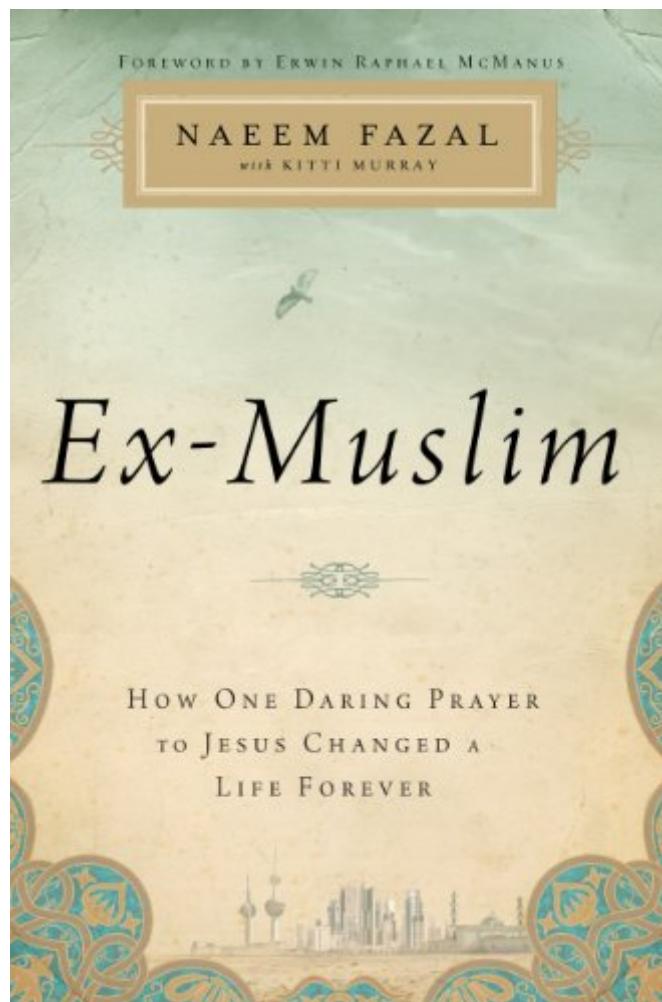


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Ex-Muslim: How One Daring Prayer To Jesus Changed A Life Forever



Synopsis

Jesus revealed himself to a young, brash, Pakistani Muslim. But he didn't just reveal himself; he turned Naeem Fazal's world upside down. Moving from Kuwait to Charleston, South Carolina, had been an adventure. Surrendering his life to Jesus Christ was actual treason. And yet, Jesus brought Fazal the most powerful peace he had ever experienced: a light filled the room. It grew roots in my heart and in my soul. It intoxicated me. • In this riveting memoir, Fazal describes how God used extraordinary means to bring a young, underachieving, Muslim immigrant through Desert Storm, across the oceans, into college, and ultimately to pastor a Christian church in North Carolina. He demonstrates that no character flaw, no distance, no cultural chasm is too great for Jesus to reach across. Fazal is candid about his shortcomings, practical about the challenges of cross-cultural engagement, and ultimately inspiring that God is capable of far more than we have grown to expect. He says, "Jesus consistently, stubbornly refuses to limit himself to my expectations. Which makes getting to know him an unfolding adventure of epic proportions." • Whether you are a Muslim, Christian, or neither, *Ex-Muslim* makes a compelling case that life with Jesus Christ is a true adventure.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

[Note: This book was provided free of charge by BookLook/Thomas Nelson Publishers in exchange for an honest review.] In reading this book, it is very clear that the author, a Kuwait-born and raised person of Pakistani ancestry who converted to Christianity upon moving to the United States, is a passionate and open sort of fellow. Here is an example of an author who is pretty bluntpspoken about his own background and shortcomings and also very much interested in provoking others to thought and reflection about Jesus Christ, particularly people from a Muslim background. Given the distinct lack of willingness among Muslims to accept the loss of their children to a belief in Christianity, this is definitely a high-risk sort of strategy, and the author comments about threats he has faced for his outreach efforts among the Muslim community. For those who are readers with an interest in personal narratives that deal with growth as well as leaving their ancestral religion, this is an example of that type of narrative. It is also a narrative that emphasizes a dramatic life of somewhat radical faith, and includes some frightening encounters with the demonic world, and that discusses the attempts of a young man who starts out as way too much of a novice to plant his own church. It is a book whose contents are impossibly broad, dealing with a wide variety of subjects ranging from life in Kuwait during the Iraqi invasion as well as the difficulties of being someone from Middle Eastern descent trying to be taken seriously as a Christian in the Southern United States (and I thought it was hard being a non-Trinitarian Yankee!).

When one is given the opportunity to read a "hot off the press" book on a subject of great interest, it is exciting. When that opportunity is a book authored by one's Pastor and friend, it is exhilarating. When the knowledge that ALL of the proceeds from this book will benefit the Hope Center, the current home of Mosaic & the future home of What if Everyone (both organizations described in this book)...the feeling is pure awe. As one who has been around Mosaic for many years (God planted me permanently there in the fall of 2008), I have heard most of the narrative of this book over the years in the form of one message or another. Naeem writes like he talks, so, in my mind's eye, I could picture him telling these stories, these visions and sharing his passion for Jesus in a way like no other. Not surprisingly, Mosaic is made up of mostly young people, eager to make sense of this "Christianity" business and to belong in a world that, too often, dismisses them with one label or another. However, I am a part of the smaller group of more mature believers at Mosaic; those of us who have been around this "church" thing for awhile, When I arrived at Mosaic,

I really did not know how disconnected I was from the faith that I loved. I had lots of head knowledge, but, little practical application knowledge. Through the ministry of this self-proclaimed crazy Pakistani, using the messages courageously outlined in this book, plus the authenticity of his life and that of his wife Ashley, I began to change and grow and believe more than I ever have in my life. This book is a genuine reflection of Naeem. You will read it with anticipation, and yet, feel somewhat guilty as though you are reading someone's personal diary.

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