



Youth Summit Beyond Islam: *Understanding Muslims in Our Communities and Beyond* October 8, 2005

Questions from the Small Groups

1. What are the differences between Islam and Sikh?
2. Do they eat different foods from us?
3. What holidays do Muslims celebrate?
4. Is it appropriate for a Muslim woman to go without a hijab?
5. Can a Muslim wear a "doo rag"?
6. Can Muslims dance?
7. Do Muslims have to marry other Muslims?
8. What is the punishment when Muslims break their traditions?
9. Why can't Muslims wear weaves?
10. Why can't we [Muslims] celebrate Christian holidays?
11. What can't you wear an overgarment but still show your hair?
12. How do you know the Q'uran has never been changed?
13. Why do people become Muslim?
14. Why can't you eat pork?
15. Why do we have to cover ourselves?
16. Why can't we get a tattoo?
17. What happened to Noah's Arc after the flood?
18. Why do women wear hijab?
19. Does Hallelujah contain "Allah"?
20. How does the lunar calendar work?
21. Are mosques exclusively Shiite or Sunni?
22. What are the different branches of Islam?
23. Why do Muslims practice Ramadan?
24. How similar are the messages from the Bible and the Koran?
25. What happens in a mosque? What do you do in a mosque?
26. Explain: why praying on Friday?
27. Are employers in the US and other countries understanding of the rituals (prayers) of non-Muslims?
28. Are Muslims allowed to marry non-Muslims?
29. Does Islam allow divorce?
30. To Muslims in Seattle: do you encounter a lot of prejudice?
31. Do girls have to cover their hair? Is there any choice?
32. Is there a sense of community among Muslims all over the world?
33. Can Muslims have multiple wives?
34. What kind of food restrictions are there?
35. What do non-Muslims think "jihad" means? What do people think about the way the media use the term?

Messages about Islam from the Small Groups

- Islam is a religion of peace and equality among people of all races, religions, etc.
- Just because some Muslims do bad things does not mean that all Muslims do.
- Fasting (SAWM) – sunrise to sunset; no food or drink; follows lunar calendar
- SLM – 3 Arabic Letters = "peace"
iSLaM, muSLiM, As-SaLaam Alaykum;
jeruSaLeM "Gate of Peace"
- Recognize the diversity in Islam.
- The inner peace that a Muslim feels is one of the greatest gifts of Islam
- Responsibility comes before Rights.
- Islam is all about devotion and submission to the one God Allah.
- "Change the world around."
- Allah = God (not a separate God)