

islam

common questions question to answer

#1. “I am a Muslim.”

CONTEXT: There are far more secular Muslims than there are religious Muslims just as cultural Christians far outnumber practicing Christians. When someone says, “I am a Muslim” they most often mean that they were born into a Muslim family.

ANSWER: Ask, “What does it mean to be a Muslim?” This will allow you to gauge where they are spiritually.

#2. “How can Jesus be God’s Son?”

CONTEXT: Islam teaches that there is only one God (Allah). They frequently misinterpret the Christian reference to Jesus being God’s Son, explaining that Christians believe that God came down from heaven and had sex with Mary.

ANSWER: God came to earth in the form of Jesus to show us what He was really like. That’s why we call Him God’s Son.

#3. “Muslims believe in one God. Christians have three Gods.”

CONTEXT: Islam misinterprets Trinitarian theology, teaching that Christians worship a Trinity comprised of God, Jesus and Mary. This misconception is unfortunately fueled by references to Mary as the Mother of God and as the Queen of Heaven within the context of the Catholic and Orthodox churches

ANSWER: The Bible teaches that God expresses Himself in three distinct ways: God the Father (Creator); God the Son (Redeemer of Mankind) and God the Holy Spirit (the Encourager). Three distinct expressions of one personality. Water example: water, ice and steam. All still water.

#4. “Why do you pray to God in English?”

CONTEXT: Islam teaches that God first revealed Himself to the Jews. Over time, they polluted the message He had entrusted to them. So, He sent the Prophet Isa (Jesus) to repeat the revelation. Over time, the followers of Isa also polluted the message from God. God then sent His best and final revelation to the Prophet Mohammed who faithfully recorded the revelations in Qur’an. The revelations were given in the Arabic and that is why all prayers to God (Allah) must be in Arabic.

ANSWER: God wants us to talk to Him like we would talk to our best friend.

#5. “Before going into the mosque, I wash my hands and take off my shoes. Inside the mosque, I kneel and pray. I see Christians going into church without washing their hands. Inside, there is singing and dancing. Also the girls sometimes wear short skirts to church.”

CONTEXT: Islamic worship is highly structured, comprised primarily of a series of prayers and a message from the imam. Great emphasis is placed on the participants’ unworthiness, viz the washing of hands, posture of kneeling and bowing to the floor as well as repetitions in prayer. Women worship in a separate part of the mosque from the men so as not to be a distraction.

ANSWER: Christian worship is based on the joy we have because of our redemption through Jesus. That is why we express ourselves in songs and dance. The way we dress when we go to church can be a distraction to those around us, however, and we should always be aware of our need for modesty.

#6. “Can I be a Christian and still be a Muslim?”

CONTEXT: The decision to leave Islam can have very serious consequences depending on an individual’s family / community.

ANSWER: Jesus invites us to come and follow Him. In the John 4:16 Jesus said: “I am the way the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me.” Each of us must decide who Jesus is and how we will respond to Him. Jesus said that He was God. Islam teaches that He was only a Prophet. The two notions cannot both be right.
