How to inspire prayer in your group

Resources:

- Keep informed of those connected with your prayer group/location who are working in Muslim contexts. Invite them to share when that's possible. Build relationship between intercessors and those they're praying for.
- Muslim world – there are masses of resources. Too much information can make it difficult to pray, so be selective.
- Local knowledge – how many mosques in your area? What sort of mosques? Who are the imams? Pray for them by name. Muslim communities – ethnicity? Brand of Islam? What are their issues/challenges?
- Special events – Ramadan, night of power, eids, etc. What's going on in Muslim communities that you can pray for? What are churches doing that you can bring a Muslim focused aspect to?
- Pray for those who have come to faith from Islam – invite any locally to meet with you if appropriate

Practical Ideas:

- Have a plan – you can always change it!
- Vary the menu (eg. personal/local, national, international)
- What do people in your group care about? Pray for Muslim friends by name.
- Incorporate worship – big requests require us to remember we have a great God
- Remember to be thankful – feedback on answered prayer where possible
- Develop persistence/perseverance – we may never know how our prayers are answered but we keep praying
- Vary styles and patterns
    - Stay in a large group
    - Pairs/3's/small groups
    - Move around
    - Don't be afraid of silence
    - Give time to listening/reflecting
    - Speak out together
    - Declaration
    - Imagination (eg. how do you think it feels to be a Muslim woman unwelcome at the mosque? How does it feel to be a moderate Muslim in Britain today?)
    - Be visual – use maps, pictures, short video clips
    - Scripture
- Pray positively – choose to bless

- Know your prayer group – worth with who you've got, not with who you wish was there! Those who are there want to pray – aim to send them away encouraged!

Remember, everyone else's prayer meeting isn't more interesting/dynamic/successful/fruitful than yours!

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