

FOR THE LOVE OF MUSLIMS

Lessons for Online Missionaries dealing with Muslims

Lesson 1: Introduction

We at GMO are glad that you want to reach out to Muslims. What an amazing adventure you've begun! Many Muslims respond to our websites because they are interested in spiritual matters and want help in their spiritual journey. What a joy and a privilege it is to be part of God's work in the lives of other people!

These 35 lessons will help you better understand Islam and how to respond to Muslim seekers and share the gospel with them. The author is a missionary currently living in a South Asian Muslim country, with experience as a GMO Online Missionary as well. He writes with South Asian culture in mind, but many of the principles can be broadly applied to most other Muslims. If in doubt, check with a cultural expert from the country you are dealing with.

As you continue to learn and respond to emails, keep in mind the acronym *LIP*:

Love
Inform Yourself
Pray

Love

Having an attitude of love is so important. 1 John 4:8 says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love." Love needs to permeate everything we do and say. Love shows humility and respect to others and tries to understand their point of view without being conceited or judgmental. When you respond to an email from a Muslim, you need to be able to honestly say, "my dear Muslim friend."

Inform Yourself

It is critical to be able to communicate to Muslims in a way that they understand and appreciate. This might mean using terminology that's different than what we're used to, or learning to think more creatively about the way in which we communicate spiritual truths. In order to communicate with Muslims more effectively it is helpful to learn how they view the world and what they believe, and to communicate within that framework rather than expecting them to understand ours. And this is exactly what this training series is all about!

Pray

Prayer is essential to any ministry endeavor. We are in a spiritual battle. Satan does not want more people to worship God and enter his kingdom, so he tries to keep as many as possible in bondage to him. The only real, lasting change is that which comes when God works through the prayers of his people. Be sure to set aside adequate time to pray for each person you respond to. You could even write out a prayer for them in your email response.

We are looking forward to the journey ahead!

Send comments/questions to flmcomments@nayajeevan.org.