

Ramadan

— April —

We long to see God raise up disciples in Bosnia who multiply; making disciples who make disciples.

~Below you will find a suggested amount of time for each segment of your meeting, but don't feel bound by these suggestions. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead your prayer time together.

10 Minutes- Mix and Mingle

Use this time to catch up and get settled before your time of prayer.

10 Minutes- Praise

Before taking time to intercede, praise God for who He is and how He has recently shown Himself to you.

Speak His names out loud (God, You are Savior, You are King, etc.), and His character (God, Your love is unconditional, You are always present).

Praise God for the ways He has been working in and through You. (God, thank You for providing for my family, Thank You for giving me patience yesterday, etc.)

10 Minutes- Personal Surrender and Confession

Personal Surrender

Before interceding on behalf of the people of Bosnia, surrender the worries of your life that may distract you during this prayer time. Take a moment to write down on a piece of paper any concerns that are on your mind. Is it your finances? Is it a relationship? Jot that down. Then in your heart, give these concerns over to the Lord.

Confession

Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you of any disbelief or sin that you have been giving in to. Take a moment in your heart to confess these to the Lord and receive His grace and forgiveness.

*15 Minutes- Prayer through the Word

Theme - Ramadan

This month we are asking God to reveal Himself to the Muslim people of Bosnia- as they fast and pray.

Romans 10:1-3

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

Prayer Points for Bosnia

- God, please give believers in Bosnia a heart's desire to see Muslims come to know You.
- God, we ask You to embolden believers in Bosnia to boldly share Your righteousness with others.
- God, devout Muslims in Bosnia are zealous to worship God. Open their eyes to Your truth, grace, and righteousness through Jesus.

Acts 2:16-18

No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

Prayer Points for Bosnia

- God, as Muslims fast and pray this month, give them visions and dreams revealing who You really are.
- God, we ask You to pour Your Spirit into believers in Bosnia - raise up prophets to proclaim Your truth.
- God, we ask You to bring whole families to Yourself during this month.

*15 Minutes- Intercession for Bosnia

Below are some insights on Ramadan and Bosniak Muslims.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

What is Ramadan?

Ramadan is a very special time for Muslims around the world. This year Ramadan will be from Sunday, May 5th to Tuesday, June 4th. During these 30 days, Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Often times Muslims will gather with others (family and/or friends) to break their fast by praying and enjoying a meal together.

Why Ramadan?

Muslims celebrate Ramadan to commemorate the first time they believe the Quran was revealed to Muhammad. "Ramadan is a time of spiritual reflection, improvement and increased devotion and worship... The act of fasting is said to redirect the heart away from worldly activities, its purpose being to cleanse the soul by freeing it from harmful impurities. Ramadan also teaches Muslims how to better practice self-discipline, self-control, sacrifice, and empathy for those who are less fortunate; thus encouraging actions of generosity and compulsory charity."

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramadan>)

Bosniak Muslims

According to Joshua Project, there are 2,890,300 Bosniak Muslims, with only a little over half of these living in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Due to war, ethnic cleansing, and the economy, many Bosniak's have fled or immigrated to 23 other countries around the world. Because of Bosnia's unique location between western and eastern culture, Bosniak Muslims are considered to be some of the most advanced Islamic peoples of the world.

10 Minutes – Listening Prayer

On a blank piece of paper, ask the Lord the following questions. Be still and listen. Write down any words or thoughts that come to mind.

- God, what are Your desires for the Muslim people of Bosnia?
- God, how can I pray specifically for Muslims during Ramadan this year?

After jotting down these thoughts, share them with a partner or your group. Now spend time praying to God for the things He has put on your heart.

5 Minutes- Closing

We want to hear from you. Take a moment to debrief your prayer time. Are there themes, thoughts or passages that God has laid on your heart for the people of Bosnia? Take a moment to write these down as a group and give them to your small group facilitator. (Small group facilitator- please email these to your contact person in Bosnia.)