

Confident Christianity Morning

Sharing the Gospel with our Muslim Friends and Neighbours



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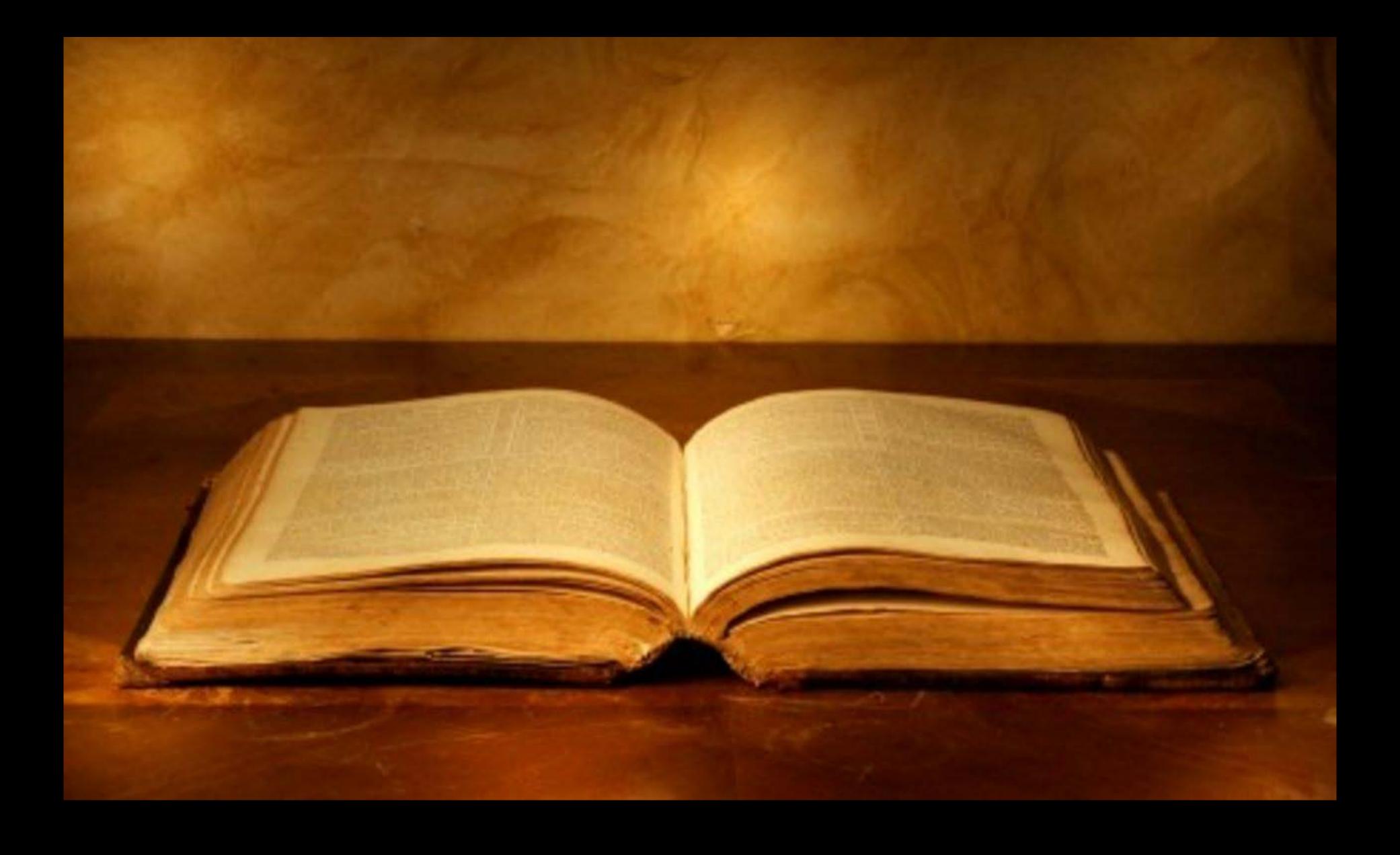


How to Talk to Muslim Friends About Jesus

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Acts 17:16-34

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the market-place day by day with those who happened to be there. A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, 'What is this babbler trying to say?' Others remarked, 'He seems to be advocating foreign gods.' They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, 'May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we would like to know what they mean.' (All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.) Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: 'People of Athens! I see that in

every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship — and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

'The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. "For in him we live and move and have our being." As some of your own

poets have said, "We are his offspring."

'Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone – an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.'

When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, 'We want to hear you again on this subject.'

At that, Paul left the Council. Some of the people became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

1. Take the time to understand





Assessing worldviews

Worldview Question	
Is there a God and what is He like?	
What are human beings?	
What's gone wrong with the world?	
What's the solution?	

Worldview Question

Islamic Answer

Is there a God and what is He like?

Allah. Utterly one, transcendent, unknowable, non-relational.

What are human beings?

Slaves of Allah, flung down from Paradise to earth for disobedience

What's gone wrong with the world?

Allah wants obedience. Humans have disobeyed. Broken law is the issue.

What's the solution?

More commandments (because human beings are forgetful)



1. Take the time to understand

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- 2. Find the points of contact

"For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. Now what you worship as unknown I am going to proclaim to you."

Acts 17:23-24



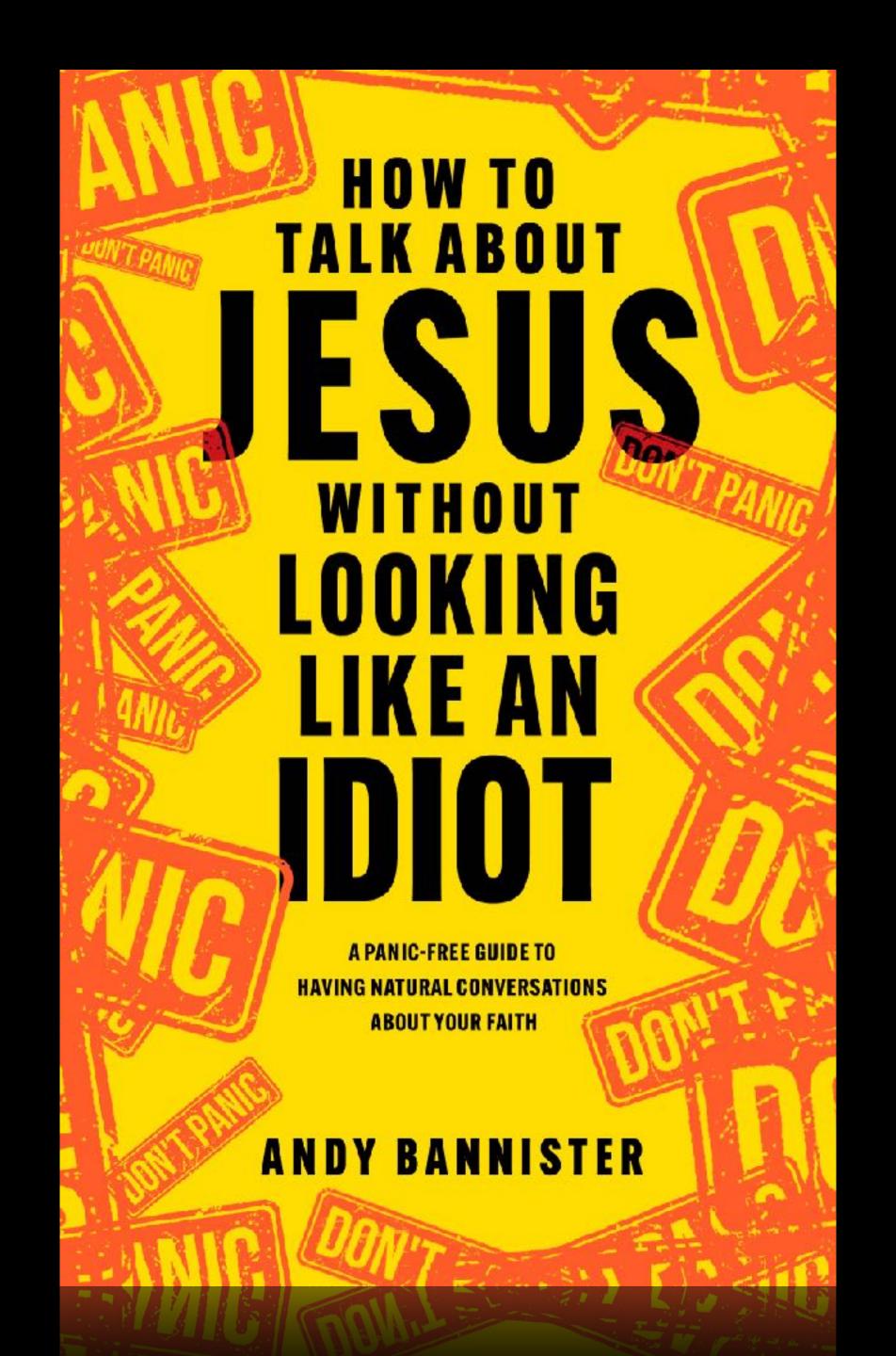
The Qur'an mentions Jesus in about 90 verses—what do you know about Jesus?

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Do you believe that Allah is a God of love?

How do you think that love has been demonstrated?

Yes, I do



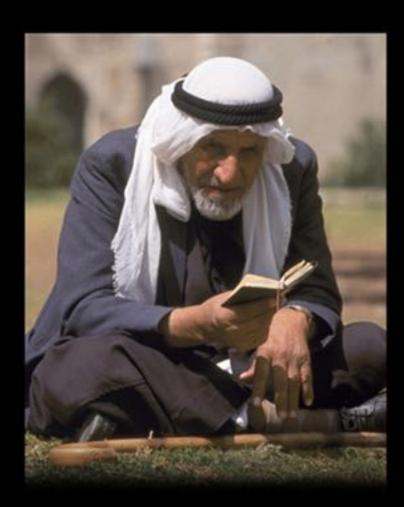
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- 2. Find the points of contact
- 3. Don't be afraid to offer a critique

Updated & Revised

ANSWERING ISLAM

The Crescent in Light of the Cross



NORMAN L. GEISLER ABDUL SALEEB



(Narrated Aisha) "The Prophet used to say: "Oh Allah! I seek refuge from You from laziness and geriatric old age, from all kinds of sins and from being in debt ... Oh Allah! Wash away my sins with the water of snow and hail, and cleanse my heart from all the sins as a white garment is cleansed from the filth, and let there be a long distance between me and my sins, as You made East and West far from each other."

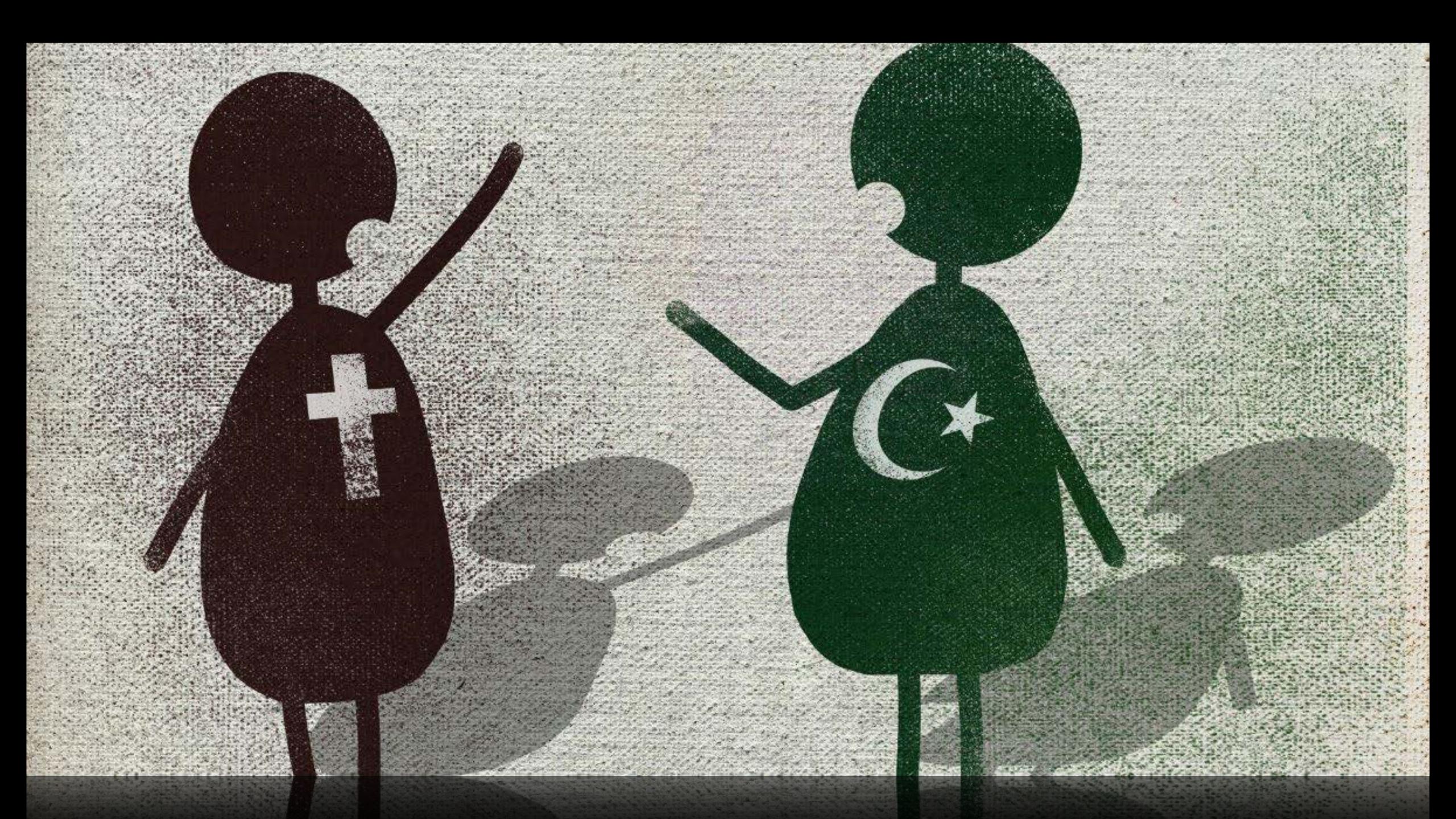
Sahih Bukhari 75.379 (cf. Bukhari 12.711; 75:386; 75:388)

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- 3. Don't be afraid to offer a critique
- 4. Get the topic to Jesus as quickly as you can

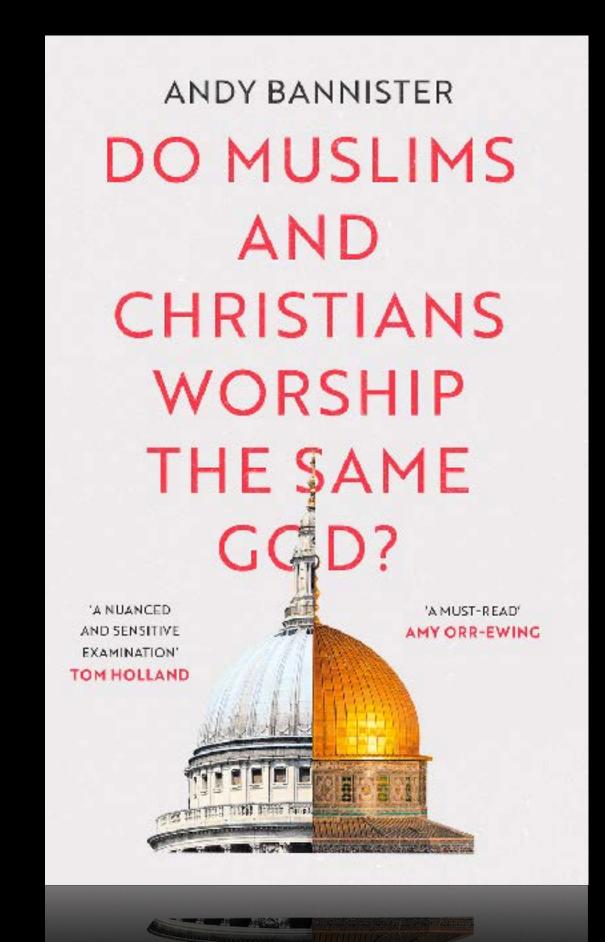
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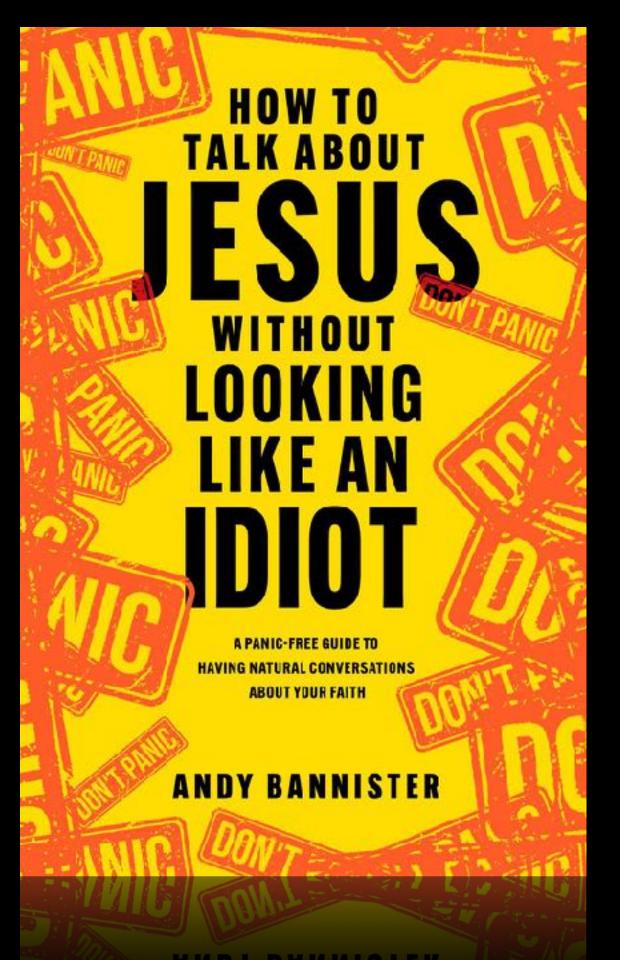




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Acts 17:32-34









Got questions?

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