecution due to anti-blasphemy laws passed in the late 1990s, which criminalized preaching the Gospel to Muslims. Even baseless accusations against Christians often lead to violent attacks on churches, homes and communities. While many Christians coexist with their Muslim neighbors, they fear this fragile peace could change suddenly. The idea of evangelizing their Muslim neighbors is legitimately scary. But there are natural, non-threatening ways to share Jesus that foster meaningful conversations without appearing as proselytizing. These approaches can effectively encourage Muslims to consider the true message of Jesus.

## Uganda/Kenya

In Uganda and Kenya, Christian-majority nations, Muslims are a growing minority, making up 14% of Uganda's population and 11% of Kenya's. Feeling the presence of their Muslim neighbors, Christians have taken to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ with renewed zeal. A common sight is street preachers boldly setting up near bustling Muslim marketplaces, microphone in hand, delivering their message to passersby. While courageous, this approach often yields limited results. Yet, there are more effective ways of reaching out, approaches that foster deeper connections and understanding while sharing the Gospel with the Muslim community.

## India

In India, Christians and Muslims are minorities, but Christians face persecution from both Hindus and Muslims. Hindu extremists often perceive Christianity as a foreign influence, accusing Christians of forced conversions, leading to violence against churches and communities. Some Muslim groups also target Christians due to historical tensions. This dual persecution places Christians in a difficult position, as they often fear sharing their faith with Muslims. While they share the Gospel with Hindus despite persecution, they tend to use confrontational polemics in debates with Muslims rather than adopting non-threatening methods to engage with them effectively.

The broad circumstances for Christians in relation to Muslims is different in each of these places. However, iTEE Global is in the process of developing a course that will teach principles for engaging Muslims and actual presentations of the Gospel which will give Christians in each of these contexts tools for impactful Muslim evangelism. Would you like to help iTEE Global in the translation of this course, and ongoing discipleship of Christians in Muslim contexts? Go to <https://iteeg.org/mbb/> to receive regular updates and hear about opportunities.



## Relax

Christian and conservative media often portray Muslims as frightening, but we share more common ground with them than with many secular Westerners. Islam teaches belief in biblical figures like Adam, Abraham, and Jesus, and affirms God’s revelation of much of the Bible, as well as God’s judgment to come. Use these stories as Conversation Starters !

# Tips on Reaching Muslims

## 1 Peter 3:15

Being prepared to give an answer to every Muslim who asks is as important as doing it with **gentleness and respect**. Let love reign in our words and deeds.

## Be a Friend

That’s hard to do when you’ve been convinced that Muslims are scary and your enemy. First, Muslims are no scarier (I think less oftentimes) than your non-Muslim neighbor. And if you’re stuck thinking Muslims are your enemy and can’t change that thought, obey Jesus and love your enemy, pray for him and bless him.

## Speak of Jesus

Muslims love discussing spiritual matters and may ask challenging questions. You don’t need all the answers—just speak of Jesus. Share how He lived, healed, and taught, and His power in your life. These truths can resonate deeply and draw Muslims to Christ through the Holy Spirit’s work.

## Pray Boldly

When your Muslim friend has a deep need, ask if you can pray for them. Then do it, with them and for them, boldly asking God for miracles in Jesus’ name. Don’t be too surprised when your Muslim friend experiences God’s answers to your prayer.

### Prayer Points

Pray for God to fill our hearts with love, understanding and compassion for Muslims.

Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to reveal Jesus to Muslims.

Pray for missionaries in Muslim nations to be equipped properly to share the Gospel with boldness.

Pray against fear and for opportunities to have meaningful conversations with Muslims.

**Send your personal prayer requests to [pray@iteeg.org](mailto:pray@iteeg.org)**

### Opportunity

Are you Do you have a heart for reaching Muslims and discipling MBBs? We’re looking for people with experience in Muslim outreach, who speak a language of the Muslim world and are open to international travel. If you’re willing to raise your own ministry support, we’d love to connect with you!

If you would like to know more please contact: **[info@iteeg.org](mailto:info@iteeg.org)**

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