# The uniqueness of the Prophet's message

**LESSON PLAN 2 PRESENTATION** 

INSTITUTE FOR ISLAMIC RESEARCH



## **Recap and connect**

#### Why is Prophethood even necessary?

- To be guided and build a relationship with our Creator
- To understand how to satisfy our different needs (e.g., physiological, psychological, and ethical needs) in a way that is pleasing to our Creator
- To help answer three existential questions:
  - Why are we here?
  - 2 What is the purpose of this life?
  - 3 What happens to us after we leave this life?



## **Recap and connect**

### Lesson 1

- We are in need of guidance and a relationship with our Creator.
- This (e.g., guidance) was given to us through prophethood and helps us understand why prophethood is necessary.

### Lesson 2

- We will consider the value of what the Prophet is preached.
- We will see the **consistency** and **harmony** of the Prophet's message and learn how he brought together different aspects and spheres of life.



# What is a **big message** and how is it unique?

In our day to day lives, we are **bombarded** with messages through our phones, TV shows, and even while driving.

What are some "big messages" these "micro-messages" are sending us?

2 How do we know when a message is unique?

Bow do we evaluate a message?



## **Points to ponder evaluating a message**

#### **Quality**

- Internal consistency & harmony
- Integrating different aspects of life with overarching principles to govern these aspects
- Timeless principles that are as meaningful now as when they were brought forth
- Well-being for humans & the environment
- Addressing/satisfying basic needs of individuals
- Balancing individual & collective interests

#### Scope

- What came **before** life?
- What is the **point** of this life?
- What happens after life?
- The relationship between me and my Creator
- The relationship between myself and others, such as family, friends, strangers, animals, inanimate objects, etc. (interpersonal)
- The relationship with myself (intra-personal)



## The message

## healthy eating science & penal code medicine prayer personal monotheism hygiene forbidding interest/usury fasting

forbidding fornication predestination





- 2 You have 12-15 minutes to read and discuss your topic
- 3 Use the questions provided as a guide
- 4 Be prepared to share insights





# **Twitter talk**

## ten components of the message

Briefly summarize your topic and share what you learned

2 Jot down notes on your worksheet as your classmates share their reflections

- Monotheism
- Predestination (qadr)
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Healthy eating

- Forbidding fornication
- Forbidding interest/usury
- Penal code
- Personal hygiene
- Science and medicine



# **Reflect and respond**

Taking a look at the ten components from this lesson, what can be said about the vast breadth of the Prophet's message?

#### *Revisit handout 2.2.1.*

When examining the inherent value of the Prophet's message and the breadth of its scope, how do these components collectively support Muhammad's 🚲 claim to Prophethood?

- Monotheism
- Predestination (qadr)
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Healthy eating
- Forbidding fornication
- Forbidding interest/usury
- Penal code
- Personal hygiene
- Science and medicine