

## Islam: Empire of Faith Part 1 Movie Worksheet

**Directions: Answer the following questions based on the movie. The questions are listed in the order they appear in the film. You do not need to use complete sentences.**

### Part 1:

1. What does a Muezzin call faithful Muslims to five times a day? How many people heed this call?
2. When was Mohammed born and where?
3. Why did Mohammed's parents send him to live with the Bedouins when he was a young boy? What happened to his parents when he was young?
4. Why was poetry important to the Bedouin culture? What were two constant themes of Bedouin poetry?
5. What was the Kabba in Mecca? What did all the tribes who worshiped at the Kabba have to do when they came to Mecca?
6. What profession did Mohammed choose? What did Mohammed demonstrate great talent for even in his early life?
7. What happened to Mohammed as he meditated in a cave over one religion? What message did Mohammed begin to preach?
8. What implication did the revelation that there is one god have for the disunited Arabian people? What appeal did Islam have for the downtrodden in Arabia?
9. What did the followers of Mohammed begin to call themselves? What is the name of holy book of Islam?
10. How do Muslims feel about visual representations of God and Mohammed? How is Mohammed depicted in early representations of him?
11. What did skeptics and enemies of Mohammed say about his message? What is the Koranical answer to these skeptics?
12. What did the Bedouin tribal leaders decide about Mohammed and his new faith? What saved Mohammed and his followers in AD 622?
13. What was the new "tribe" of Mohammed bound together by? What do the Muslims call the journey of the Muslims from Mecca to Medina in 622 and what does it mark on their calendar?
14. Why did Mohammed not preach against Judaism and Christianity? How did Muslims see the Jews and Christians?
15. Why did Mohammed instruct his followers to pray toward Mecca? As Mohammed's strength

began to grow in Medina what did his enemies do?

16. What happened to Mecca in 635 AD? How many men did Mohammed now have at his disposal and what did they do to the people of Mecca?
17. What did Mohammed do to the shrine of the Kabba?
18. What did Mohammed and his troops do after the conquest of Mecca? How far had Muslim troops conquered by 670? How big was the Muslim empire in 200 years?
19. When Muslims conquered Syria, what did they do in the Church of John the Baptist on Fridays? What happened in this church on Sundays? What did this church eventually become?
20. What did Muslims build on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem? What was this mosque built here?
21. When did Mohammed die? What did the “Shias” and “Sunnis” say about Mohammed's succession?

**Short Essay:**

*The subject of this documentary is the birth of Islam, a religion that one quarter of all the people in the world now claim allegiance to. Islam grew very rapidly in its first few years, and within 150 years after Mohammed's life, Muslims had conquered an area the size of the Roman Empire. After watching the story of Mohammed in detail, write a short essay of 1-2 paragraphs explaining why Islam might have grown so rapidly.*