RAMADAN PRAYER INITIATIVE

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What is Ramadan

- 1. It is the ninth month of the year according to the Islamic calendar which is regarded as the holiest month.
- 2. It is believed that the Qur'an was first revealed in this month
- 3. It is one of the five pillars of Islam



They are instructed to fast according to the following verses

- al-Baqarah 2:183
- Oh you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you may learn piety and righteousness" The most honoured by Allah amongst you are those best in taqwa."(al-Hujurat (49):13)
- ..And it is better for you that ye fast, if ye only knew." (Q 2:184)



Islamic viewpoint on Ramadan Fasting

- **1.** For the forgiveness of sins (Imam Bukhari 1:37).
- 2. A special gate into paradise called ar-Rayyan. On the Day of Resurrection it will say: 'Where are those who fasted?' When the last [one] has passed through the gate, it will be locked." [Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim].

3. A sure way to paradise

Abu Umaamah r.a.a. said: I said: 'O Messenger of Allah (saw), tell me of an action by which I may enter Paradise'. He said: 'Take to Fasting, there is nothing like it.' [Imam Nasai', Ibn Hibbaan, Al-Haakim, Sahih]

- 4. It is the month of blessing [Imam Tabarani]
- 5. When in Hell those who fasted will be protected "Fasting is a shield with which a servant protects himself from the Fire." [Imam Ahmad, Sahih]

6. The Supplication of the Fasting Person is Answered

"There are in the month of Ramadan in every day and night those to whom Allah grants freedom from the Fire, and there is for every Muslim an supplication which he can make and will be granted."Al-Bazzar and Ahmad. Sahih

- **7. Fasting is a shield against one's desires** al-Bukhaari, 1894; Muslim, 1151
 - 8. The devils are chained.

Sahih al-Bukhari 31: 123; Sahih Muslim Book 6, Number 2361:

Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying: When there comes the month of Ramadan, <u>the</u> <u>gates of mercy are opened</u>, and the <u>gates of Hell are locked</u> <u>and the devils are chained</u>,

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What each Muslim is requred to do

- 1. To fast for 12 hours during the day
- 2. To perform prayer 5 times a day, plus other sunnah (traditional) prayers
- 3. To read Qur'an all the 30 parts of the Qur'an are called Juzu, each Juzu per day
- 4. To help those in need
- 5. To be devoted to reading the Qur'an



Missional implications

- Majority of them are devoted to spiritual matters by;
- 1. Spending more time in prayer and study of scriptures
- 2. Exercising humility
- They are also very friendly and open to visitors



GCAMR Office

- The office established Ramadan prayers for the following objectives:
- To pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the lives of our M friends so that God may send them dreams and visions during this month of Ramadan
- To pray for our M friends and relatives that God will reveal himself in miraculous ways, through healing and deliverance.
- Our members may join their friends Ms in their fasting and look for opportunities to share the love of Christ.
- To reach out to Muslim families who cannot afford *iftar* and help them.
- To equip our members to look for ways where they can engage with their M friends in a spiritual discussion.

The focus

1. Praye for people groups in the cities list on the Ramadan Prayer Diary.

2. Prayer for Muslim acquintances

3. Prayer for AMR leaders and work in different territories

4. Sharing a meal with Muslim neigbours

5. Prepare and share Iftar for Muslim in your communities

6. Study scriptures with M friends

7. Join the Ramadan Global Prayer sessions to be conducted from April 22nd to May 1, 2022-Link shall be provided

وَيَرْزُقُهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَخْتَسِبُ وَمَن يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَالِغُ أَمْرٍهِ قَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لِكُلَّ شَيْءٍ قَدْرَ وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ وَمَن يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ بَالغُ أَمْرِهِ قَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ لِكُلِّ شَىْءٍ قَدْرً And He provides for him from (source) he never could imagine. And if any puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him. For Allah will surely accomplish his purpose: verily, for all things has Allah appointed a due proportion (at-Talaq 65:3) And He provides for him from (source) he never could imagine. And if any puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is (Allah) for him. For Allah will surely accomplish his purpose: verily, for all things has Allah appointed a due proportion (at-Talag 65:3)

Ensure you receive a daily Ramadan Qur'an verse ecard for sharing with M friends



Purpose of the ecard

- Most people have found the ecard act as an ice breaker for spiritual conversation.
- Therefore, you are expected to share with a Muslim friend or family member (s) a recipe to ignite a spiritual conversation
- It helps to connect with your Muslim friend (s) daily in a natural way.
- The ecards have an inscription of verses from the Qur'an which are carefully selected and might have a common message with the Bible, acting as a bridge. This can help you to share and discuss the verse with your Muslim friend.
- Sometimes If your friend has no prior knowledge about your faith may be tempted to ask you a question such as "are you a Muslim?' Such questions act as a key to starting a spiritual conversation.

2022 Ramadan Prayers Plan

Date: April 2nd to May 2nd, 2022

Focus : Major cities with a high Muslim population: In ECD two cities have been selected (Addis Ababa in Ethiopia and Mombasa in Kenya)

Daily prayer session for and with Muslim acquintances

Daily Qur'an verse quotation for sharing with Muslim friends

New component: The last 10 days (April 25th April to May 2nd, 2022) we are organizing for online Global Ramadan prayers to be facilitated by GCAMR Office and selected Divisions

Each member to be encouraged to

- 1. Identify and make a list of at least two M friends to pray for daily and communicate regularly including sending the ecard
- 2. To identify the needs of M's friends, family members, or neighbors and try to address them.
- 3. To support the needy family with food stuff. Churches can organize a community Iftar
- 4. Pray that God may visit your friends through dreams and visions
- 5. Pray for opportunities to share the love and truth of God



Ramadan Prayer Initiative report form to be used at Local church, Conference, Union and Division Levels

Name of the Davision/Union/Conference _____

Date submitted _____

Name of the AMR Leader/Director _____

	Activity	Total
1	Number of members involved in the Ramadan Prayer Intiative	
2	Number of prayer groups formed	
3	Number of Muslim friends/Family members/Work associates being prayed for	
4	Number of Muslims helped	
5	Number of answered prayer	
6	Number of Interests	
7	Number of ecards sent to M friends/Family members/Work associates	
	Numbee of literature distributed to Ms	
8	Number of scripture studies conducted	
9	Number of Ms Baptismed	

Noted: Send this report to the AMR Director at the next higher organization weekly during the month of Ramadan

