

Is your passport ready?

Colossians 1:15-20

Slide 1 passports

Holidays / travel

Queensland, Canada, Alaska - home.

Travel - places, people, events planned and unplanned, culture, time difference, coffee

Tour director change, bus breakdown Lake Louise, surgery one lady, death one man.

How to respond, how to do life with others, how to share faith?

Passports

Is your passport ready? Stamped, Visa. Travel, life, eternity.

Am I really ready to go where God sends me? Prepared.

Slide 2. Three things challenged me.

1. How do I really know there is a God?

Objectively, subjectively, personally.

Bible assumes God, Trinity - Genesis 1:1 'In the beginning God.'

2. How did Jesus reveal God? Father, Spirit, Son - Colossians 1:15-20

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Words, actions. Knew what to say and do in all occasions. Different emotions in different situations.

3. What about us? How do I share my faith?

It really is hard in a secular world. Apathy, indifference. Fear. No time. Work. Holiday. By end of trip people knew we were Christians but reaction was so what.

One lady really revealed her faith by her face, actions, joy. Been through a really tough time. Others their lack of faith.

Slide 3. Seeking Allah, finding Jesus. Nabeel Qureshi

Muslim young man committed to but struggling with Islam. How to be a Muslim in a non Muslim world? Deep down he is seeking to know God personally.

No matter where you are or what you are doing I am an ambassador for Islam (Jesus). Effective, ineffective?

One day I no longer just believed that God was real. I knew He was real!

Cried out to God, who answered. God became personal. Relationship.

Slide 4.

'If I had known how boundless is the love of God, how transformative His grace and mercy, just how liberating His life and death, I would have run to Him years sooner with all my might.'

Facebook entry on Tuesday from David Bennett and shared by Peter Davis.

There are few words to describe how grateful I am for my beloved friend, Nabeel Qureshi. The news just days ago of his passing (death) came to me as I was surrounded by Christian theology students praying in St Andrews. In that moment of prayer I knew the blessed assurance of the fact that Nabeel has now taken the eternal rest from his saintly ordeal in living through stage four stomach cancer. My prayers and mourning continue for his precious daughter, Ayah, and his godly wife, Michelle.

The intensity of his whole life experience having converted from a family of the most devoted Muslim faith, 'seeking Allah', to his radical conversion to Christianity, 'finding Jesus', meant that we formed a friendship of a kind I have never known elsewhere.

Passport ready - destination eternity with Jesus.

Cliff spoke on the call to just love, God, others.

Romans the call to love, because of God's love for me.

Romans 13. 'Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law.'

Am I really ready to love? Am I prepared to go? Wherever, whenever!

Slide 5. Ready for eternity?

Do I have a visa? Faith in Jesus and a real ongoing relationship with Him, is the visa that makes the passport effective for all eternity!