

THE WEEKLY

New Life Small Group Guide

**Was Jesus a Muslim?
(John 1:1-34)
For groups meeting
Feb. 7-13, 2016**

1-week break from The Gospel Project! For next time encourage your people to read Leviticus 1-4.

WELCOME (15 minutes)

- **Ice Breaker:** How often do you vacuum out your vehicle?

WORSHIP (10 minutes)

- Sing #11, "No Longer Slaves" from the **2016 Small Group Worship CD**.

WIN (15 minutes)

- **PRAY** for your list of people who need to know Jesus as their Savior!
- **PLAN** something to do to reach out together to these people.

WORD (25 minutes)

1. What did you learn or find intriguing about what the Qur'an says about Jesus versus what the Bible has to say about Him?
2. The Muslim belief that Jesus, the Messiah, did not physically die on the cross is similar to false teachings Paul battled that were going around the church at Colossi. False teachers were teaching that Jesus did not physically die on the cross and Paul counters them in Colossians 1:19-22. Have someone read this and talk about Paul's argument that it really matters that Jesus fully died physically to pay for our sins! WHY IS THE BODILY DEATH OF JESUS SO IMPORTANT? (You'd do well to also read Paul's additional thoughts in 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 and 12-17.)
3. Muslims believe there is no need for a substitutionary blood sacrifice - that Allah simply forgives who he chooses on the basis of our works-based performance. Have someone read aloud Galatians 2:15-16 & 21 and also 3:21-22 and contrast this idea with what the Bible says. Why does Paul's understanding of our hopeless condition on our own lead to seeing Jesus' death for us as such "good news" (Gospel)?
4. Have someone read aloud John 1:1-5 and 14-18 where John presents Jesus as the uncreated, pre-existent, eternal, Living Word - fully God - who participated in the creation of the world and came to reveal what God is really like. What significance is it to you that Jesus is truly God - not merely an important servant of His? Why is this understanding significant to John the Baptist's statements in John 1:29 and 35-36?
5. A lot of theology and deeper thought in this study - In just 1 sentence, what's your personal application to any of this?

WORKS (25 minutes)

- Break into smaller groups of **2 or 3's of the same gender** to pray for each other.