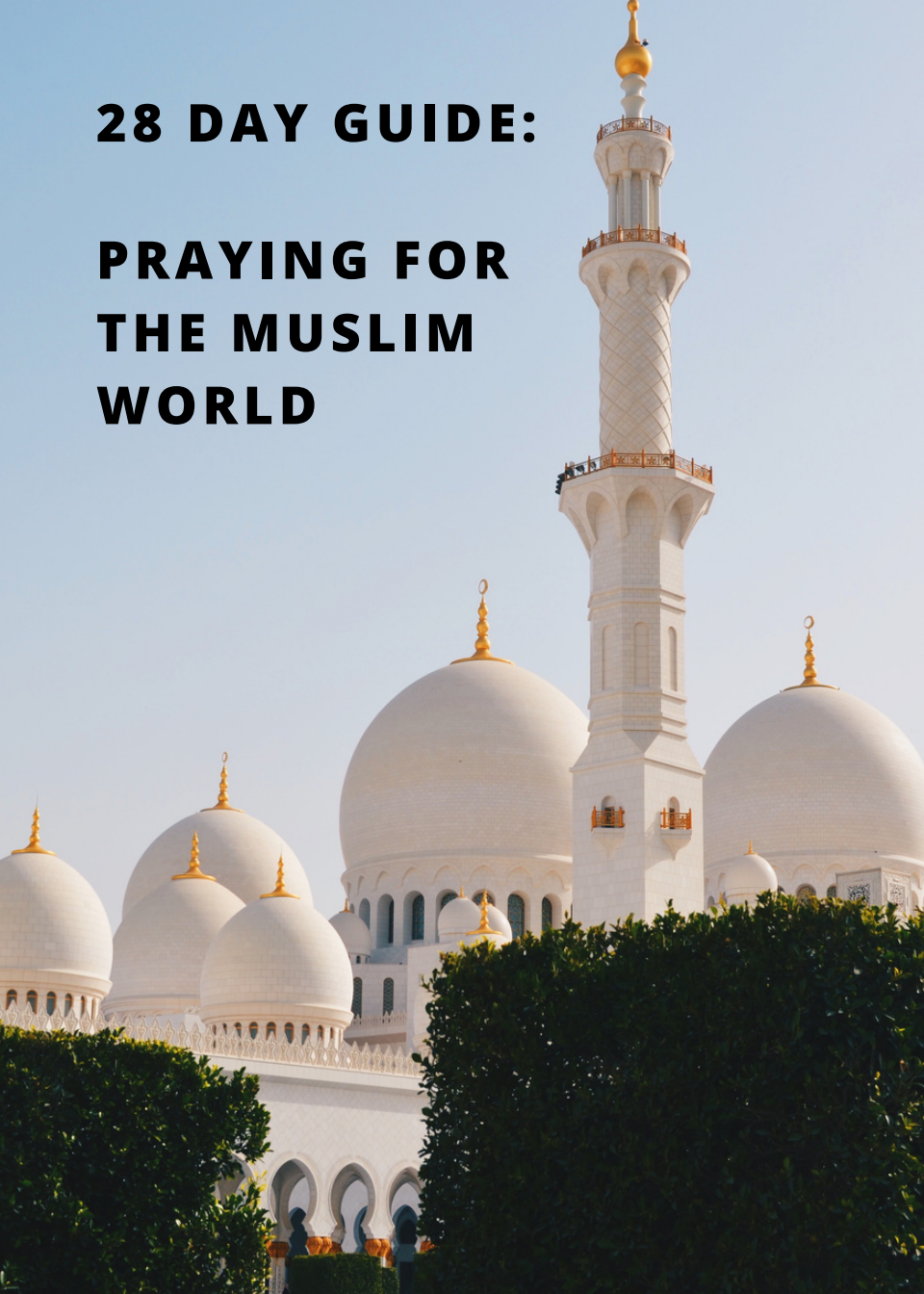


**28 DAY GUIDE:
PRAYING FOR
THE MUSLIM
WORLD**





THE
QURAN
Annotated with
in Modern English
by
A. U. 'Unal



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INFORMATIONAL BACKGROUND

HOW MANY MUSLIMS There are over 2 billion Muslims in the world today. If you go by percentages, those who claim to be Muslim account for 25% of the world's population!

WHERE DO THEY LIVE There are Muslim peoples found in every region of the world. There are regions that have a vast majority of Muslims such as North and Central Africa, Middle East, and Southeast Asia.

WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE Muslims believe that the beginning of Islam began when the prophet Muhammed received a vision from the angel Gabriel. Muhammed then started writing what he was hearing and that writing later became the Qur'an, Islam's holy book. The two sects of Islam, Sunni and Shiite, follow the Qur'an and the 5 Pillars (duties commanded by Allah for every Muslim to follow) but have vastly different opinions on beliefs and practices. This depends on things such as historical contexts, cultural traditions, and the meshing of religious and secular influences. Some countries run their government under the influence of Islamic law.

5 PILLARS OF ISLAM

1. Shahada (profession of faith)- "There is no God but Allah," and "Muhammed is his prophet."
2. Salah (prayer)- Praying toward Mecca 5 times a day.
3. Zakat (giving)- Giving money or charity to help the less fortunate.
4. Sawm (fasting)- Fasting during daytime in the month of Ramadan
5. Hajj (pilgrimage)- Making a pilgrimage to Mecca once in their life if they are healthy and have the monetary funds.



DAY 1-4: HEAVEN ON EARTH

My team and I got to befriend a Muslim college student named Alber*. He was brilliant at English and was also a semi-pro soccer player. His father died of alcoholism and his mother was killed by a drunk driver so he lived with his depressed brother and his great aunt who raised them. We realized through context clues that he most likely only ate one meal a day, so we often invited him and others to our apartment for games and a meal. One such night we did this, we were playing a game where we all answered the question "Where is heaven on Earth?". It was meant to lead to spiritual conversations. Some students said the beach, other students said the mountains, but with a lot of emotion, Alber said it was right where he was in that very moment, spending time with us and talking about spiritual things. We were able to share the truth of God's forgiveness and the promise of eternal life in heaven on a solid bridge of love and trust that crossed cultural and religious boundaries. I'll always remember that night because we got to make him feel so loved and seen.

-- OneLink Student Alumni

1 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that Muslim peoples would understand and believe that hoping they do enough so Allah finds favor on them to bring them into heaven is errant and that believing in the gospel of Jesus is the only way to heaven.

2 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslim college students who also go through struggles in life that can leave them searching for hope and love. Pray that God would show them that He is who they are searching for.

2 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslims who are feeling lost, alone, despised, rejected and in need of love. Pray that they would find and believe in the One who rescues, loves, and adopts.

4 SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

John 14:6 --I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.



DAY 5-8: OUTSIDE INFLUENCE

"God moved me to go overseas...by the tragic events that happened in Afghanistan. I was happy to hear that our team was going to serve in a nearby Central Asian country; however, I had no expectation of meeting any Afghans. To my surprise, God blessed me in the first week of our trip with opportunities to meet Muslims from Afghanistan. One of them was a student named Solomon*. The events in his home country had made him question his Muslim faith, and he was curious about Christianity. He quickly became one of our closest friends as we shared our faith and our lives with him, though he still held on to his Muslim beliefs. After returning home, I tried to pray for him daily. About one month later, I received a text from our overseas host that Solomon had begun to read the Bible! I was so excited, and I told friends and family to pray for him. About a week later I woke up to the greatest text I've ever received- Solomon had become a brother in Christ! I was so thankful to God..."

--OneLink Student Alumni

5 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that Muslims would see the false teaching within Islam and turn away from a false religion to Jesus who can save them from their sins.

7 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God would draw to Him many who are questioning their faith in Islam. Pray God would use whatever means necessary to bring them to someone who will show them the Way.

6 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslim men and women who are being subjected by the false teachings and thoughts within Islam. Pray the Lord would rescue them!

8 SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

John 6:44 -- "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up on the last day."



DAY 9-12: NOT ONE BUT TWO

"For the last three years we have hosted OneLink students. Because of this, the seniors at our school have had three summers with them. Each summer, a certain Muslim student, Inaya*, has been poured into and has been presented the gospel several times. This past summer, OneLink students continued the same. One was able to actually offer a Bible to Inaya and she said yes and received it. The first one we gave her was in Swahili and Arabic. However, she asked if she could have one in English. So, not only did Inaya receive a Bible, she received two of them! Then the next week, she used the Bible to follow along in Bible study for the first time in three years!! It was amazing."

--OneLink Overseas Host

9 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God would continue to raise up college students to take the Word To Muslim peoples all over the world who need to hear about the saving work of the gospel.

11 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslims who are open to hearing the gospel or interested in reading the Bible. Pray that the Holy Spirit would captivate their hearts and lead them to confessing Jesus as their Lord.

10 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for God to bless the faithfulness of those who are reaching and building relationships with Muslims. Pray God would give them continued strength to press on in sharing the gospel.

12 SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

John 6:35 -- "I am the bread of life," Jesus told them. "No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again,"



DAY 13-16: HARD TO GET

Abdul* was a friend of my barber and agreed to help me study the local language. During our first tutoring session, we started to talk about the Bible. Abdul told me that his father had always wanted to get ahold of a copy of the Bible and that he also always wanted his children to have an opportunity to read it. This was not an easy wish to fulfill, since the Bible was illegal in this area and, for many years, there were no modern translations. Sadly, Abdul's father passed away before he was able to find a copy of God's Word. However, the second half of his dream came true that day. I gave Abdul a copy of the recently translated New Testament in his language. After he read it for a few minutes he turned to me and said, "It took so long for this book to come here." Abdul continued to read the Word and eventually gave his life to Christ.

-- Former OneLink Overseas Host

13

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for translation efforts among Muslim people groups so every Muslim group can have access to understanding the Bible. Pray for Muslims who have copies of the Bible that they would be moved by the words they read and believe in Jesus.

15

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for courageous Muslim-background believers to share the good news of the gospel with those around them and among their people group.

14

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslims who live in areas of the world where access to Bibles causes persecution. Pray that copies of the Word would penetrate walls trying to prevent the gospel from coming through.

16

SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

Colossians 4:3 -- At the same time, pray also for us that God may open a door to us for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains,



DAY 17-20: SEEING THE NAME OF JESUS

Abdulai had never heard the name of Jesus. As one of Africa's many Deaf peoples, that's understandable. But he'd never seen Jesus' name signed or read about a Savior in the Bible. "My entire family is Muslim, and no one ever told me about Jesus. And being a Muslim, nothing gave me hope," he said. Abdulai had his doubts about Islam. No one could answer the questions or concerns he had about God. Therefore, he felt no real attachment to this religion he claimed. Everything changed when a friend invited him to an evangelical church that was interpreted into sign language. This was different from anything he'd experienced. He never had an interpreter at a Muslim service or event. Abdulai learned who Jesus was, developed a heart connection with Him and became a believer. His life hasn't been the same since he first found the truth of the Scriptures within the walls of a church. "It was through the Scriptures that I began to see. But it was very surface because I still, even after being baptized, didn't have Scripture in my own heart language," he said. Abdulai works with other Deaf West Africans to translate Bible stories into their regional sign languages.

-- Story from the IMB

17

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Deaf Muslims who feel they have no hope because they can't hear and follow in worship to Allah. Pray that Jesus would reveal himself to them.

19

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray there would be people who would take the gospel to Deaf Muslim peoples all over the world.

18

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for the translation of Bible stories into the sign languages of all the different Muslim people groups. The work begun is very small. Pray the Lord would raise up people, both local and foreign, to take up this burden.

20

SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

Matthew 11:5 -- The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor are told the good news,



DAY 21-24: A PURSUING JESUS

After hearing the gospel from her boss in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, a Muslim migrant worker was interested in knowing more about Jesus. For six months she met with a Christian worker and they studied Scripture together. Each week she was moved by God's love and His pursuit of sinful people. She came to the Christian with an excited expression on her face. She seemed to glow with joy. She told a story from her childhood: for as long as she could remember, when she heard the name of Jesus read from her holy book, her heart ached. She always thought this was a bad thing and tried to ignore it. But now, after studying the Bible, she knew that Jesus was pursuing her. That day she prayed, with tears streaming down her cheeks, to submit her life to Jesus. He was the One who pursued her and was the only way to God. After studying about baptism from Acts, she was ready to take the next step of faith and be baptized.

--Story from the IMB

21

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that Muslims would understand that God is pursuing after their hearts to turn away from Islam and to Him.

23

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslim background believers who are new in the faith. Pray for their boldness in sharing Jesus but also pray their joy in knowing Christ will spread like wildfire around those they reach.

22

PRAYER REQUEST

Pray God would use portions of the Q'uran to cause Muslims to want to learn more about Jesus the Messiah.

24

SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

Ezekiel 34:11- -- For this is what the Lord GOD says: "See, I myself will search for my flock and look for them."



DAY 25-28: OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE JESUS

As a lover of cultures and husband of a foreign wife, Neil* was excited as we read with him about a future day when people from every tribe, nation, and tongue will come to worship before the Lamb that was slain (Rev. 7:9). Yet he also had questions, "What about those who don't get the opportunity to learn about Jesus?" We nodded, "That's why Jesus said what we read at the end of Matthew. He told his followers to go tell all nations about him." "Yeah, actually," Neil leaned back in his chair, "I've been meaning to thank you. If you hadn't been here and been willing to teach me all these things, then I wouldn't have this opportunity to choose Jesus or not." We assured Neil it was their joy to be able to share with him about the Savior who loves them and transforms their lives.

-- OneLink Student Alumni

25 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that the Holy Spirit would use overseas believers to share the good news in a contextualized way that is clear for Muslims to understand the gospel.

27 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray that God would raise up more people to take the good news to Muslims all over the world. Would you also ask God if he may be calling you to go on an overseas trip to reach Muslims?

26 PRAYER REQUEST

Pray for Muslims who are encountering the gospel to take the opportunity to choose Christ and that the Holy Spirit would help them overcome the fear of man that may hold them back.

28 SCRIPTURE TO PRAY

Romans 10:14-15 -- How, then can they call on him they have not believed in? And how can they believe without hearing him? And how can they hear without a preacher? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: *How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.*

