

## **Engaging Islam through Public Action**

By acting Christianly, believers will have the clear consciences and motives required for a confident robust response to the increasing demands of Islam across Europe. In this workshop, this thesis will be illustrated by reference to the eight-year campaign against the 'London Olympic Mega-Mosque' planned by Islamic fundamentalists Tablighi Jamaat. Alan will outline ways in which Christians in Europe can become socially and politically active in engaging Islam as a means of protecting our societies against Islamic radicalism and fundamentalism, whilst promoting Christian values as the best alternative.

**Alan Craig** enjoys living with his family in a Muslim-majority part of deprived east London, surrounded by four mosques, two churches and a gurdwara. His campaign against the 45,000-capacity London mega-mosque planned for a site just 2km from the 2012 London Olympic stadium received international media attention. He is currently working with a member of the British House of Lords and with Muslim women to promote legislation that tackles gender discrimination in the UK's 80+ unrecognised but powerful Sharia courts. This spring he is launching a church roadshow called *Can We Talk About Islam?*

### **1. The UK Background:** The ongoing Islamisation of Britain

### **2. Why Christians must be active politically and socially:**

(i) Christianity as a public faith

(ii) Islam as a political religion

(iii) Differences, distinctives, disparities and divergences

### **3. God's smile:** The confidence and boldness that flows from acting Christianly

#### **4. Four principles for Christian activism**

(i) Fear God

(ii) Love your neighbour

(iii) Speak truth

(iv) Stay focused

#### **5. The European scene**

##### **Seminar preparation**

*By way of preparation, each participant is asked to bring examples from their own country of Christian activists/campaigners who in their view have behaved Christianly, and those who have behaved unchristianly.*