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