

## Global Faith Institute



Cory Miller and Mark Christian spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on March 22. They are from the Global Faith Institute in Omaha and came to talk about evangelism in the Muslim world.

Mark grew up in Cairo Egypt. He was born into a very devout Muslim family. Mark's father was very involved in the Muslim Brotherhood and his uncle was in the leadership. It recruits members and helps them go to college. They were both from very

poor families and joined the Brotherhood in Jr. High. His father was a physician and was involved in the 1967 war with Israel. His father took him along to meetings when he was 5 years old.

Mark was 23 and in medical school when he began a 10 year journey looking for God. At that time he was transitioning to become a leader in Islam. He started looking to Christianity and on March 29, 2003 he became a Christian. At that time he had memorized most of the Quran and been to Mecca nine times. His father wants to kill him since he became Christian, so Mark had to immigrate to the United States with his family.

As background on Muslims, Mark said that they believe that Muhammad fulfilled the Old Testament. They also believe that Islam is the complete and universal version of a primordial faith that has been revealed before through many prophets including Abraham, Moses, Ishmael and Jesus. Muslims also believe that these previous messages and revelations have been partially changed or corrupted over time and that the Qur'an is the final unaltered revelation from God (The Final Testament). They also believe that Abraham was a Muslim, even though it says nothing about that in the Old Testament. At the age of 40, Muhammad was a normal man. He married a Christian woman at age 25 and she mentored him until he was 40. Then the angel Gabriel visited him and he began preaching a peaceful message. In 622, at the age of 52, he travelled from Mecca to Medina, united tribes there, and began fighting other tribes. He died at age 63. The revelations which Muhammad reported receiving until his death form the verses of the Quran. Mark said that most Muslims have not read the Quran and the only allowed interpretations of the Quran were written 300-700 years later. No newer interpretations or updates are allowed, even though they believe that if a conflict exists between old writings and new writings, the new writings override the old.

The Muslim Brotherhood started in Egypt in 1928 as a religious social organization; preaching Islam, teaching the illiterate, setting up hospitals and even launching commercial enterprises. They evolved into a political movement to control the world. They exist in 170 countries and have a larger economy than 2 or 3 of the larger Middle-East countries.

In the last decade, one Muslim Brotherhood front group, the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), has spent over one billion dollars to influence the United States. They seek influence through subtle ways to reach children, charitable religions, and government. Mark said that they support the Muslim Student Association, which has 900 chapters in the United States and Canada. Their purpose is to destroy the spirit of America in the youth, promote Israel as a terrible country, and target the very bright students.

The Islamic Society of North America is also partially funded by the Muslim Brotherhood. They purportedly work on interfaith dialog, along with other activities and help Christian churches by renting their facilities to build stronger relations.

The Council of American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is also funded by the Muslim Brotherhood. They are working on the rights of Muslims in the Military. They actively promote acceptance of Muslims through Government channels.

The Muslim Brotherhood is a sponsor of the Tri Faith Initiative at 130<sup>th</sup> and Pacific in Omaha. Cory and Mark have asked the Institute to not accept money from the Muslim Brotherhood, but they have refused. The Tri-Faith Initiative Cory said that we need to strengthen our Christian faith to resist Muslim influences.