

Email

Dear Friend,

This week we are praying into the theme of students in the UK and overseas. Over 235 million students were enrolled in universities or other forms of higher education in 2020. This number represents young adults all across the globe and we want to pray into both reaching students with the gospel of Jesus, but also sending out students from the UK to the many Muslim nations represented in this number.

You are also invited to come and learn about the incredible things God is doing in the Muslim world! Join us in High Wycombe on Saturday 23rd November from 9.30-4pm. It's a free event and a light lunch will be provided. Hear stories from our field workers, and those preparing to go and be envisioned and equipped through testimonies, worship, prayer and training. The day will include breakout seminars exploring topics such as fruitful practices reaching Muslims (both overseas and in the UK), how to be sent and send well into long-term mission, and praying for the Muslim world. You can book here:

<http://geni.us/frontiers2024>

May God bless you as you pray and intercede this week.

For His glory in the nations,

Charlotte and Richard

Prayer Mobilisation Team

Monday 16th September

Students



Over 235 million students were enrolled globally in higher education in 2020, more than double the 100 million students enrolled 20 years ago. This increase has been particularly seen in Asia.

In the UK alone there were 2,937,155 students enrolled in 2022-23, which is slightly more than the entire population of Manchester.

This makes students a significant percentage of the population, and we want to cover them in prayer.

Many Muslim students also come to the UK to study, and we want to pray that they would meet Christians who would welcome them and bless them, demonstrating the love of Jesus to them in actions and words.

Prayer

- Pray that students around the world would encounter Jesus and choose to follow him.
- Pray for the many Muslim students in the UK that they would be welcomed and blessed by Christians around them.
- Pray that students in the UK would be passionate about reaching the ends of the earth and that many of them

would be sent out to the unreached places of the world.

<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9840/>

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/news/08-08-2024/higher-education-student-statistics-uk-202223-released>

For more information see.

<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>

Tuesday 17th September



Forum

One of the areas of ministry that we at Frontiers in the UK are involved in is working with Christian students at the many universities and colleges around the country. We attend various Christian Unions throughout the year where we talk about reaching Muslims with the good news in some of the most challenging places around the world. And we often get to do training and equipping on how to interact well with Muslims on campus. Many of the students we met have Muslims in their halls and classes, some from countries around the world that are hard to get access to with long-term visas.

Recently we attended the annual CU leaders event called Forum, run by UCCF. It is incredibly inspiring to see 900 young leaders, the next generation, worshipping, praying and learning how to introduce Jesus effectively to their peers. And it was such a joy to speak to so many of them who came to talk to us about what we do and what we can offer them.

Many young people are interested in using their gifts, skills, degrees and hobbies to serve overseas. Some are completely unaware of the huge need, some are unaware that mission agencies like ours exist. Some have done short-term trips and have begun to sense the beginnings of a call to global

mission. One new thing that we're seeing is that more and more diaspora 2nd-3rd generation believers are interested in going. For example we met someone from Iran who came to faith in the UK from a Muslim background, a Syrian Christian who wanted to stay in touch with us and the son of a Pakistani Muslim-background-believer - all fascinated in the work we have been called to.

Please pray for more and more students to be bold in sharing their faith with Muslims, both here and overseas. And for many more from diaspora churches in the UK to be willing to go, to take up this beautiful gift of 'leaving the 99 and going after the 1'.

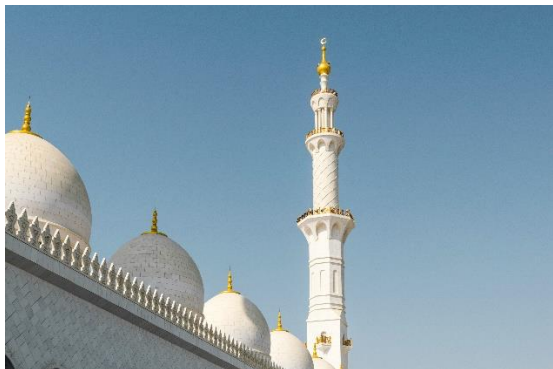
Prayer

- Give thanks for UCCF's strong commitment to encouraging the students to consider all peoples and the importance of global mission.
- Pray for many more Heart for Nations groups to spring up across the UK at universities and colleges. (These are groups of students praying for and specifically reaching out to internationals on campus and taking short-term mission trips.)

For more information see

<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>

Wednesday 18th September



We stood on the flat roof of a two-story school, warming ourselves in the spring sunshine.

Sarah, a long-term field worker, pointed toward the city centre of Al Jadid, the small, conservative city a short distance away. Fields bursting with the bright green of new shoots lay between us and Al Jadid.

“There’s the madrassa, the Islamic university,” Sarah explained to me and the two others on my small short-term team. “And that minaret belongs to the world’s largest mosque for this branch of Islam.”

From our vantage on the roof, we could see the slender white minaret rising out of the heart of Al Jadid.

When Sarah first came to the country, she was serving on a Frontiers team in the capital city. But then she felt God leading her to start a new team in an unengaged city. As a spiritually significant town where no long-term workers had ever lived, Al Jadid stirred her heart. Sarah prayed for an open door to move to Al Jadid. Through her local network of relationships, she found a perfect job opportunity—a teaching position at the school where we now stood.

We piled into a taxi so Sarah could take us to the madrassa. On the way, Sarah shared that Al Jadid’s madrassa is the largest university in

the world for students belonging to this particular stream of Islam.

“Students come from all across the globe,” she explained. “That’s why this little town has so much influence in the Muslim world.”

As we toured the university, Sarah told us how its teachers promote a strict but peaceful form of fundamentalist Islam. Devotees see it as their duty to call nominal Muslims to adhere more strictly to orthodox practices. Inside a gathering hall in the centre of the campus, we stood beneath the vast expanse of a large dome.

“Imagine this hall filled with students representing unengaged people groups from all over the Muslim world,” Sarah said. “The students here will be welcomed back to their home communities as elite scholars. Imagine them sitting here and hearing the Gospel and responding to Jesus Christ. If they take the Gospel back to their home countries and teach others to follow Christ, then the potential impact is massive.”

Leaving the madrassa, Sarah described her life as a single woman in the conservative town. She shared about the people she lives with, a poor but respected family who leases her a small room in their compound.

“The men treat me like a sister,” she said. “They look out for me and take care of me.” Sarah doesn’t go out in public unless escorted by one of these “brothers” or by a trusted taxi driver. Like other women in the town, she rarely leaves home except to go to work.

“I don’t even go to the market,” she said. “I hire someone to do my grocery shopping.”

Back in her small room in her local family’s compound, Sarah made us tea on a gas burner. Her room had no running water and the shared bathroom is in the courtyard. She showed us one of her few luxuries: a small fridge.

“It’s not easy living here,” Sarah said, “This lifestyle isn’t for everyone.” In fact, if

someone had told her beforehand that she'd be living such a restricted and rustic life, she wouldn't have agreed to it.

But Sarah counts it a privilege to live in such a spiritually influential town. She's helping fulfil an urgent need for workers to come and share Christ with Muslims from so many places around the world.

"When it comes down to it, I don't mind the restrictions of life here," Sarah said. Her eyes sparkling, she added, "Sometimes I even think it's fun."

- Ask the Lord to call more faithful men and women to serve in Al Jadid and share Christ.
- Pray that students at the madrassa will read the Word and discover that Jesus has made a way for us to stand righteous before God.
- Pray for men, women, and children in Al Jadid to have dreams of Jesus that point them to the truth of His message.

<https://frontiersusa.org/blog/reach-one-city>

For more information see

<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>

Thursday 19th September



welcome them and represent Jesus well to them.

For more information see

<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>

Over 600,000 international students study at UK universities and some 550,000 come to study English in language schools.

Approximately 23% of the student populations are international students. Organisations like Friends International do an amazing job at welcoming students and representing Christ to them.

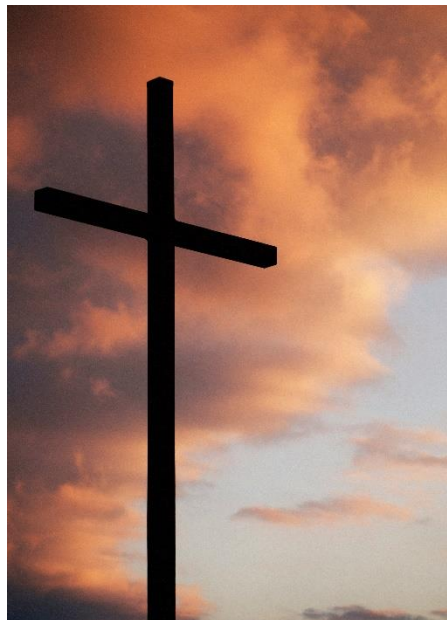
Many Muslim students come to the UK and most will never have encountered Christians or the gospel before. This gives the church a unique opportunity to bless these students and demonstrate Christ's love to them, as well as sharing Jesus with them.

Many students have been greatly blessed by being welcomed into families and churches, and this has transformed the way that they view Christianity and believers in Jesus.

Prayer

- Pray that Muslim students would be welcomed by other students, and by churches and families.
- Pray that Muslim students would get to see and hear the love of Christ through the actions of the church and Christians around them.
- Pray that UK students that follow Jesus would grow a heart for international students and would

Friday 20th September



The Context of the Cross

“Professor, can we look at your Bible?” asked Omar, one of Andre’s new university students. “You said you always have it with you. Can we see what it says?”

Andre, a Frontiers worker, had just wrapped up the first day of English class for the new semester when Omar and his classmate Faisal approached him. Andre pulled out an Arabic New Testament from his bag and handed it to Omar. This was exactly the type of interaction he hoped would happen each time he gave his testimony to a new class of students and shared how Christ has transformed his life.

“Is there something I can help you two find?” he asked the students.

They smiled nervously, shook their heads, and stepped away to flip through the pages of the Bible. As Andre gathered his teaching notes, he thought about the Muslim students who had come to him over the years, asking for a Bible just like Omar and Faisal did. Some of these students had been curious about what

Christians believe. A few wanted to find biblical evidence to support their belief in Islam as the true religion. Others were seeking the hope of the Gospel. No matter the reason for their interest, Andre rejoiced in these opportunities to invite his students to discover Jesus and start following Him.

The two students were whispering loudly. Andre heard one of them explain that they needed to find a certain passage about God promising to send the Holy Spirit. If they found the right verse, then they could convince Christians that Muhammad was the true fulfillment of this promise. Andre figured they were looking for John 14:26.

“I can help you find the verse,” Andre jumped in. “But first, can we talk about something else?”

He pulled together some chairs and invited Omar and Faisal to sit down with him. He told them the story of Adam and about the human problem with sin. Then Andre shared how Abraham nearly sacrificed his son. He finished with the story of Moses and the first Passover. After sharing these stories, Andre explained how God used an animal sacrifice in each one to bring people into right relationship with Him.

Omar and Faisal knew about Adam, Abraham, and Moses—figures who appear in the Quran. But what the Quran doesn’t offer is the sure hope of salvation that is so central to the biblical narrative. The two young men had never seen the connection between sacrifice and redemption.

“The real sacrifice is Christ,” Andre explained. “The other sacrifices were simply hinting at Jesus’ sacrifice to come.” He showed Omar and Faisal John 1:29, in which John the Baptist declares, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

“Jesus knew He would die,” Andre continued. “He came for that purpose. On the cross, He chose to lay down His life in sacrifice. Then He rose to life, redeeming us and promising to raise us with Him.”

“If this is true, then Jesus’ death on the cross makes sense,” Faisal said. “I want to hear more.”

Omar and Faisal have continued meeting with Andre to study the Bible and learn about Jesus. They’ve also invited him to visit their homes to share the Gospel with their families. Praise God for opening their hearts to the power of Jesus’ death and resurrection.

- Pray that Omar and Faisal will continue seeking Jesus and surrender their lives to Him as Lord and Savior.
- Ask the Lord to work in Muslim families and draw entire households into the Kingdom.
- Pray for Frontiers workers to share the Gospel with clarity so that Muslims will hear and receive it with joy.

<https://frontiersusa.org/blog/context-of-the-cross>

For more information see
<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>

Saturday 21st September



Short term trips

Youssef was the first Muslim I ever met. He did not fit my expectations for how a Muslim might act.

I met him on a short visit to his city in Morocco. As he gave me a tour of his hometown, Youssef described going to wild parties and joked about picking up women. He pointed out the beautiful women we passed and made inappropriate comments about them. Then he'd talk about his wife. This was not the picture of piety I expected from a religious man.

During lunch, the call to prayer sounded from a minaret near our restaurant. "I'll be back," Youssef said. "I must go to pray."

He returned a few minutes later, joking with his buddy over something crass, seemingly unfazed by the spiritual exercise he had just participated in.

Youssef isn't all that different from other people I know back home. They do the religion thing on Sunday and then get on with life. It's just part of what they do.

People like this are missing out on so much more. But back home, there's a church on

nearly every corner—and they might even show up in one on a regular basis. They still have a good chance of encountering the power of Jesus Christ to transform their lives.

But Youssef? His situation is different. He lives in a country where there isn't a church on every corner—where a tangible witness for Jesus is hard to find. Hundreds of millions of Muslims like Youssef live in places where they have no access to a church or a Bible.

If Youssef is going to find Jesus in his town, it won't be because he wandered into a church. It will be because someone sought him out intentionally. It will require someone coming into his life and showing him another way.

One day every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord (Romans 14:11). Before that day comes, Muslims need to hear the Good News. And for that to happen, they need witnesses for Jesus to go and live among them.

Someone still needs to move into these places and share Christ with people like my friend Youssef.

Prayer

- Pray for students to go on short term trips and get to meet local Muslims.
- Pray for many students to be envisioned to go to Muslim nations and share Jesus with the people they meet there.
- Pray for more students to join prayer groups, praying for the Muslim world.

<https://www.frontiersusa.org/blog/my-moroccan-friend-needs-you>

For more information see:

<https://www.frontiers.org.uk/latest/pray-now.php>