

CRESCENT PROJECT
**NATIONAL
CONFERENCE**
2016

Nov 3-5

HOUSTON, TEXAS



LOVE
OVERCOMING
FEAR

*The Gospel moving
among Muslims*

**What Everyone Ought To Know About
Reaching Muslim Neighbors**

John Elias The Bridges Option HOPE WORTH SHARING

crescent project

- ▶ **40+ years ministry years in London**
 - ▶ **8 years in London**
 - ▶ **3 years The Bridges Option in US**
 - ▶ **www.Bridgesoption.org**
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- A decorative graphic consisting of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

- ▶ **Head**
- ▶ **Heart**
- ▶ **You**

**WHAT EVERYONE OUGHT TO KNOW
ABOUT REACHING NEW NEIGHBORS**

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- ▶ **Who are the new neighbors**
 - ▶ Survey and research
 - ▶ Where are they
 - ▶ Foqus

HEAD

- ▶ **F - ocusing on the community and/or people group**
- ▶ **O - bserving the people group intentionally**
- ▶ **Q - uestioning people with user-friendly approach**
- ▶ **U - nderstanding the barriers and writing them to clarify/organize**
- ▶ **S - trategizing from facts gathered to make ministry decisions.**

FOQUS

- ▶ **What's a typical day like for your family?**
- ▶ **What is worship in a mosque like?**
- ▶ **I'm wondering what it is like to come to 'our city' from your country. Tell me about that.**
- ▶ **What are the important holidays for your community?**
- ▶ **Your family has been through some major changes. How does your family make those decisions?**
- ▶ **What do people in your community do when they have free time?**
- ▶ **What are some of the challenges facing this community?**

SOME SAMPLE QUESTIONS

- ▶ **The goal is to understand your people group by:**
 - ▶ **knowing all you can about them so that you know how to pray for them, love them, live with them, communicate truth, & work with them;**
 - ▶ **making the gospel the only barrier to people coming to Christ.**

HEAD

- ▶ Who are the new neighbors
- ▶ **What will be the congregation's main problems about accepting them?**
 - ▶ Prejudice
 - ▶ Political
 - ▶ Fear
 - ▶ Complacency/Comfortable
 - ▶ Busy-ness

HEAD

- ▶ Who are the new neighbors
- ▶ What will be the congregation's main problems about accepting them?
- ▶ **What problems might the neighbors have about being accepted by you?**
 - ▶ Language
 - ▶ Fear
 - ▶ Perception of Christians
 - ▶ Indoctrination to be wary of church contacts
 - ▶ *Goal - To identify the BARRIERS and BRIDGES to the gospel according to their worldview*

HEAD

- ▶ **Diversity booklet**
 - ▶ Assimilation or integration
 - ▶ Inventory

HEART

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- ▶ Diversity booklet

- ▶ **Preparing the Saints**

- ▶ Eph 4:11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the Pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

- ▶ Willingness to let go

HEART

- ▶ Diversity booklet
- ▶ Preparing the Saints
- ▶ **Preparing the Church**
 - ▶ Attitudes and values
 - ▶ Specific Training –
 - ▶ Apologetics
 - ▶ Culture
 - ▶ Islam
 - ▶ Perspectives Course
 - ▶ Bridges dvd from CP
 - ▶ The Bridges Option

HEART

- ▶ **Who are the Saints being perfected?**
- ▶ **When do Pastor's punch out?**
- ▶ **Meddlesome question**
- ▶ **An important REALITY**

YOU