

New Muslim Mentoring Program

Guidelines

Reverts to Islam face many challenges. The challenges are different for different people. As a masjid our goal is to help our new brothers and sisters navigate these challenges. The purpose of the new Muslim mentoring program is pairing those who are already Muslims to help the new Muslims navigate and minimize their challenges.

Caution: *Please note that this is supposed to make the journey into Islam easy for the reverts so stay away from controversial topics/issues unless you are well versed in that topic/issue. Avoid political issues as much as possible and direct them to people with more knowledge than yourself if you are faced with difficult/controversial questions. Your job is to help them with the basics and encourage them to dive deep either through self-study or enroll in a formal advance study program. Remember as a mentor they will look up to you so you should be a role model for them.*

The following are a few of the areas we encourage mentors to focus on with the reverts:

1. **Becoming a second family for them:** many of the new Muslims either lose their families or become estrange with their families because they became Muslim. Your role as a mentor is to understand their unique situation and become their second family regardless. Invite them to your family events, visit them when possible and be there for them as families do.
2. **Daily, Weekly, and Periodic meeting with them:** You should have a scheduled periodic meeting with them to address specific "Aqida" issues commensurate with the curriculum of the Islam 101 classes which are held every Monday at WIC. There is not a hard and fast rule for this but mentors should be able to assess their mentees to determine if they are progressing and help them where they lack something.
3. **Wudu, Ghusl, Salat, Memorization of Short Surahs:** These topics will be introduced to the reverts in the Islam 101 class but it will the responsibility of the mentors to go in debt with them to achieve proficiency or in some cases perfection in this area. You will be required to set up a time table to achieve these goals. For example (this may be different for different people):
 - i) **Wudu and Ghusl:** between 1 and 2 weeks, your mentee should be able to do wudu properly and also understand the basic rules governing wudu and gusl.
 - ii) **Salat and memorization of Surah Fatiha and Iklas:** this is a broad area which can take between 2 months to 8 months depending on the individual's situation. In all cases the new Muslim should be able to do salat properly within 1 year of become a Muslim and should be able to teach the basic movements, activities and rules of salat to others.
 - iii) **Memorization of other Surahs and Special prayers and Du'as:** This should be an ongoing process with your mentee until both mentor and mentee feel comfortable to part ways. **Remember when you are ready to part ways with your mentee, you should be confident enough in them to recommend them as a mentor for somebody else.**

4. Other areas you can be of help to them:

- i)** Helping them to get used to coming to the masjid.
- ii)** Teaching them proper way to dress as Muslims
- iii)** Teach them what to eat and what not to eat and show them where they can buy halal food etc.
- iv)** Teach them how to interact with non-Muslim bearing in mind they have become ambassadors of Islam once they take the shahada