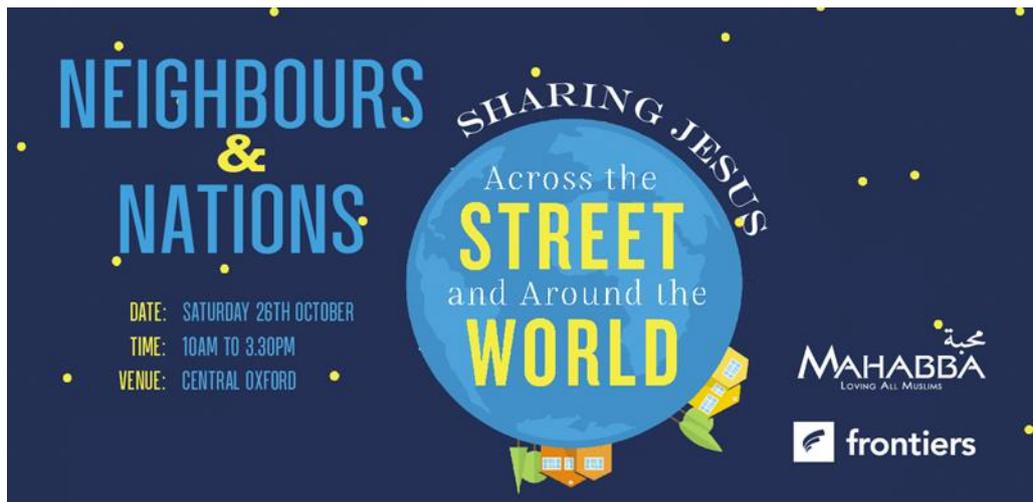


**Monday 14th October**

**Oxford Conference**

Jesus told his disciples; “Go and make disciples of all nations...” Matthew 28:19

The world is changing and more than ever God is bringing people from other countries and cultures into our neighbourhoods, workplaces and schools. We often don't know how to start building meaningful relationships with them, but following Jesus' final instructions doesn't have to be as daunting or as impossible as we might imagine.



To help us align our hearts, minds and everyday lives with God's heart for the nations, we will be holding a conference in central Oxford on Saturday 26th October 2019 from 10.00am to 3.30pm. We will be hearing first-hand stories about incredible things God is doing and, to be envisioned and better equipped, we will be holding workshops on:

- Sharing our faith cross-culturally
- Strategic prayer
- Wrestling with our calling and gifting
- Tools to help us inspire our churches and small groups

We hope that you will also be able to attend the conference and encourage your friends to come along too. To register, please email [register2610@gmail.com](mailto:register2610@gmail.com) or call 0303 333 5051.

- Please pray for the conference and that those whom God is calling to Go, Pray or Give will find this day of great practical benefit and eternal significance.
- Ask God for wisdom, strength and ability for all those involved in the planning and smooth running of the event.
- Pray that we will be able to help churches and Christian Unions build their vision for the unreached.

## **Tuesday 15th October**

### **Reaching Muslims in your neighbourhood – sharing your faith cross-culturally**

A colleague recently shared a couple of his experiences this summer, of reaching out to Muslims in his neighbourhood in the UK.

“I went with a couple of Christian friends to a local café for a meal. I asked the Muslim lady who was cooking our meal if we could pray for her. I explained that in our family we always bless the food and whoever cooked it for us. I also asked her if there was anything we could specifically pray for her or her family but she said no.

As we ate, I asked God to give me something that I could share that would bless her. I was reminded of the story of Hagar and Ishmael (Gen 16:1-16). As I paid the bill I told her that I had prayed for her and that like Hagar, God had heard her prayer; she was not alone and God would provide for her. She began to cry and shared that her dad had just died back home in North Africa. My friends and I prayed and encouraged her.

On another occasion, a group of us, both Christians and Muslims, were gathered in a local mosque studying the story of Joseph in the bible using the Discovery Bible Study method (<http://www.following-and-fishing.eu/en/blog/what-is-discovery-bible-study>.) At the end as we were all drinking tea and coffee, the Imam of the mosque asked if Christians believed that God still gave people dreams. I said “Yes and I help them interpret the dreams.” Instantly, people began to share dreams that they had had and began to ask for interpretations. As I prayed to God for help, I began to interpret their dreams. At the end of the meeting, I led everyone in prayer and released God’s blessings and revelations over them!”

He added; “People often think that it is only amongst Muslims overseas that God is working. This isn’t true.”

- Please pray for the Muslim lady in the café to read the story of Hagar and to truly understand how much God loves and cares for her personally.
- Let’s pray for the Imam and all those present at the mosque, to really know that God is speaking and revealing Himself to them through their dreams.
- Please pray for the seeds that have been sown, that they would find “good soil, grow and produce a crop multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times.” Mark 4:8

## **Wednesday 16th October**

### **Sharing your faith cross-culturally where you live**

The following account is also from a colleague in the UK:

“I used to work in South West Asia reaching out to Muslims. This is where I met my husband and together we worked to fulfill the call on our lives. Now, with my husband and children I have lived in the UK for 6 years.

A lot of our work in outreach is trial and error; making friendships, casting nets to see who is spiritually hungry, prayer walking, loving our neighbours, doing Bible studies in mosques, holding scripture reading meetings, working through marital problems with Muslim friends, helping them through crises, baking cakes, weeping with them, encouraging others, providing 'home' for so many, loving them with Jesus' love...Jesus was so good at tangibly loving others while speaking Truth.

Together with a group of women, I am reaching out in the community and meeting up regularly to share and pray. We are eager to start up some sort of study group that we can invite our Muslim friends to, that teaches Biblical principles and is applicable to current issues in their lives. Please pray as we start something new, that the Lord would guide us and bring those Muslim women looking for Jesus."

Here are 4 simple ways to meet your Muslim neighbour:

1. Ask a Muslim woman in your local shop or supermarket to give you an easy recipe she makes on a Muslim holiday.
  2. Sign up to help teach English at a local college or university.
  3. Visit an ethnic restaurant (such as Lebanese, Bangladeshi, Persian, Turkish, Pakistani, or Nigerian) and introduce yourself to the owners.
  4. Contact a non-profit or refugee agency and volunteer to help settle a Muslim family. See <https://www.welcomechurches.org/> for a great organisation that helps churches with this.
- Let's thank God for faithful Christians here in the UK, whose heart is to come alongside, to love and bless Muslim men, women and their children.
  - Let's pray for God's guidance on this new initiative, that He would bring those Muslim women who are seeking Jesus.
  - If you have Muslim neighbours, but don't feel bold enough or equipped to reach out, ask today for God's help and for the right timing and opportunity. Consider the 4 ways to meet someone and trust God for the outcome.

## Thursday 17th October

### Strategic prayer

*"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."* Col 4:2



Five times a day, the call to prayer rings out around the world. It's the daily soundtrack for 1.8 billion Muslims—and a repeated reminder of the religious obligations instituted by Muhammad, whom they regard as the greatest prophet of God.

But since reaching God through human efforts is impossible, He has reached out to us instead. Through the mercy of Jesus Christ, He

came to us, looking past our failures and extending His arm of salvation to us. This is grace and it forms the basis of our trust in God as a Father who hears His children (1 John 5:14) and who delights to respond to our needs and requests (Hebrews 4:16).

Let's eagerly devote ourselves to prayer (Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17), for the millions of Muslims worldwide who pray with no assurance of salvation or that their prayers will be answered. We still need more churches and groups to Adopt a People Group as part of Frontiers Pray for Zero campaign. Please do get in touch to find out more at [charlotte@frontiers.org.uk](mailto:charlotte@frontiers.org.uk)

Please pray with us:

- For Muslims to be freed from their efforts to earn salvation on their own.
- That men, women and children across the Muslim world will hear the gospel and embrace Christ as Lord and Saviour.
- For more labourers to go and share about Jesus' free gift of eternal life.
- For more churches and groups to commit to praying for an unreached people group.

## **Friday 18th October**

### **Wrestling with your calling and gifting**

Today we consider how God calls individuals into cross-cultural work overseas. This 2 minute video is a great introduction to the topic: <https://vimeo.com/136402610>

Not everyone hears a direct call from God to go overseas to reach the lost. In fact very few of Frontiers workers who have gone overseas heard God speak directly to them. They and many other workers go for different reasons; it often starts with a stirring or restlessness to be involved across cultures in a meaningful and spiritual way.

But when someone begins to consider if God is sending them, the questions can often begin: "But what if..." or "But I'm not..." Many characters in Scripture had the same doubts.

We can often think that those who go overseas are more gifted, more spiritual, more certain of their calling, more adventurous, more caring about the unreached, more obedient to God's plan for their lives. Perhaps some are, but the vast majority are just like you and me. They wonder if they really heard God correctly and if they really can make that leap of faith. In all we do we have to take steps, one small step at a time, trusting that if we are not on the right path, that God will intervene.

Small steps might include asking trusted friends to pray with you, going on a short-term mission trip overseas, or contacting a mission agency. It may include attending a conference such as the one in Oxford about overseas mission to find out more.

The apostles caught God's heart for the nations. It changed the way they lived their lives. It didn't happen overnight but it did happen. And it can happen to you.

- If you feel called to reach out to Muslims whether in your own country or overseas, but are wrestling with your calling and gifting, ask God to give you a fresh revelation of His call on your life.
- Pray about how to discover more, perhaps by going on a short-term trip or contacting a mission agency.
- Ask trusted friends and those in your church to pray for and with you.
- If you know someone who is wrestling with their call, please pray for them over the coming days and weeks, that they may find peace and assurance in God's plan for their life.

Source of most material: *Across the Street and Around the World* by Jeannie Marie.

## Saturday 19th October

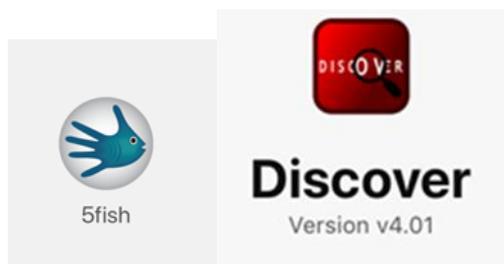
### Tools for your church and small group

*"For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life."* Ps 56:13

Our workshop on tools to help inspire our church and small groups is designed to give resources to help begin to reach out to Muslims locally. These same resources are also used by our overseas workers.

If you are not able to come to the conference, or want to know more beforehand, some of the resources are listed below:

1. The resources include the Friendship First course; 6 sessions designed to equip Christians with the skills and resources needed to be an effective witness to their Muslim friends and neighbours. You can find out more at <http://friendshipfirst.org/>
2. The Jesus Film is a great resource, available in more than 1,500 languages. Find out more at <https://www.jesusfilm.org/strategies-and-tools.html>
3. Journey to Truth is an online 8-part video resource available at <https://www.journeytotruth.tv/> It is available in 12 languages to watch and discuss with your Muslim friends.
4. Apps to share include:



5. "Across the Street and Around the World" by Jeannie Marie (available from Amazon.co.uk – Paperback, Kindle and Audiobook) is a great resource to begin to know how to love and reach Muslim people better, whether home or overseas.
- Please pray for churches and small groups to capture the vision to reach their Muslim neighbours and for these resources to be widely used.
  - Ask for prayer teams to uphold these outreach opportunities, so they will be effective and fruitful.
  - If you know someone in your church or have a friend who may be interested in these resources, please pray they may be willing to promote them so that many more of our Muslim neighbours receive God's truth and hope.