



# THE LILIAS TROTTER CENTER

Enabling thoughtful Christian Engagement with Muslims

June 2020

## MINISTRY in a time of COVID-19



*“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty” (Winston Churchill).*

To say that this global pandemic has been a difficulty is an understatement— so much loss, grief, hardship and sorrow— But, as is the way with God, He can bring beauty from ashes.

As the world came to a grinding halt in March, Don, Benjamin and Gail were able to organize and connect LTC resources to dozens and dozens of missionaries serving in Muslim contexts. In a matter of days we launched two 8-week graduate-level courses through [Wesley Biblical Seminary](#): Islamic Foundations: A Christian Analysis of the Qur'an and the Biography of Muhammad (taught by Benjamin) and Christian Engagement with Muslims (taught by Don).

We also made our video series, “Advancing the Impossible” available in a Google Classroom.

In addition, we set up two weekly sessions on Zoom for people around the world to call in and ask any questions they had related to Islam and ministry among Muslims. We’ve had wonderfully rich conversations and sweet fellowship! At times we’ve had 30+ people on the line!

One Zoom session will continue on Thursdays with a series of special guests that we’re calling LTC Face-to-Face. [Click here for more information](#) if you’re interested in accessing any of these resources!

*“The Islamic Foundations class ... has given me a hunger and thirst to know more of my traditional beliefs, and be more gracious and compassionate to Muslims— especially those who are coming to faith. And also, to abide more than before in Jesus and his teachings as the only reality. Everything else is a shadow.” –P.M.*

*“I’ve probably never invested as much time and work as a class auditor but your excellent instruction has motivated me to dig deeper. I have greatly benefitted from your perspectives and insights and enjoyed the interaction with the other students. Thanks very much for helping all of us learn so much about Islam and effective Christian interaction with Muslims.” –J.M.*

*“Christian Engagement with Muslims was a great experience. My thinking and understanding have expanded significantly, as has my heart’s capacity to love and pursue Muslims. The timing was perfect as all survey trips, the short term team visits, and my travel for the spring and summer had been canceled allowing me the time to study.” –O.K.*

*“I want to say thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and efforts to bless us through the **online Q&A sessions** during this strange time. I am so thankful to you, the LTC, and to God who made all your plans possible. I learned a lot and benefited from your input as well as the guest speakers and our friends all over the world. I wish I had done this before I went to South Sudan, but I am sure ... God will still open the door for me to reach out to our Muslim friends in the future. I know nothing is wasted. I was so happy when I received your email that you will continue the Zoom meetings. Thank you so much for your act of kindness to continue blessing us without any cost. God will bless you abundantly.” –B.T.*

**What's next?** - All of our plans to serve partners such as [CAPRO](#), [LifeChallenge](#) and [West Africa Theological Seminary](#) are on hold... We have to wait and see how the situation with international travel changes in the coming weeks and months in order to make decisions about courses for the remainder of 2020. We'll keep you posted...

**New Course!** - Don will be teaching *Discipling and Planting Churches among Muslims* through Wesley Biblical Seminary starting in August. Interested? More information can be found [here](#).

**Ramadan Prayer**—Perhaps you, like tens of thousands of Christians around the world, participated in some sort of prayer focus for Muslims during Ramadan? Write and tell us about your experiences. Gail was privileged to write seven new web page summaries for unreached people groups for [Prayercast](#) for their "Love Muslims" initiative. Please don't stop praying! Check out this exciting story about the power of persistent prayer from the life of Liliias Trotter on [Miriam Rockness's blog](#).

### THE LILIAS TROTTER CENTER

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A ministry of **PIONEERS**



*Deep thanks for your partnership in this ministry! -Benjamin, Gail and Don.*

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