



Called *To* Pray

A 30-DAY
PRAYER GUIDE
TO INTERCEDE
FOR MUSLIMS



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FOREWORD

Jesus loves every single one of the 1.6 billion Muslims around the world. This guide, which was written by Kairos Global missionaries that actively live and work amongst Muslims, is a tool to help the Church engage the Lord's heart for the Muslim world.

Every year during Ramadan, Muslims zealously fast and seek God, and we believe this is a time for the Church to pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal Jesus as the Son of the Living God.

During this year's Ramadan, we encourage you to go through each daily devotion and pray for Muslims to be radically transformed by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Until All Have Heard,
John Kim
President, Kairos Global

Day 1:

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd." – John 10:14-16 (ESV)



Before she was a Christian, a Muslim woman had a dream that she was on path with her children. The path came to a fork, and she had to decide which way to go. She started to lead them down the path nearest her, but a man dressed in white and wielding a shepherd's crook appeared in front of her and used the crook to guide them all onto the other path. She had never heard of "the Good Shepherd" or of God even being associated with such a humble occupation.

Upon seeing these verses and realizing it was Jesus Himself who had been in her dream, she was deeply touched by how He cared about the destinies of her and her children so much that He would intervene to lead them towards His flock. She is now of "this fold" and knows His voice too.

How precious it is that we have the Good Shepherd to lead us and guide us. He doesn't turn us out to survive on our own, and He does not shy from leaving the 99 to go after the one who wanders. We can draw so much assurance from the knowledge that He knows His own and we may know Him.

PRAYER

Thank you Lord, that you direct our paths and that as a shepherd protects his sheep, you also lay down your life for us. I pray for more Muslims to discover you as the Good Shepherd who is seeking to bring them into your fold. Would they be impacted by your commitment to pursue those who are lost. Please bring more people out of Islam and into your flock today, God!



Day 2:

THE LIVING WORD

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

– Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)



As the Bible is our holy book, so the Quran is Islam's holy book. Mixed in with the teachings of Mohammed are bits and pieces of the Old and New Testaments that have been twisted to have new meaning. Muslims particularly take pride in the fact that the Quran is largely still taught today in the original Arabic. There are literally Muslims in the world who don't speak or understand the language of their scripture, but they are still choosing to memorize these words in an unfamiliar tongue, and then claim to live by them. They say that the Quran is the revelation of God given to mankind and they pride themselves on being "people of the book" but their book is a dead end.

In contrast, the Bible is a collection of writings from many authors –the inspired words of God–that together tell the story of how He has revealed Himself to the world. We can only truly appreciate it with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. However, as precious as this text is to us, it is not the Word of God. That title belongs to Jesus alone. He is the revelation of God to us. The Word was in the beginning, it was with God, and the Word was God (John 1:1).

PRAYER

God, I thank you that you speak to us through your Word. I pray for “people of the book” to be transformed to “people of the Word.” I pray that they would see and know God through Jesus, The Word, the only way to the Father. Would you open the eyes of many to the fallacies and incongruencies in the Quran. That the contradictions Muslims have come to accept in its pages would stand in glaring opposition to each other and the truth. Lord, launch them into a pursuit of what is right. Let them turn and find fruitful and everlasting identity in the true Word of God.



Day 3:

JESUS THE SON OF GOD

No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also. — 1 John 2:23 (ESV)

And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. — 1 John 5:11-12 (ESV)



The idea that God has a son is considered to be blasphemous to Muslims due to its challenge against Islam's monotheistic beliefs. For Christians, to know the Son means to know the Father, and to deny the Son means to deny the Father (1 John 2:23). Therefore, it is imperative for Muslims to see and accept Jesus as God's begotten Son, whom He gave for the salvation of the world.

Jesus' sonship also reveals the way in which we should view God the Father. It is only through Jesus that we are able to have a relationship with God and call Him our Heavenly Father. As stated in John 14:6, Jesus is the only way for us to come to God. The identity, promise, and inheritance of every believer falls on the truth of our adoption as sons and daughters through the atoning sacrifice of God's own Son, Jesus Christ.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray that you would reveal yourself to Muslims as God's one and only begotten Son. I pray that this revelation would move their hearts to see God as a loving Father who would withhold nothing to bring them to salvation, not even His own son. May they see the beauty of your sacrifice and approach the throne room of grace as sons and daughters of the Most High.



Day 4:

HE WASHES US CLEAN

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. – Hebrews 10:19-22 (NRSV)



Muslims believe that you can only approach God in just the right way. If you want to pray, you must first wash your hands, feet, and head. You must then face in a certain direction, and recite certain words combined with prescribed actions. A woman is not allowed to pray if she is on her period or has her head uncovered. They also believe they are made unclean for prayer by touching a dog or a pig. If all of these rules are not followed exactly, Muslims believe that God will accept neither them, nor their prayers.

All these restrictions and regulations sound eerily similar to the Mosaic Law which the Jews lived under before Jesus. It did not make them clean either, but served to show them just how impossible their efforts to be clean before God really were. When Jesus came, He fulfilled the requirements of the law and we are now washed clean by His blood. Because of Jesus, we can now enter the sanctuary of God.

Muslims are offended by our reliance on Jesus to approach God, preferring to think that this is something they can achieve them-

selves. Cleanliness in general is such an important issue in Islam, that they refuse to entertain the idea of a God who would come among the unclean, let alone one who would cleanse people Himself.

PRAYER

Lord, as Muslims go about their rituals to cleanse and prepare themselves for prayer during this Ramadan, open their eyes and show them that these efforts are in vain. Please answer their longing for you by showing them that you love them as they are, and that by the blood of Jesus, you can wash them clean so that they might always enter into your presence.



Day 5:

BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. — Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)



In Islam they believe that a person's ability to make it to heaven is firmly dependent on their works. The symbol they use to explain this is a set of scales. All the good things you've ever done go on one side and all the bad things you've ever done go on the other. If the "good" outweighs the "bad" at the time they die, they get into heaven. Each person lives their life not knowing for sure if they have done enough. They can hope, but they cannot know for sure until they die and their deeds are judged by Allah.

The Bible clearly states that it is not by our works that salvation is determined. It is by God's grace that all those who believe and have faith in Jesus Christ shall be saved. It is the only way. Believers in Jesus can enjoy peace of mind and rest in the surety of it.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray for Muslims all across the earth to have a life-changing revelation that they do not have to live in the constant unknown of "have I done enough?". Help them to realize that they can step into the security of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. I ask that you would make a way for messengers of the Gospel to speak Truth into their lives and that their hearts would be softened to receive your Word.



Day 6:

NOT SLAVES, BUT SONS

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. — Romans 8:14-17 (ESV)



In Islam, Muslims see themselves as slaves of Allah. They exist to serve his will and attempt to please him. It is not a loving relationship, but servitude to a silent god. This is in such great contrast to what we have in Christ. The Bible specifically states that we are not slaves and that our portion is not to live in fear of God. It's quite the opposite. God calls us His own and gives us the title of "sons." With that title comes all the benefits of the relationship between a father and his children.

The God of the Universe desires a personal relationship with each one of us and cares about us. He's invested in the details. We talk to God, He talks back, and we can approach Him with the casual familiarity of a child with their dad. Many times when Muslims have been introduced to this idea, brows have furrowed in confusion because it is such a foreign concept. Sometimes curiosity is sparked. Ultimately, as human beings, desiring connection is in our God-given nature; the walls of religion built between ourselves and God must be torn down in order for us to encounter Him as our Father.

PRAYER

Lord, I lift up everyone currently under the shroud of Islam and pray that they would find freedom in Christ. That the desire for connection that you've placed inside each of them would not be satisfied with anything less than an intimate relationship with you. I pray that many would come to the realization that they don't have to live as slaves but have the invitation to join your family and become a son.



Day 7:

DREAMS OF THE MAN IN WHITE

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. — Revelation 1:12-16 (ESV)



Time and again over the years, God has reached Muslims not through words or deeds, but through dreams. The nature of it captivates their attention. Many times, those dreams center around Jesus appearing as He is described by John here in Revelation 1. People don't always understand who they've seen, but in personal experience, they are always marked by the encounter. It may have been days, weeks, months or years since the dream, but if you ask them about it, they can still vividly remember the eyes, the voice, and the emotion that was evoked when they saw Him.

When the Bible is paired with their dream and they can see in scripture the exact description of who they've seen, it often sparks curiosity, wonder, and a desire to learn more. By these means, Muslims have come to know Christ and become Christians. One of the things often prayed for during Ramadan is more "enlightenment" in order to deepen their Islamic faith.

Let us, as believers in Christ, pray for an entirely different sort of enlightenment for them.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray that you would encounter Muslims in dreams tonight. I ask that many would encounter this man with eyes like flames of fire and hair as white as snow, and that there would be a revelation that this is the real Jesus. The one who is fully God and fully man. The one who is so much more than “one of the prophets.” I pray that many would be gripped by dreams like this and seek to know Him who has appeared to them.



Day 8:

THE PRESENCE OF THE SPIRIT

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! – Psalm 139:7-8 (ESV)



Some devout Muslim friends in the Arab world have recently become intrigued by the idea of mindfulness and meditation. A Christian woman led them through some exercises, where they were encouraged to ask God to meet them within their imaginations. They invited God to bring up some hard memories and then watched to see how He would respond to them in bringing about healing. She did not use the name of Jesus, nor Christian specific language—but God still met them. Being open to hearing from God in this way was a totally new idea to them, but they loved it!

Although these Muslims neither know nor believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit is still encountering them in unexpected ways and showing them His compassion and grace. There is nowhere anyone can go and not find that God is already working there—not even within the minds and hearts of unbelievers!

PRAYER

Father, I thank you that there is no place that anyone can be away from your Spirit. No matter how hard or dark or unreached by the Gospel a place is, you are working there still. Please continue to meet Muslims in unique ways and reveal your character to them. As they seek you (while they do not yet know you), please protect them from being led astray by lies and false teachings about you.



Day 9:

THE PERSISTENCE OF GOD

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me." – Revelation 3:20 (ESV)



Even though humans are the ones who have rebelled against God and broken the relationship with Him, He has taken it upon Himself to redeem and restore. He brings us back into communion with Him and is relentless in pursuit of those whom He loves.

You may have heard just how common dreams and visions from God are in the Muslim world. It is estimated that around 25% of all Muslims who come to a saving faith in Jesus had a dream or a vision as part of their conversion journey. What is not often reported is that many who encounter Jesus in their dreams are indeed impacted by the experience, but never choose to pursue Him any further. They hear Him knocking, but do not open the door to let Him in.

There was a Muslim woman who had fled a war, and was now living in a neighboring country as a refugee. She had a dream where Jesus came to her, holding her young son who had died in the war. Some Christians then shared the Gospel with her, explaining how she too could be with Jesus forever. She listened politely, but did not choose to become a believer in Jesus. This woman may come to Christ at another time or she may never choose to follow Him. Regardless, our God does not give up knocking.

PRAYER

Lord, we are constantly awed by how persistently you choose to love and pursue us, knowing that relationship with you is the only thing that will make us whole. I pray that your Holy Spirit would be at work softening the hearts of Muslims. So that when you come knocking—be it in a dream, a vision, an encounter with a Christian, or in any way you choose—they would be ready to open the door and allow you in.



Day 10:

RENEWAL OF THE HEART

“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. — Ezekiel 36:26 (ESV)



Jesus uses the Parable of the Sower (Matt. 13) to reveal how the conditions of the heart play a significant role in receiving the Gospel message. In the parable, the seeds that fall on the path are immediately devoured by birds because the hard ground did not allow them to sink in and grow their roots. Jesus explains to the disciples that this represents how the Enemy steals the word that is sown before it is able to sink into the heart. No matter how many times the Gospel may be preached to Muslims, it will be denied unless it is received by good soil—a heart of flesh.

A soft and tender heart is malleable to receive the Gospel message, while a hardened heart will deflect the words of salvation. It is crucial to pray for the renewal of hearts for Muslims to receive the Gospel, for no one can change the heart of man except for God alone.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray for your Holy Spirit to penetrate every heart of stone that stands in resistance to the love and truth of the Gospel. May every blind eye be opened, every deaf ear unstopped, and every heart of stone to be turned to a heart of flesh. When they encounter the message of the cross, may their hearts be softened to receive it in joy, accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.



Day 11:

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

— Matthew 19:14 (ESV)



Recently the young daughter of some Muslim friends was not feeling well. Her grandmother took her on her lap and began stroking her hair to comfort her while asking what she needed. "Are you thirsty? Do you want some yogurt? Do you need a nap?"

"No," she answered in her small voice. "Please read the Quran over me."

This little girl, at four years old, was already turning to the Quran for comfort. Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to children like her, but she is already being led away along a trail of lies. Having large families is often encouraged in Islam, so all around the world there are many, many children being raised into this deceiving and false religion. From the moment of birth, the words of the Quran are whispered into their ears, and they are brought up being taught to blindly accept the teachings of Islam. This grieves Jesus. He longs for the children to come to Him, but they are being held back by deceit and false teachings.

PRAYER

Lord, please protect the hearts of children from hearing and accepting the lies of Islam. Comfort and guide them as they learn to navigate the troubles of this life. Holy Spirit, please bring them up with a sense of discontentment. So that when they hear about Jesus, the veil of lies would fall away quickly because of their love for Him. Please break down the hindrances that are stopping these little children from coming to you.



Day 12:

GOD IS LOVE

“Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.” – John 17:24 (ESV)

*Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
– 1 John 4:8 (ESV)*



“God is love” is one of the most common statements we hear spoken about God. We often understand this to mean that He is loving towards His creation, and more specifically, towards us! But the phrase doesn’t just say that God loves, but that He is love. If God is something, then He always was that way—even before He created anything. He does not change.

In order for God to always be love, He cannot exist in isolation. He must always have someone to give that love to. Jesus said that the Father loved Him since before the foundation of the world, meaning that the persons of the Trinity have always been in community—always giving of Themselves in love to one another.

Muslims strongly reject any mention of trinitarian theology and proudly claim that their god is singular in nature. It is so important to them, that they have declared that anyone who claims anything else (like the fact that Jesus is the begotten Son of God) has committed an unforgivable sin. Without the community of the Trinity, the shallow argument that Muslims make that their god is loving gets even weaker. Muslims are missing out on a beautiful and important part of who God really is.

PRAYER

God, thank you that love exists in the world because you yourself are love. Our ability to love at all is only because we were made to reflect who you are. Please open the hearts of Muslims to see how deeply deceived they are by denying your nature as the Holy Trinity. Help them to see that, as reflections of you, they are created and called to be in communion with you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



Day 13:

HE CARRIES OUR BURDENS

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” – Matthew 11:28-30 (ESV)



“I once met a woman who had lived her whole life as a Muslim. She was absolutely in awe of God because of these verses above. It’s all in the imagery of the yoke. If you can picture it, a yoke has positions for two animals—oxen, donkeys, horses, yaks, etc. If the animals are equally yoked, the burden they carry is evenly distributed between them. If one of the animals is significantly larger than the other, it is unbalanced and the result is that the larger animal does more of the work. The smaller animal receives less burden.

This woman had grown up seeing yoked cows. When she read Matthew 11, she looked up and declared, “God is the big cow!” Then she wept. Out of context, that statement could be confusing or possibly offensive, but it was spoken in such childlike wonder. She was beautifully overwhelmed at a God who cares about us so much that He chooses to carry our burdens. He offers us the gift of rest in Him.

The god of Islam never offers to take the load. He never claims to be humble or lowly in heart. His leadership is of an entirely different sort. His followers may ask him for things, but there are no assurances. What a difficult road that must be!

PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, for the way that you take things that are weighing us down and trade it for your easy yoke. I pray for more Muslims to have a revelation of you as the humble, caring God who relieves the heavy-laden and grants rest. Let them catch a glimpse of the peace and relief that is available to those who believe. Lord, I pray that this would be a scripture that causes many to flock to you.



Day 14:

THE GOD WHO SEES ME

So she called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me." – Genesis 16:13 (ESV)



Ishmael was passed over in favor of Isaac to be the father of God's chosen people—Israel. Ishmael instead became the father of the nation that is thought to be the origins of the Arab people, out of whom the religion of Islam came. There is much discussion about the rejection of Ishmael and how this caused the enmity between the families of Isaac and Ishmael that prevails until this day. I contest that there is another, more beautiful inheritance that came through the line of Ishmael. It originated with his mother, Hagar.

She was the slave of Sarah—abused and exploited—with no power to say no when she was given to Abraham as a second wife. When she conceived a child, her mistreatment continued. So she fled into the desert where she was met by God. He spoke to her about the son she was carrying and told her what to do next. She is then given the honor of being the first person in scripture to give a name to God, calling him "El-Roi" meaning "The God who sees me".

Later, when Hagar was sent away from Abraham and Sarah, God met her again in the wilderness. He encouraged her, reminded her of His promises to her, and took care of her and Ishmael's needs. Although Hagar's story is filled with sadness and suffering,

it is also a story that shows the kindness and care of God. May Muslims take hold of this inheritance—of being known by “The God who sees them”.

PRAYER

Lord, I know that you see the many Muslims who are suffering under the power of sadness, rejection, powerlessness, and abuse. In their afflictions, please help them to turn to you. May they, like Hagar, come to know the God who sees them, who knows them, and who wants to take care of them.



Day 15:

A COMPASSIONATE GOD

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust. — Psalm 103:8-14 (ESV)



It is incredible that we get to serve a God who so freely offers what we do not deserve. We could never show mercy like He shows mercy. We could never love as bountifully as He loves. We could never administer justice like His perfect judgment. We could never show compassion like He demonstrates compassion. These attributes of God are the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Muslims, on the other hand, worship a god who demands their praise. In exchange for a lifetime of carefully following rules and doing things “just so” they are told that they might get into their version of heaven. But it’s only a maybe. Allah removes no transgressions; they are carefully counted. Allah shows no true compassion, he must deem that you’ve “earned” it. It’s a daunting unknown to live with.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray today for followers of Islam to experience a revelation of your compassion and mercy towards those who follow you. I ask for opportunities—through person, or media, or written word—to hear about these aspects of your character and that it would not fall on deaf ears. That many would be made aware of these stark differences between the god of Islam and the one, true, Living God.



Day 16:

DESCENDANTS OF ISHMAEL

PART I

“He [Ishmael] shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.” – Genesis 16:12 (ESV)

“As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation.”

– Genesis 17:20 (ESV)



Here we have both the curse and the blessing that God spoke over Ishmael, the older son of Abraham. Isaac was the chosen lineage for the fulfillment of prophecy, but God did not forsake Ishmael; promising to make him the father of a nation too. He became the father of the Arabs—meaning that the origins of the current animosity between Arab nations and Israel can be traced all the way back to this division between the two sons of Abraham.

The Quran also makes reference to this Biblical story, focusing more on Ishmael than Isaac. Ishmael then goes on to be seen as one of the esteemed prophets in Islam. Fast forward to today and now we have Islam as the dominant religion in most of the Middle East, which is populated primarily by Arabs of different tribes who trace their blood lineage back to Ishmael. Muslims around the world trace their “spiritual” heritage back to him as well.

We see evidence of his descendants living under the curse as warring Islamic factions fight each other and others over religious

differences and land disputes. Graciously, in Christ, curses can be broken and God brings us into His family so that no one is called an orphan.

PRAYER

God, I pray for Muslims to come to a realization that some of the hurts they carry are not their own. That they don't have to continue to struggle under the curse, and that freedom can be found in you. Break chains today, Lord! Would you bring many Muslims into a saving knowledge of Christ. Use the very peoples who have persecuted Israelites as the ones to provoke them to jealousy unto seeing the completion of the Kingdom.



Day 17:

DESCENDANTS OF ISHMAEL

PART 2

"But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. — Isaiah 64:8 (ESV)

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. — 1 John 3:1a (ESV)



Continuing on the subject of Ishmael, when Abraham disinherited him from the Promise a rift was created between father and son. After all these years the sons of Ishmael—both by blood and by belief—are still fostering an orphan spirit of rejection.

We see unconscious efforts to find security in this area with the importance that Arab tradition and Islamic culture place on family. In particular, when parents have their first boy—whether he is the eldest child or not— they become known in their community as “Father of {son’s name}” and “Mother of {son’s name}” for the rest of their lives. Honor is given to the oldest son.

There is a better solution. God created all life and He desires for each and every one of us to come to Him and know Him as Abba. When we accept Jesus and are baptized, we are welcomed into a spiritual family and given an inheritance in Christ. The Lord alone holds the power to heal long-festering wounds that have harbored so much hurt. Because of His great love, He calls no one “orphan” but “son” and “daughter.”

PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, for bringing us into your family. I pray that many sons and daughters of Ishmael will be able to shed their long-carried orphan spirit and find belonging in you. Reveal yourself in dreams and visions as the loving Father that you are.



Day 18:

THE JOYFUL NOISE

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! —

Psalm 98:4-6 (ESV)



Worship is so much more than a way to “set the mood” in a church service. It is a way that we can connect to God. Worship can look like joyful exultation, thanksgiving, spiritual warfare, giving glory to God, setting our eyes on Him in hard times, and so many other ways. Over and over again in the Bible, we see individuals offer worship to the Lord as a natural response to whatever is happening in their life. However it may look, there is freedom of expression in our worship.

In Islam, worship is mandated and the “how” is dictated all the way down to which direction to face. Five times a day, the Call to Prayer blasts from mosque minaret towers. There are even particular prayers for each time throughout the day. Their worship becomes mindless recitations and going through the motions.

What a joy it is to serve a God who delights in our diverse demonstrations of worship. Sitting or standing. Arms outstretched or at our sides. Eyes open or closed. On our knees or dancing. In a corporate setting or in solitude. With shouts of joy or in silent awe.

PRAYER

Thank you, God, that we are able to express our love and devotion to you in so many ways through worship. Lord, I pray for Muslims who have grown disillusioned with going through the motions of their religion. Would you open doors for them to learn what worshiping the One True God can look like. Show them the many ways that chains are broken through Christ.



Day 19:

DEFENDING GOD

Arise, O God, defend your cause; remember how the foolish scoff at you all the day! Do not forget the clamor of your foes, the uproar of those who rise against you, which goes up continually!

— Psalm 74:22-23 (ESV)



One of the most famous (or infamous) aspects of Islamic faith is that many believers feel compelled to defend the honor of their god and their prophet Mohammad at almost any cost. They seem to think that the responsibility is on their shoulders to make sure that no one speaks badly about them.

As Christians, we might feel offended or annoyed when something negative is said about God, but we understand that He is The Almighty and creation does not need to come to His rescue. He has not given us that responsibility. We also know that how God chooses to act on His own behalf will not always look how we expect. Like a lamb being led to the slaughter, Jesus did not speak in His own defense even when facing the cross.

It confuses Muslims that we claim to love God, but do not feel the need to defend Him. They think this is weak and shows a lack of devotion. But perhaps it is wisdom. How could we claim to be good enough to defend the honor of the most honorable? We cry out for justice and for God to fight for His own name's sake. We know that regardless of how things look right now, it will not stay this way. In the end, the name of Jesus will be lifted high above every other name. God Himself will see it done.

PRAYER

Almighty God, thank you that you will glorify the name of Jesus above all else. Thank you that your wisdom, your power, and your love will achieve this. Just as you told Peter to put away his sword in the Garden of Gethsemane, would you help Muslims to see they can give up the need to defend you. They can lay this burden at your feet, and instead place their trust in you alone. Please help them learn to love you.



Day 20:

A LOVING GOD

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” – John 3:16-17 (ESV)



The statement of love that these verses declare is staggering. It is easily one of our most widely shared scriptures. We share it with people in evangelism, write it on billboards, and introduce our children to it in Sunday school. However, as common as we may find it, this attribute of God is absent in Islam.

The breakdown occurs in a few places. First, they don't believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Second, they don't believe that Isa (as they call him) actually died; he just ascended. How could a religion grasp a God abounding in love if they have distorted the story to remove His sacrifice? Thirdly, in the Quran, every verse that does mention potential for Allah's love, poses it as highly conditional—It is something that has to be earned.

Muslims see it as foolish that our God expresses feelings like unconditional love. How could the all-powerful, highest being have emotions like we do? How could he love everyone? It is a difficult concept to convince someone of with our words and is best learned through personal experience.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray for Muslims to encounter your unconditional love today. The love that knows no heights nor depths nor widths nor lengths and that they do not have to earn. I ask that as they are fasting to gain favor with their god, that they would instead get to experience a taste of your affection for them. Send followers of Christ into their lives who can be a light and let your love shine through them.



Day 21:

FREEDOM FROM STRIVING

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
— Titus 3:4-7 (ESV)



We have seen in the Muslim world that even those who are flippant or indifferent to faith will suddenly toe the line and become the “perfect Muslim”, fasting and praying with their families during Ramadan. They hope that by being good Muslims they might make up for their sins committed over the rest of the year.

During the final 10 days of Ramadan there is a night where Muslims say heaven draws closer to earth. When their good deeds on this one “Night of Power” are equal to a thousand months of good deeds at any other time. I have watched devout Muslims perform their rote prayers all through this night, pushing themselves to exhaustion, hoping to build up enough favor with the god of Islam. Hoping that they can do enough to tip the scale and earn their place with him in paradise.

But we know that justification before God comes only through the mercy of Jesus. We cannot save ourselves by any amount of righteous acts. We serve Him because we love Him, not because we have to. We are justified by grace, not striving. We know that

no amount of toil by our own hands will bring us any closer to God.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray that as Muslims look to increase their good deeds on this “Night of Power”, that you would open their eyes to the futility of their striving. Show them that no amount of good deeds or recited prayers will ever justify them before you. That it is because of your goodness, mercy, and loving kindness you have made a way for them to be heirs of eternal life with Christ Jesus.



Day 22:

PERMISSION TO ASK

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.”

– Matthew 7:7-8 (ESV)



Christian believers are encouraged to ask questions. As children, we are taught that God is big enough and kind enough to handle our questions and doubts. We hear the story of Jacob wrestling with God and know that we can do that too. We study scripture—asking questions of the text, of God, and of each other. We are allowed to read books that probe hard theological questions. We are enamored with the vastness of the mystery of God and know that while we search the depths of who He is, there will always be more to discover.

Muslims are taught that it is shameful to have doubts and questions about God—that it is akin to disobeying Him. Muslim scholars alone are allowed to study their holy texts. Normal, everyday Muslims are not considered learned enough to ask questions of God. They must bring their queries to a scholar and blindly accept what they are told. The teachings of Islam are full of holes, but the Enemy has blinded their eyes and bound their minds with the lie that asking questions about their faith will displease God.

PRAYER

Lord, I pray that you would set Muslims free today from the binding lie that asking questions of you is wrong. Where they expect anger and disappointment, would you meet them tenfold with your kindness and wisdom. Please show them that you are encouraging them to seek you, that you love it when they ask, and you are delighted that they want to know you. And when you open the door to them, may they see Jesus welcoming them in.



Day 23:

EQUAL

"So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

– Genesis 1:27 (NRSV)



Muslims will often give many reasons why they believe their religion is “liberating” to women, but this simply isn’t true. The Quran even states that men have a higher status. A man can marry up to four women; he expects obedience from them. Women must cover themselves to stop men from sinning, with the idea still prevalent that women are culpable in some way when men choose to assault them. The testimony of a woman is considered to be worth half that of a man. The inheritance of a woman is only half what is given to her brothers.

Although Christian history has also been plagued by false teachings that have been used to abuse and subjugate women, we know that this was not, and is still not, the design of God. Males and females are both created in the image of God, in order to glorify Him and be in communion with Him. Married couples are commanded to submit to one another under the leadership of Christ (Eph. 5:21-28). Jesus broke all sorts of religious and cultural rules in order to treat women with the dignity and honor due to them as fellow image-bearers. He even entrusted women to be the first to testify of his resurrection—the greatest piece of news that has ever been shared! Now, both women and men have been made co-heirs with Christ and will share in His inheritance.

PRAYER

Jesus, you are the liberator and the champion of women. I know you are grieved by the ways that Muslim women are overlooked, undervalued, and oppressed by the chains of Islam. May they find their freedom in you and discover their identity as beloved daughters of God. Ones who are created to reflect your image and invited to share in the eternal inheritance of Jesus.



Day 24:

THE BEAUTY OF A HUMBLE GOD

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

— Isaiah 53:7-8 (ESV)



I recently had a conversation with a Muslim taxi driver in an Arab country about the death and resurrection of Jesus. He listened very politely, but then stated emphatically, “The most important thing you need to know is that God would never allow his prophet to suffer like that.”

As Christians, we have become so desensitized to hearing about the suffering and death of Jesus, that we forget just how offensive this idea is to many around the world. Muslims have such a high respect and reverence for their concept of God, that they utterly reject the idea that he would allow one of his prophets to be treated so. They accept Jesus as one of their “prophets” but have created a doctrine to explain that God actually rescued him before the crucifixion and a look-alike was killed in his place. Imagine their horror when they hear that not only do we say that Jesus did suffer and die, but that He, in fact, was God himself.

If you read all of Isaiah 53 together, you will see and marvel at the beauty and mystery of our humble God—who achieved the victory not in spite of suffering, but by going through it.

PRAYER

I thank you Lord, that you loved me so deeply that you were willing to suffer pain, humiliation, and death to bring me life. I pray that you would reveal this beautiful truth of who you are and the depth of your love to Muslims around the world today. Show them that you were oppressed and afflicted, so that by your wounds they may be healed. Break through their offended hearts and minds and bring them revelation of you.



Day 25:

THE DIVINITY OF JESUS

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. — Colossians 1:15-18 (ESV)



Acceptance of Jesus as the Christ is foundational to our faith. In these verses we see him declared as the Image of God and He is placed in His rightful spot above all creation. While there are many parts of the Bible that reinforce these truths, these verses together are arguably Scripture's highest statement of His divinity.

In Islam, Jesus (Isa) is demoted to being "one of the prophets" with the likes of Moses, Abraham, and Elijah. They reject the idea of immaculate conception, concluding that Jesus couldn't possibly be the Son of God. His ministry and miracles are explained as him being merely a vessel of God's power. This diminished view of Jesus inhibits the ability to accept His shed blood as atonement for our sins.

PRAYER

God, I pray today for a revelation of the divinity of Jesus among Muslims. Tear the blinders of their religion from their eyes and uncover the lies they've believed about Jesus. Break in with the truth that He is fully God and fully man. I pray that many would have a hunger to know Jesus Christ and be given the boldness to seek Him out.



Day 26:

A HOLY FEAR OF GOD

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!
— Psalm 111:10 (ESV)

The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death. — Proverbs 14:27 (ESV)



A holy fear of the Lord is produced by reverential awe and respect. We can find it when we behold His power and His might intertwined with His humility. We can find it in the awareness of our sin and the knowledge that it is only through Jesus' sacrifice (which we do not deserve) that we get to approach the throne of God and be seated with Christ in heavenly places. Holy fear brings sobriety and spiritual awakening.

Meanwhile, the god of Islam is a cold and unapproachable figure. Someone who holds in his hand the destinies of his slaves as they attempt to please him. He is "known" only by the rules that he gives and the various titles that he demands he be called by. There is no encounter, there is no relationship, there is neither kindness nor tenderness to be experienced with Allah.

The Islamic perception of forgiveness is shallow because there is no desire for repentance. They just try to outnumber their bad deeds by good ones. Confessing sins is not from a place of contriteness, but out of dread of what the consequences will be. The holy fear that God calls for is much more fruitful, for it is when

we are struck by the depth of our depravity that God can reach down and pull us into the heights of His love and mercy.

PRAYER

God, I pray that Muslims around the world would behold the awesome wonder of God and know what it is to experience holy fear. Would you show them the fountain of life that is available to those who fear you. Please help them to understand this truth so that they too may sing your praises.



Day 27:

THE GOD WHO HEALS

He [Jesus] himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. — 1 Peter 2:24 (ESV)



I knew a young man with a bad skin condition. He had open sores on his face and chest that caused a lot of pain and discomfort. He had tried many creams, medications, and home remedies to try to clear up his skin, but at best they only brought temporary relief. Being from a Muslim family, he tried calling on Allah to miraculously heal him. Nothing happened.

One night, fed up with the pain and misery, he found himself thinking about people he knew who were believers in Jesus Christ. Alone in his bedroom he prayed, "Jesus, if you're really God, would you heal me?" Then he slept. When he got up in the morning, he was completely healed! Not a single sore. No itching. Not even scars. He was absolutely beside himself as he shared with us what had happened. This healing set him on a journey of faith and he began to be discipled. It also served as a testimony of the power of Christ to those around him.

The concept of a God who heals isn't new to Muslims. They do believe that Allah can heal... but you never hear of any miracles. Not to say that God answers every single prayer for healing. We have to trust His leadership on who He does and doesn't heal and that can be incredibly difficult to bear. But the point is that God loves to demonstrate his power and love through miraculous

healings and He really loves it when we give all of the glory and honor to Him in return.

PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, that we get to serve the God who heals. I ask that more Muslims would dare to call on your name for healing and I pray that you would demonstrate your power to heal in their lives, for your glory. I pray for testimonies of Jesus Christ, the Healer, to spread across entire communities and stir many hearts to believe that Jesus is more than a prophet.



Day 28:

THE VALUE OF JESUS

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.
– Philippians 3:7-8 (ESV)

Therefore, to you who believe, He [Jesus Christ] is precious;
– 1 Peter 2:7a (NKJV)



Jesus told a parable about a man who found a treasure in a field, and then joyfully sold everything he had to buy that field. The more we see who Jesus is and understand what He has done for us, the more we will cherish how much He is truly worth. It is because of this revelation that we gladly trade all else for the treasure that is Christ.

We see examples of this in the lives of the Apostles. In his letters, Paul often states that for him, the value of Christ outweighs all else. He was willing to suffer and forsake all else for the joy of knowing Jesus. When Peter wrote, “to you who believe, He is precious,” he conveyed that recognition of the extreme value of Jesus is a distinguishing factor between believers and unbelievers.

In Islam, under the teachings of the Quran, adherents are permitted—and sometimes even encouraged—to lie about their faith in Allah in order to protect themselves and their families from persecution. Allegiance to him does not have to be their highest

priority. If they do choose to give things up, or suffer in some way, it is usually a misguided attempt to secure a spot in paradise. Muslims struggle to comprehend that because Jesus gave up all for the love of us, we are willing to sacrifice everything because of our love for Him. He is, always and forever, our greatest joy.

PRAYER

Father, I thank you that you have given us the most precious gift of your Son, Jesus. I pray that you would strengthen our devotion to Him so that we may be effective witnesses to Muslims of the value of Christ to those who believe. May they too come to realize the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus as Lord.



Day 29:

SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

— Galatians 1:8 (ESV)

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

— Matthew 9:36 (ESV)



If you were trying to summarize key points of the Gospel quickly, it might look something like this: Jesus, the Son of God, became human and dwelt among us. He died on a cross and was resurrected after three days. Through Him we have a way to the Father. Jesus will return to judge and redeem the world.

Paul spoke out many times against teachers who came to deceive people with any “gospel” other than this. It appears as if the Enemy took this as a direct challenge. Islam was founded when their prophet Mohammad claimed that an angel visited him with a message from God. The message he spoke, however, stands in direct contradiction to the true and original Gospel of Jesus. It is therefore in the words of Paul, “accursed”. Islamic teachings posit that God does not have a son, that Jesus (Isa) was not crucified, that He ascended to heaven without dying, that humans can earn their own way to God, and that Jesus will return only in the last days to reaffirm the “truth” of Islam.

Therefore, any Muslim who hears about Jesus and chooses to

follow Him, not only has to learn who Jesus is, but also who He is not. They have to backtrack and deconstruct what is often a lifetime of deceptive teachings. It is a much harder path than many others face. We, therefore, need to have compassion and set our hearts to intercede for them all the more. They are deeply loved by Christ, and He longs for them to be set free.

PRAYER

Lord, please help us to see Muslims from your perspective—as harassed and helpless sheep without a shepherd. They have been deceived by a false “gospel” and bound by its lies. We know that this grieves your heart, and that you long for them to be free to know you and love you. Please teach us how to pray for and love the Muslims in our communities; having compassion on them as you do.



Day 30:

SEND FORTH LABORERS

Then he said to his disciples, “the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” — Matthew 9:37-38 (ESV)



It would be remiss to have a prayer guide authored by missionaries and not include a day that focused on prayers for the Lord to send more laborers into the harvest field. We have seen first hand how there is so much work to be done in the nations of the earth and have felt the joy in being able to do our small part. He needs Christ-followers who will plant seeds, ones who will water them, and then God causes their growth (1 Cor. 3:6-8). The beauty of this is that, at the end of the day, the salvation of Muslims (or any unsaved person) does not rest on our shoulders. God, and God alone, is the one who saves. Nevertheless, He delights in inviting those of us who already love Him into the process.

Romans 10 also speaks of the need for missionaries. Sharing the Gospel is important because how can people choose God if they do not know about Him? There are many places and people groups on the earth who have never heard the Good News. Despite the cultural and linguistic hurdles that non-indigenous missionaries face—and sometimes comedically blunder through—there remains a need for laborers. When done healthily, cross-cultural missions touch the unreached with the Gospel and come alongside the local Body of Christ (if present) to encourage and support it.

PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, that there is a harvest to be found among the nations of the earth. I pray that you would call many more Christians to serve as full-time missionaries in a land that is not their own, particularly, to people groups who are part of the Muslim world. Let hearts burn with passion to see the Lost receive the Gospel. Let them long for the fulfillment of the Great Commission, unto the return of Christ. I pray also, Lord, that you would provide every need and make every path clear for laborers to be sent forth into this harvest.



WHO WE ARE



Kairos Global is a missions organization that exists to train and send long-term missionaries into the unreached regions of the earth to boldly proclaim the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are a priestly community committed to loving Jesus and advancing His Kingdom. We will give ourselves to standing before the presence of God in agreement with His word and courageously bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth.



LET YOUR WILL BE DONE.
IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.