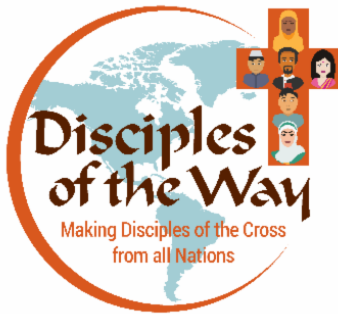


# "Faith and Fasting"



## Disciples of the Way Ministries

*A Ministry of People of All Nations  
reaching out to People from All Nations*

### "Christian Fasting vs. Muslim Fasting" Matthew 6:16-18



## "Fasting"

Christians recently celebrated Easter and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ's, victory on the cross while Muslim's observed the month of

Ramadan where fasting is a requirement of every real Muslim.

On April 28th, (Eid Al Fiter--which marks the celebration of the end of Ramadan fasting in the Muslim world), Disciples of the Way Ministries invited our Muslim refugee neighbors for food and fellowship and discussed the difference between Muslim and Christian fasting in light of scripture. For Christians, fasting is a temporary renunciation of something that is in itself good, like food, in order to intensify our expression of need for something greater — namely, God and his work in our lives.

*"and when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. ... But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."* **Matthew 6:16-18**

## Faith in Christ and Fasting

We also discussed how Muslim and Christian fasting is fundamentally different in the fact that Christian fasting is rooted in the completed work of Christ, to which our fasting can add nothing. Whereas Muslim fasting represents a need for acceptance of human righteousness through the demonstration of submission (theology of the glory), Christian fasting represents a longing for the One who purchased our acceptance in the way of the cross by submitting himself even unto death (theology of the cross). (John 12:32)

*"And they devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and prayer...praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."* **Acts 2:42-47**





Fasting, Feasting, Praying and connecting people to Jesus. (Mark 2:19-20)





Food gathers people, but the Gospel saves them.  
Jesus said to them ... *"I have food to eat that you do not know about"* ... John 4:32







*"My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish His work" ...John 4:34*



*"Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." John 4:35b*

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