



helping you share your story

OFFICE
3069 182nd Place
Lansing, IL 60438

PHONE
708-921-4938

EMAIL
LifelinesPublishing@gmail.com

WEB
<http://LifelinesPublishing.net>

PROJECT

Back to God Ministries International
2010-2011 Ministry to Muslims Campaign

Jesus: Bridge to Peace
video script

DRAFT

2

DATE

May 18, 2010

Intro (setting the stage with a familiar image)

The young Muslim who sent the text message was clearly angry. His message was full of hateful threats and fanatic proclamations. Back to God Ministries staff were taken aback.

This listener had been offended by a radio discussion of Jesus' teaching on prayer: "When you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words." (Matthew 6:7) The program did not discuss Islam specifically, but this young Muslim had taken offense.

His scathing reaction may be considered "typical" by many Christians. But what many do not understand is that underneath the angry threats is a deep insecurity. An insecurity that robs them of peace.

Description of ministry area

Over decades of sharing the Good News with Muslims, Back to God Ministries has learned what works and what doesn't. We understand that Islam is more than a religion; it is a culture. It affects every area of life. Asking people to give up their Islamic faith is, essentially, asking them to walk away from family, friends, career—all the things that make life "normal" for people in any culture.

We also understand that Islam is a complex set of beliefs and traditions, and there is no such things as a "typical" Muslim. Back to God Ministries is working among Muslims in dozens of countries, and we vary our approach from culture to culture, so that, like Paul, by all possible means we might save some. (1 Corinthians 9:22)

Description of expert response

In Arabic-speaking areas, for example, our ministry teams do a lot of listening, loving, and praying—in order to develop genuine, respectful friendships. Within these friendships, we are honest and transparent about our love for Christ, without ever attacking the beliefs or traditions of our Muslim friends. We simply remain faithful to Christ and let His Holy Spirit soften their hearts. Arabic Ministry staff from Back to God Ministries are quietly, patiently befriending and discipling people in each of the 22 countries of the Arab League Nations.



OFFICE
3069 182nd Place
Lansing, IL 60438

PHONE
708-921-4938

EMAIL
LifelinesPublishing@gmail.com

WEB
<http://LifelinesPublishing.net>

In Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation, our own Christian reputation can be a barrier to the Gospel. Indonesians have heard that America is a Christian nation, so they are offended and confused by the typical American entertainment that is exported to their society—movies, magazines, and music filled with violence and profanity. But local Christians whose lives have been transformed by the Gospel are a powerful testimony of what Christ is really like. The radio programs and discipleship materials from Back to God Ministries are nurturing the faith of 12,500 people each month in a culture where they are a minority under scrutiny.

Our methods in India include a cell phone ministry—we receive up to 25 text messages each day from people responding to our broadcasts and wanting to know more about the Gospel! At the same time, we continue to use more traditional evangelism and discipleship strategies—daily devotionals, Bible studies, leadership training, and literature distribution. Hindi-speaking people throughout northern India are being transformed by the truth of God's Word.

Outro (sample application of the strategies described above)

Thanks to the prayers and gifts of Christians throughout North America, Back to God Ministries is able to use today's media to share the timeless message of the Gospel with people like the Muslim listener whose story began this video, the man whose outrage took us by surprise. The gentleness and respect we've learned through years of Muslim ministry in a variety of cultures helped us see beyond his hurtfulness and into his hurt.

This man was hurt by the implication that his own prayer life was meaningless because he recited the same words, five times a day, every day. So we responded with a text message referring to Jesus' peaceful teaching on forgiving our enemies, another concept foreign to the Muslim faith. We combined that response with fervent prayers for the young man.

He replied three days later and apologized for his previous tirade. He expressed curiosity about the teachings of Jesus and agreed to examine the New Testament, searching for truth.

It is because of your partnership that Back to God Ministries can reach Muslim seekers in dozens of countries. We ask you to continue to equip us with your prayers and gifts—so that we can introduce Muslims to Jesus, their only bridge to peace.