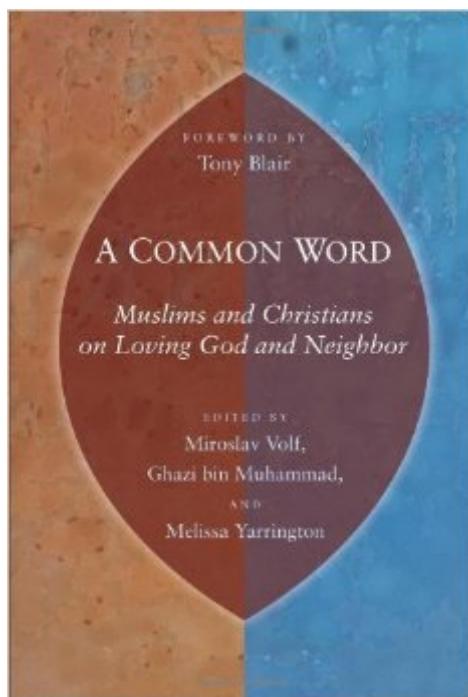


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# A Common Word: Muslims And Christians On Loving God And Neighbor



## **Synopsis**

In late 2007 Muslim leaders from around the world together issued in the pages of The New York Times an open letter to Christian leaders inviting cooperation as a step toward peace. That letter, "A Common Word between Us and You" • acknowledged real differences between the two faiths but nonetheless contended that "righteousness and good works" • should be the only areas in which they compete. The 138 signatories included over a dozen grand muftis, an ayatollah, and a Jordanian prince, and the document was widely considered a groundbreaking step toward reconciliation between Islam and Christianity • two major religions with a great deal in common. / That original letter and a collaborative Christian response • "Loving God and Neighbor Together" • both appear in this remarkable volume. Building on those original momentous documents, A Common Word further includes subsequent commentary and dialogue between Muslim and Christian scholars addressing critical and frequently asked questions. All in all, this eventful book encapsulates a brave and encouraging move toward harmony and accord between two world religions so often seen to be at odds.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book includes the 2007 letter written by Muslims entitled "A Common Word Between Us and You" and the response "Loving God and Neighbor: A Christian Response". In addition, it includes sections entitled "Muslim Perspectives," "Christian Perspectives," "Frequently Asked Questions," and "Political Significance." The book is about 200 pages of text and is a good compilation of Muslim

and Christian concerns. The book is supported by a website with much additional information ([www.acommonword.com](http://www.acommonword.com)), including a list of the original 138 signatories and the additional 267 in 2016, and reading lists. As an indication of the interest in this topic, the website has had over 500,000 visitors in ten years. The book asks difficult questions in light of the original letter and the Christian response. A challenge is where to start and what to include when considering Muslim-Christian dialogue in the ongoing climate of violence and distrust. The Muslim writers chose to start with what Muslims and Christians believe about loving God and loving neighbor and areas of agreement and disagreement regarding these beliefs. An underlying concern of many readers is whether Muslims and Christians understand God and love in the same way. An additional question likely in the minds of many readers is whether the Muslims (and Christians) are telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The section "Muslim and Christian Perspectives" looks at these issues quite closely while "Frequently Asked Questions" further probes these issues.

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