



I. What's at stake in a conversation featuring Islam and Christianity?

- Jesus invites us to _____ in our neighbors rather than merely acquaint ourselves with them.
"...You shall name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard of your misery..." She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me." Genesis 16:11b, 13 (NIV)
- Islam is rooted in a story that is born out of _____.
But God said to [Abraham], "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring." Genesis 21:12–13 (NIV)
God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation." Genesis 21:17–18 (NIV)
- God shows us what will forever be the unfolding tension between the people of Israel and "_____."

II. Islam's History

- Islam is the youngest of the faiths we are learning about in this sermon series (mid 7th century)
- Begins with prophet, Mohammed, in Mecca (Saudi Arabia)
- Born into a life of tragedy and poverty
- The central shrine in Mecca was the Ka'bah
- Prominently grew out of Arabic-speaking countries, thus God is referred to as "Allah"
- Mohammed and followers travel to Medina where the Islamic state is born
- Mohammed was a political figure and a warrior
- A collection of Mohammed's sayings are contained in the Qur'an

Historical themes in common with Christianity:

- _____, the belief in one God, merits stability.
- _____ authority disrupts the state of things.
- Prophet voices often begin with a _____.

III. Beliefs

- Muslims live out their faith primarily through what they know as the _____ of Islam. Much of these have parallels with Christian spiritual disciplines:
 - Belief
 - Prayer
 - Fasting
 - Charity
 - Pilgrimage

IV. Notable Differences

- Scripture is our means to salvation through our understanding of the saving work of God in Jesus Christ.

VS

The Qur'an, or "_____", is God's direct, first-person revelation to Muslims.

- In Christianity, Jesus is the Son of God.

VS

In Islam, Jesus is a recognized _____.

- The _____ is the critical event that marks our forgiveness of sins.

VS

Muslims believe God's _____ can forgive our sins without the need for the death and resurrection of Jesus.

V. Approaching Islam in a Post-9/11 World

- Islam, meaning "submission" or "surrender," is linguistically close to the word for "_____."
- The word "_____" has been unfairly positioned in our language.
- Most faiths are not without groups or individuals who have perverted the very tenets of their beliefs in poor ways.
"Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Acts 8:30b–31 (NIV)
- _____ are a serious and delicate matter.
- Our call as Christians is to share Christ, but above all else, to _____ Christ to one another.