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Training Muslim Background Believers to Bring Christ to the World of Islam

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The Hidden Struggles of Former Muslims in Christ



We often envision new believers, especially former Muslims, as brave and undeterred in the face of opposition, boldly proclaiming the Gospel to every Muslim they encounter. However, most former Muslims, particularly those in Muslim-majority contexts, fear being killed or abused—not only by the broader Muslim community but also by their own families. These new believers in Christ often have not yet attained the bold walk in Christ that we aspire to for ourselves.

Many Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) come to Christ not only from Islam and sin but also from poverty and illiteracy. Some are viewed with suspicion by the church, not embraced or discipled, leaving them isolated and without a foundation in fellowship and God’s Word. Others are celebrated as heroes, quickly asked to share their testimony and preach, but with little knowledge of the Bible or a strong foundation in their faith. These challenges hinder former Muslims from sharing their new faith in Jesus Christ with Muslims. iTEE Global desires to equip MBBs to disciple others.

Equipping Christians to Share the Gospel in Islamic Contexts

There are barriers to bringing the Gospel to Muslims in Muslim-majority lands. One of the biggest is that it may be illegal for Christians to preach Jesus to Muslims, and the consequences for doing so are harsh. This often results in Christians being fearful and timid. Some Westerners may urge local Christians in Islamic contexts to be more courageous and embrace persecution without having walked in their shoes.

The course *Islam, Muslims and the Gospel* we are writing will provide tools for Christians to use whatever their context. We’ll advocate a more relationally-based approach of sharing Jesus Christ rather than a confrontational one — which is often counterproductive as well as dangerous.

We’ll teach how to use points of Islamic doctrine and practice to transition to biblical truth, which leads to Jesus. We’ll promote praying for and with Muslims for God to intervene in their lives miraculously, in Jesus’ name. We’ll teach Christians and former Muslims to present the Gospel within biblical and cultural frames that resonate with Muslims. And we’ll teach how to respond to the most common objections Muslims bring against the Christian faith.

Whether the Christians we’re teaching have come out of Islam, or were raised in the church, they will be strengthened in God’s word, their faith in Jesus Christ, and their dependence on the Holy Spirit.



Overcoming Barriers of Discipleship Among MBBs

Discipling Muslim Background Believers (MBBs) involves both teaching doctrine and walking alongside new believers as they navigate their newfound faith. Many MBBs experience ostracism from their families and friends because they have committed an “unforgivable sin.” So, more than anything else, they need a family—the church family—to come around them and lead them in the way of Christ. The learning community emphasized within iTEE Global’s courses can contribute to fulfilling this very real need.

MBBs often have doubts and questions that are quite different from other new believers. Ongoing discipleship in God’s Word, with courses that iTEE Global offers, will be helpful for long-term mentoring. In addition, highlighting the significance of honor-shame concepts in the Bible and using honor-shame terminology in our teaching can help former Muslims more clearly perceive Scripture’s relevance to their lives.

In cases of illiterate MBBs, it is even more necessary to train believers who are willing to disciple them. These master trainers would then visit undereducated MBBs and teach them one-on-one. Identifying such trainers is crucial to this ministry. Pastors and leaders are already approaching us to train them so that they might teach and disciple MBBs who have been coming to their churches. The course we are writing will effectively equip any leader who completes it with the knowledge of how to disciple a Muslim background believer.

As 2 Timothy 2:2 says, “...what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others...” The ultimate goal is to multiply disciple-makers. We train and equip Muslim Background Believers in Jesus, preparing them to go forward and do the same with other MBBs, they lead to Christ.

The Festival of Sacrifice Opportunity to Connect with Muslim Friends



On June 6, 2025, Muslims worldwide will celebrate Eid al-Adha (also called Bakrid in some regions). This festival, one of the most significant in Islam, commemorates Abraham’s willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to God – and how God miraculously provided a ram as a substitute. Since sacrifice is central to this celebration, it offers a meaningful opportunity to share the gospel with Muslims.

A simple greeting of “Eid Mubarak” (meaning “Blessed Festival”) can open the door for conversation. If you have Muslim friends or neighbors, offering a small gift—such as a card, dates, or sweets—can help build connections and friendships.

Asking thoughtful questions like “What does this festival mean to you?” or “Why do you think God provided a substitute?” can lead to deeper discussions. Having these conversations with “gentleness and respect” (1 Pet. 3:15) develops meaningful relationships. Since the story centers on Abraham and God’s provision, transitioning to Jesus’ atoning sacrifice should be easy. Reading Genesis 22 alongside John 1:29 can highlight Jesus as the ultimate Lamb of God.

While the Bible is clear that Abraham took Isaac to the mountaintop and the Qur’an doesn’t say which son he took, many Muslims believe it was Ishmael. Avoiding arguments on this would help us focus on the central topic of sacrifice and atonement.

If your Muslim friend expresses interest in reading the Bible, the Gospel of John is an excellent place to start, as it emphasizes Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This festival can be time to develop new relationships with your Muslim neighbors, acquaintances, and friends to share the hope we all have in Christ Jesus.



Testimony of Irfan from India



My name is Irfan, and I was born into a devout Islamic family. I faithfully followed the five pillars of Islam and built a beautiful life with my wife, a mathematics lecturer, and our young daughter.

One year, during Ramadan, our lives took an unexpected turn. After a brief illness, my wife was diagnosed with swine flu and admitted to the ICU. Doctors assured me she would recover, and thousands of her Muslim students had been praying for her. After days of treatment, despite expert care and fervent prayers, she passed away.

I was shattered. Why hadn't Allah answered all those devout prayers? My daughter, only three, soon developed chronic lung infections, deepening my despair. I sought healing through various religious practices, and even tried other religions as well, but nothing worked.

A Christian colleague, hearing my struggles, shared the Gospel and invited me for prayer. As she prayed, she felt compelled to speak the words, "Jesus is giving new life to your daughter." Clinging to this hope, I started praying and reading the Bible.

Shortly after, I moved abroad for work. Miraculously, my daughter was completely healed. She experienced no further infections, and I never used the medicines I had brought. When I shared this with the woman who prayed for us, she conveyed a firm assurance that the Lord had healed my daughter by His power through the Holy Spirit.

Recognizing Jesus' power, I committed my life to follow Him and now share His good news and His miraculous power with the world. iTEE Global has been a great asset in equipping me for this task. I recently attended the Nehemiah Project in India, which transformed my way of reading and teaching the Word of God. Currently, I am enrolled in iTEE Global's *The Epistle to the Romans* face-to-face class on Zoom in one of the regional languages in India. I request you all to pray for me, my family and my ministry.



International Leaders Enhance the Conference

On October 6th through 10th, iTEE Global will gather at Conference Point in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, for our International Conference. This year's theme is "One Mission, Many Locations: Ministering Together when Separated by Distance." Each year our international leaders help to enrich our conference by giving details and showing videos of the work they have been doing in their country. Our international staff are able to come because of generous gifts for their travel and conference expenses. A highlight of each conference is this time when we hear about what God is doing in other parts of the world.

We look forward to gathering with everyone there again this year and pray that even more of our international staff will be able to come. Conference details are available at <https://iteeg.org/global-conference>.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for iTEE University facilitators and students to be able to successfully access course materials, whether their cohort is online or in person. For those online, this even means having access to good electricity.

Pray for the Lord's guidance and divine connections for iTEE Global to partner with additional ministries.

Please pray for opportunities to witness to Muslim people around the world during Eid al-Adha.

Please pray that the one true God would reveal Himself to unbelievers around the world.

We would love to pray for you. Please send your personal requests to: prayer@iteeg.org

Ministry Opportunities

We are always looking for volunteers. You may be gifted to serve the Lord in missions without leaving home.

Graphic Artist
Supports the graphics needs for the Curriculum Development, Communications, and Public Relations areas of the ministry.

Writer/Editor
Help in the development of communications, materials, and resources for funding development.

Funding Development Administrator
Uses funding development tools and practices to acquire the necessary funding to adequately support the ministry of iTEE Global. This person will write grant/funding proposals and develop relationships with key contacts to help them catch the vision of iTEE Global.

If you would like to know more please contact: info@iteeg.org

Global iNSIGHT in your e-mail: https://iteeg.org/gi_subscription.html



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